

The Baptist Examiner

The Paper With a National Circulation

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

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

SOLE NO. 381

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1945

VOL. 14, NO. 31

"One Thing Is Needful!"

n Pine Mountain, Ky. . . .

★ ★ ★
Buell H. Kazee
Morehead, Ky.

GOD'S CHALLENGE!

To me the story of Mary and Martha in the last verses of the tenth chapter of Luke is the most intriguing for spiritual study that I have found. It has for years been the theme of my preaching, because it so ably sets forth the truth which I consider the most fundamental of all in our spiritual lives.

How well did our Lord pronounce all the divine wisdom when He said, "But one thing is needful!"

The story is human, indeed. The preachers have come, and have dropped in suddenly for dinner. Things are in a jam. Martha, moved with some pride for her reputation as the head of a household, and also moved with strong desire to show a special regard for her special guest, Jesus, is moving the earth in a hurry to set things in order, and make a welcome which lacks in not even a minute detail.

Martha loses sight of the outstanding fact of the moment: She has no ordinary guest, no earthly visitor; it is the Lord. Mary discovers this fact, and forgets the house for Him.

The two conceptions of the Lord Jesus here represent the difference between what is known in the Bible as the "carnal" man and the "spiritual" man. Both of these are children of God, but have two conceptions of Christ. Paul, in the third chapter of I Corinthians, gives quite a discussion of these two men, and shows the difference between the carnal and the spiritual Christian. Here in Martha and Mary they are represented, and the difference is revealed in their conceptions of Christ.

Let me see how much God controls your life, and I will tell you what you think of God. I will know your conception of Christ.

In all our denominations and churches you will see these two types. Many preachers try to make excuses for Martha, and say, "Oh, we must have our Marthas as well as our Marys." But the Lord did not say so. He said that Mary had chosen the GOOD part, not the better part, (Continued on page four)

"Bring ye all the tithes into the store-house, that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it." — Mal. 3:10.

God's challenge here to put Him to the test — to try Him out and see if He will do what He promised. You have been trying it your way and have not prospered; accept God's challenge and do His way and see if you do not prosper. Read Silas Tichenor's testimony. He accepted God's challenge and prospered both spiritually and financially. Suppose you try it. It is easy to try. You cannot do worse than you have been doing. God says if you honestly tithe all your increase and give Him the first tenth, that He will abundantly bless you. That is His challenge in the above Scripture. Here is His promissory note to you that He will do what He promised:

"Honor the Lord with thy substance and with the first fruits of all thine increase; so shall thy barns be filled with plenty and thy presses shall burst out with new wine."

That promise is plain. Suppose you take God at His Word and try Him out this year. Begin now. Your increase includes your salary and what you made on your farm and on your stock and on your business and the increase on that piece of land you sold and what you inherited and everything that has added to the valuation of your property. Give God

a square deal. Take one-tenth of your increase — all of it — and honor God by putting it into your church treasury and see if He does not prosper you. He is dependable. He keeps His promises. If you doubt Him, try Him and see if He does not live up to what He said. Here is the testimony of one who tried Him:

Hezekiah commanded the people to bring in the first-fruits of corn and wine and oil and honey and all the increase of the field and the tithe of all things. The people did it gladly. What were the results? Note them, will you?

"Since the people began to bring the offerings into the house of the Lord, we have had enough to eat and have left plenty for the Lord hath blessed His people; and we have left this great store."

Does that sound like prosperous times? Note when the good times began — "When we began to bring the Lord's offerings into the house of the Lord."

In getting the people to bring in their tithes and offerings the Bible says Hezekiah "wrought that which was good and right and truth before the Lord his God."

Brother Pastor, is the Lord your God? Do you want to do what is good and right and truth before Him and in His sight? If you do, get your people to bring in their tithes and offerings.

Needed Changes In God's House

Three things should characterize the house of God:

Worship

God's house is pre-eminently a place for men and women to worship God. That is the idea in its being a "house of prayer." Yet that is about the least and the last thing considered in modern church architecture. They are built for show and for pride and for entertainment now-a-days. A study of the context of my text

will show that the Lord Jesus would not even let them carry a vessel through God's house. We make bold to say that the "cooking stove apostasy" is one of the most common and most flagrant of all the modern forms of falling away from the faith. There is no place in God's house, if truly dedicated to Him, for cooking stoves, kitchen cabinets, dishes and all the other equipment that disgrace modern "plants," that some folk call churches. If Bacchus were the god we worship or if as Paul says about some folk "their god is their belly," then these things should have a prominent place in their temples; but not in God's house, which is built especially for His worship and glory. They say the way to men's hearts is through their stomachs. It is a lie. No man's heart was (Continued on page two)

THE WORLD

"If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." — I John 2:15.

What is "the world" as here mentioned? I answer, it is not a sphere, but an atmosphere; it is not a position, but a condition; it is not a place, but a power. It is any form of life—political, social, (Continued on page four)



With freezing fingers the photographer stood in this snow storm the Pine Mountains of Kentucky last Christmastime to give you cooling draft in August.

This is to remind you that "though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." — Isaiah 1:18.

Hitler Expected To Live Forever

Just revealed is the automobile held. The child's father swore that his offspring was of pure Aryan descent, and promised to rear the child in obedience to Adolf Hitler and in consciousness of a solemn duty to perpetuate a race of pure Aryans.

See the "obedience to Adolf Hitler" as if he were to live forever! Hitler was like Mary Baker Eddy in fanatical attachment to this life. Both tried to disbelieve the plain truth in God's Word (Continued on page four)

There, for instance, the ceremony of name-giving as a substitute for Christian baptism was

JOINING THE CHURCH

There are five cardinal attitudes which should be sustained in every member of the church. One sense "religion is a question of attitude" — attitude to Christ, attitude to Christian life, and attitude to the church. The five questions are as follows (Continued on page four)

-- The First Baptist Pulpit --

"HAGAR, AT THE WELL DESPAIRING"

"And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad a drink. And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer." — Genesis 19:19,20.

Had Abraham always faithfully served God the story of which our text is but a part would never have been written. In time of famine, doubting God, Abraham went down into Egypt for sustenance and when he returned

to Palestine he brought with him Hagar an Egyptian girl, who was to be servant to his wife Sarah.

Of course, it is true that for a great number of years of her life Sarah was childless. God made and repeated promise after promise to Abraham that a child was to be born yet much time passed by and the promised heir had not yet come to the home of Abraham. Finally making it necessary that he assist the Lord in His promises and plan, Abraham heeded his wife's sugges-

tion that Hagar, her servant-girl, bear a child for Abraham in the name of her mistress. All this seems far-fetched to us. History reveals that it was a common experience of Abraham's day.

However, this taking of things out of the hands of God and putting them into their own hands proved as disastrous for Abraham and Sarah as the same procedure does for us today. As soon as Hagar gave birth to her child she despised her mistress Sarah who was still childless and ac-

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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PUBLISHED WEEKLY

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

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Per Year in Advance ----- 50c
(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 continuation.

MOHAMMEDANISM

1. It denies the divinity, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Now, if you and I are to preach the gospel and earnestly contend for the faith, how can we allow this to go unchallenged, how can we sit quiet and undisturbed and passive when over 250,000,000 people deny that Jesus was the Son of God, deny that Jesus died for our sins, deny that He arose again for our justification? I am sure this must grieve God. I know it grieves Jesus whom you say you love. Again, if those who deny the Son deny also the Father, where are these 250,000,000 Mohammedans? Again, if no man knoweth the Father but the Son, and he to whom the Son reveals Him, how can these 250,000,000 know the Father? How can they know God? Beloved! How can they?

2. Mohammedanism upholds polygamy and degrades women, making them the slaves and playthings of men. Now who dare affirm, with an open Bible, on their knees, before a righteous and Holy God that this is alright and suits the people best? To say that these things are right and best for millions of people is to say that sin is the best for them, and that God has made an awful mistake in redeeming the world. If it is alright for them and best for them, it must be alright and best for us, because we ourselves were heathen cannibals a few centuries ago, worshipping wood and stone.

Polygamy, slavery, prostitution and that of the worst kind, best for them? God help us and forgive us for thinking so for one single moment. Mothers and fathers, would you like three or four of your daughters to be wives of one man, and for them to be at his disposal for his pleasure and for his wrath? Sisters, think of it, would you care to be the unmarried wife of a man, who already has two or more wives? Would you? Well, millions of women, TODAY, AT THIS VERY MOMENT, are really and actually the playthings and slaves of men, and this supported by their religion, this in the name of their religion.

Is it true? It is not true. Heathen religions are not alright and not best suited to the peoples. They are all wrong. Morally, physically, intellectually, eternally wrong. God help us to see it.

3. Mohammedanism legalizes sin. In fact, it is called the easy

way. It saves people in their sins or rather gives them hope of being saved in their sins. Sin has grieved God, brought Jesus down from His heavenly home, cost Him His life's blood, spoils, ruins blights, blasts, and damns men and women, body, soul and spirit, and is hateful to God; with these millions it is a very light matter. In fact NOTHING. Sinners and proud of it, committing the grossest crimes and doing it in the name of religion.

IS IT TRUE? It is not true! The statement that heathen religions are all right and best suited to the people is the devil's device to damn millions of souls God help us to see it.

4. Mohammedanism stops the moral and intellectual progress of the countries now under way. This is absolutely so from the very nature of the case. Sin always hinders moral and intellectual progress. Its tendency is always downward. It drags down, down, down, until it drags its victim down to a hopeless grave and a hopeless eternity in a hopeless, burning hell.

Is it true? As loudly as possible, let us again proclaim, it is not true. Heathen religions are not all right, and not best suited to the peoples. THEY ARE ALL WRONG.

To deny the Divinity, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is sufficient condemnation in itself, but when to this is added that it upholds polygamy, degrades women, legalizes sin and stops the moral, intellectual and spiritual progress of the peoples under its sway, its condemnation is complete. In fact it is sufficient to cause us to awake and attempt something out of the ordinary to sweep it from the earth. Again, God help us to see it.

Brother, sister, in the face of these facts, which are absolutely incontrovertible, which cannot be denied, we who are in the midst of it know it, as certain as we know we are saved and sanctified, in the face of these facts, let me now ask you:

Are the heathen religions all right? Will these people be saved? Will the gospel be such a poison to them as to make them worse and increase their responsibility? No! Beloved, ten thousand times, no! On the contrary it is the one and only power that save them in life, give them hope in death, and make them happy throughout eternity. The only power in this world that can save these needy peoples is the gospel, the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth. Away with all excuses, and with us, attempt SOMETHING for their redemption before you meet with them before the judgment bar of God. Act now, do now, what you will wish you had done when you meet them face to face. — From The Oriental Missionary Standard.

NEEDED CHANGES IN GOD'S HOUSES

(Continued from page one)

ever reached through his stomach, unless you are wanting to reach his fleshly, carnal heart. The "new heart" is never reached that way. The way to reach that is by the Word and by the Holy Spirit. It is a sinful waste of God's money to take mission funds to have big banquets to try to put over this campaign or any other work of God. No wonder they fail so ingloriously. They ought to fail. The methods used are the methods to reach men, "whose god is their belly," but not the folk, whose God is Jehovah. Then God's house is no place for entertainments, lectures, political harangues, Red Cross or war

"What Can Wash Away My Sin?"



"And the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." — I John 1:7,9

"Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood, he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." — Heb. 9:12

work speeches, children's day exercises, picture shows, cantatas, organ recitals or any of the one thousand other kinds of unholy prostitutions of God's house of prayer to serve the world, the flesh and the devil.

The "equipment" of God's house ought to be just such, no more and no less, as will be conducive to worship and helpful in worship.

Preaching

It is a crime the way the Sunday School experts have spoiled lots of churches for preaching. It is a sin of the first magnitude to build churches with the Sunday School or anything made more prominent in the building than the preaching. The most important service of the house of God is the preaching service. "It hath pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." Lots of churches with big Sunday School additions and equipment have chicken coops in size for their pastors to preach in. No wonder the children and young people do not come to church. The very building itself is an invitation not to come. Where would they be put, if they were to take a notion to come? The auditorium for preaching ought to be the most comfortable and most attractive and the most commodious and the very heart and center of every church building. We have no sort of sympathy with the notion of some Sunday School experts today that every department of a Sunday School ought to have an assembly room of its own. God forbid. No department ought to have its own assembly room. The main auditorium of the church, where they gather for preaching, ought to be the assembly room of the whole Sunday School, both for opening and closing exercises. Then when the closing exercises of the Sunday School are over they are in the place of preaching and ought to be invited and urged and taught to stay to hear God's messenger "preach the preaching God has bidden him."

Teaching

God's Word must be taught. We are commanded to teach it. Our marching orders say for us to teach all things that our Lord has commanded. We ought to have comfortable, commodious, convenient quarters for teachers and classes in the Bible School. There ought to be plenty of room and all necessary equipment that will in any way help to a better understanding of the Bible. But it needs to be said loud and long that the main teacher of the Bible in every church is the pastor of that church and that all the teaching services of every

church of Jesus Christ ought to center in and be helpful to the two hours on Sunday, when the pastor, the chief teacher, opens the Scriptures to the people and causes them to understand the Word of God.

It is a sin to build big, fine meeting houses for show or pride or to beat some other church or for community centers or to put heavy debts on churches that cripple all missionary activity in such churches for years. Court-houses, school houses, public halls and other like place are the proper places for community centers, but God's house ought to be set apart for Him and His worship and the preaching and teaching of His Word.

"HAGAR AT THE WELL DESPAIRING"

(Continued from page one)

cordingly trouble began immediately between the two women in Abraham's home.

Later, according to promise, Sarah conceived and as a result Isaac was born. When little Isaac was weaned Ishmael, the son of Hagar the handmaid, mocked him with the result that Sarah delivered to Abraham an ultimatum. Either Hagar or Sarah had to go. There was no room for these two women to live longer in the same home. In the light of Sarah's dictum, Abraham had to make a choice which meant that either Hagar and Ishmael or Sarah and Isaac must depart.

Being reassured of the Lord that Isaac was the child of promise, he gave Hagar food and water and sent her and her child into the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

How long Hagar wandered in the wilderness the Word of God does not tell us, yet ultimately her water was spent and apparently the prospect of nothing but certain death for her and her child faced her. Placing her child under one of the shrubs she went a good distance away, at least the length of a bowshot and sat down to die, not wanting to see the child in his dying agonies. The Word of God indicates that while Hagar wept Ishmael prayed and seemingly his was a prayer of faith, doubtlessly having been taught to pray by his old father Abraham. We read that when a voice spoke to Hagar saying:

"God hath heard the voice of the lad where he is." — Genesis 21:17.

Then God opened her eyes so Hagar saw immediately before her a well where she filled the bottle and thereby nourished and sustained both herself and her child, and out there in the wilder-

ness Ishmael grew to hearty sturdy manhood.

Now this story concerning Hagar and Ishmael is not only filled with the element of personal interest but it is likewise impressively blessed in its typical suggestiveness.

I
HAGAR IS A TYPE OF THE SINNER. When given her basket of food, bottle of water, her boy, and when she was sent away she, thus became an outcast. Back of her being cast out of Abraham's home was the fact of sin so that we can actually say she was an outcast because of her sin. It was sin which turned Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden.

"So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life." — Genesis 3:24.

In the day that Adam sinned he became an outcast from the presence of God. From that hour forward everyone of Adam's fallen descendants has stood as an outcast from the presence of God — and all because of sin. Paul speaks of this when he thus declares that we are alienated and far off from God.

"But now in Christ Jesus you who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ." — Eph. 2:13.

"Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart." — Eph. 4:18.

Furthermore, when Hagar's bottle of water was spent she began to be in want. In this connection she reminds us of the prodigal son, for it is said of him: "And when he had spent all there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want." — Luke 15:14.

I have a pretty definite conviction that every sinner sooner or later comes to that place in life that spiritual want stands before him. When the sinner is in good health and is enjoying material prosperity — when he is surrounded by friends and comforts — when money and all that it will buy is no object, the unsaved man naturally does not think of God. However, when the time comes that he is face to face with financial want or is suffering with physical pain — when his comforts, pleasures and money are gone — it is then that man easily realizes his wants and thinks of God. I have noticed that it is so much easier to talk to a sinner about the Lord Jesus when he has an ice cap to his head and a hot water bottle to his feet than it is when he is well and healthy.

Many an unsaved person never give God a second thought until, like Hagar, he comes to the place where death is a prospect in his life. As she in her want was despairing, so the sinner thus comes to the place in life that there is no way out. Just as long as a sinner tries to help himself there is no hope of salvation for him. Only when he despairs of earthly help and trusts fully in the Lord Jesus Christ can salvation become a reality. Thus Hagar stands as a type of the sinner.

II
WATER IS A FIGURE OF SALVATION. That for which Hagar longed and which was the cause of her despair is indeed a splendid figure of salvation.

Water is a gift from God. Man cannot create it. Only God can give it. We are positively dependent upon God for it.

And that which is true of natural water is true of spiritual water. (Continued on page three)

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HAGAR, AT THE WELL
DESPAIRING

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Water is true of the Water of Life. Salvation is equally a gift from God. In this respect says:

For the wages of sin is death; the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. — Romans 6:23.

When the Lord Jesus spoke of the Water of Life as being a gift from Heaven.

Jesus answered and said unto him: If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldst have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water. — John 4:10.

Thus, beloved, since the water we drink whereby our thirst is quenched and we are refreshed is a gift from God, in like manner the Water of Life comes only as a gift from above.

Furthermore, water is indispensable. It is not a luxury but a vital necessity. It is unlike other things that we drink. We drink them because we enjoy them. We drink them because they are refreshing. We drink them because of the effect they produce. Yet not so with water. It is a necessity. We cannot live without it.

Salvation — the Water of Life — is equally indispensable, for without it men are eternally lost. Listen:

And to you who are troubled with us, when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that are disobedient to the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power. — II Thes. 1:7-9.

And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the unrighteous and the sinner appear? — Peter 4:18.

The same shall drink of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb; And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." — Revelation 14:10,11.

Thus since men are lost, irrevocably condemned and eternally forsaken of God without salvation, we therefore see that the Water of Life is just as indispensable to the soul as the natural water is to the body.

Water meets a universal need. It is not a local requirement but a general one. In all longitudes and latitudes it is needed. Whether one lives on the equator at the north or south pole, water is needed. The most cultivated and refined person along with the untutored savage who knows no language save that of the lowest guttural has the same need — namely, water. In all times and places water is truly an universal need.

Just so are we in need of salvation. Regardless of where one is, he needs Jesus. Whether born or low, educated or uneducated, cultured or savage, whether peasant or prime minister — all alike need Jesus. One cannot go so far in this world as to find what he will find the need of Jesus. All — both Jews and Gentiles — are sinners.

Even the righteousness of God

which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." — Romans 3:22,23.

Since all are sinners, then all need salvation. As water meets a universal need of the body so salvation in Christ meets a universal need of the souls of men.

Water first descends from the heavens. It is not a product of this earth but rather comes from above. Before ever there is a drop of rain on the earth, that drop of rain is in the skies. Not one drop of water that has ever quenched thirst has ever been produced on this earth. Before earth receded it was all ready in the heavens and had to come down to us.

I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord." — Jonah 2:9.

How I would to God that many of these modern Arminian preachers might take a course of instruction in the same school that Jonah attended. I rather have a very strong conviction that when they too graduated, they would be a strong believer in the doctrine of election, as did Jonah.

What a blessed truth election really is! It is God that elects us. It is God who makes the choice.

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in

shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." — Hebrews 12:2.

Yes, just as surely as water must first descend from the heavens so the Water of Life comes from above.

Again it is to be noticed that water is a blessed boon. It cools the fevered brow. It slakes our thirst. It refreshes and satisfies. What a boon and blessing it is! How wonderful it is that God ever gave us the gift of water for our bodies.

In like measure the Water of Life is truly an even greater blessing. Surely no water received in our bodies ever refreshed and satisfied as like the Water of Life. Jesus Himself expressed this truth showing both the superiority of the Water of Life over natural water and at the same time revealing what a blessing it is when He said:

"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." — John 4:14.

Water is something of which we never tire. This can be said of but few things which are part of our daily diet. Most of the articles of our food and drink are of such a nature that we soon tire of them. After we have enjoyed them once or twice or a few times at best, we tire of them so we do not want them again immediately. As you well know, this is not true of water. We never tire of it.

Likewise, this is true of salvation. Men tire of religion. They tire of science. They tire of literature. They tire of history. They tire of reformation. But no man has yet been found who tired of salvation. Instead the Psalmist said:

"For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness." — Psalms 107:9.

Even Jeremiah in speaking for the Lord declared that God would satisfy the thirsting soul, for he said:

"And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith the Lord." — Jeremiah 31:14.

In the days of His ministry our Lord Jesus Himself declared this truth.

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." — Matthew 5:6.

Water is strangely and unevenly distributed by God. In some places there is a superabundance; in others there is an abundance; in others there is very little; and in others there is none at all. It surely seems strange that God should so unevenly distribute water over the face of the earth.

Yet it is thus with the Water of Life. In some countries the Lord Jesus has been preached and His teachings have been witnessed to seemingly enough that all men might believe, while in other places there are even whole nations who have never even heard that Christ was born.

Thus it seems strange the way the Lord has distributed salvation.

In the long ago, God chose the Jews as His covenant people through whom to bless the earth. He might have chosen the Chaldeans because they were much more ancient. He might have chosen the Egyptians because they were far wiser. Instead, He chose the Jew.

Today it is seemingly strange how for the past several hundred years God has chosen to redeem most of those whom He has saved from the Anglo-Saxon race. India

has thrice our population, China practically a much more noble system of morality, yet He has passed these by and has chosen to save Anglo-Saxons in a great measure.

Surely the Water of Life is just as strangely and unevenly distributed over the earth as is natural water.

Thus in the light of these seven particulars it can be seen that water is a type or figure of salvation.

III

GOD HAD TO OPEN HAGAR'S EYES THAT SHE MIGHT SEE THE WELL. So blinded was she by her troubles, distracted by her grief and mentally perturbed by the immediately preceding events of her life that she could not even see the well until God pointed it out to her.

Of course this well in this study of typology represents the Lord Jesus Himself. I think that it is this of which Isaiah speaks when he says:

"Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation." — Isaiah 12:3.

If this be true that the well represents Christ then surely it is a fitting figure that God had to open Hagar's eyes for her to see the well.

How strikingly true it is that God must open our eyes before the sinner can see Jesus. Again and again we find this to be true in the Word. Both in the Old and New Testaments this truth stands out most conspicuously. Even Solomon declared it:

"The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the Lord hath made even both of them." — Proverbs 20:12.

What a verse this is! No man can hear and neither can he see the things of God unless these be given him of the Lord. Then in the New Testament the Apostle John tells us that our spiritual understanding must come from God.

"And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life." — I John 5:20.

Even our Lord Jesus in the days of His ministry declared man's inability apart from the Divine operations of Grace. He said:

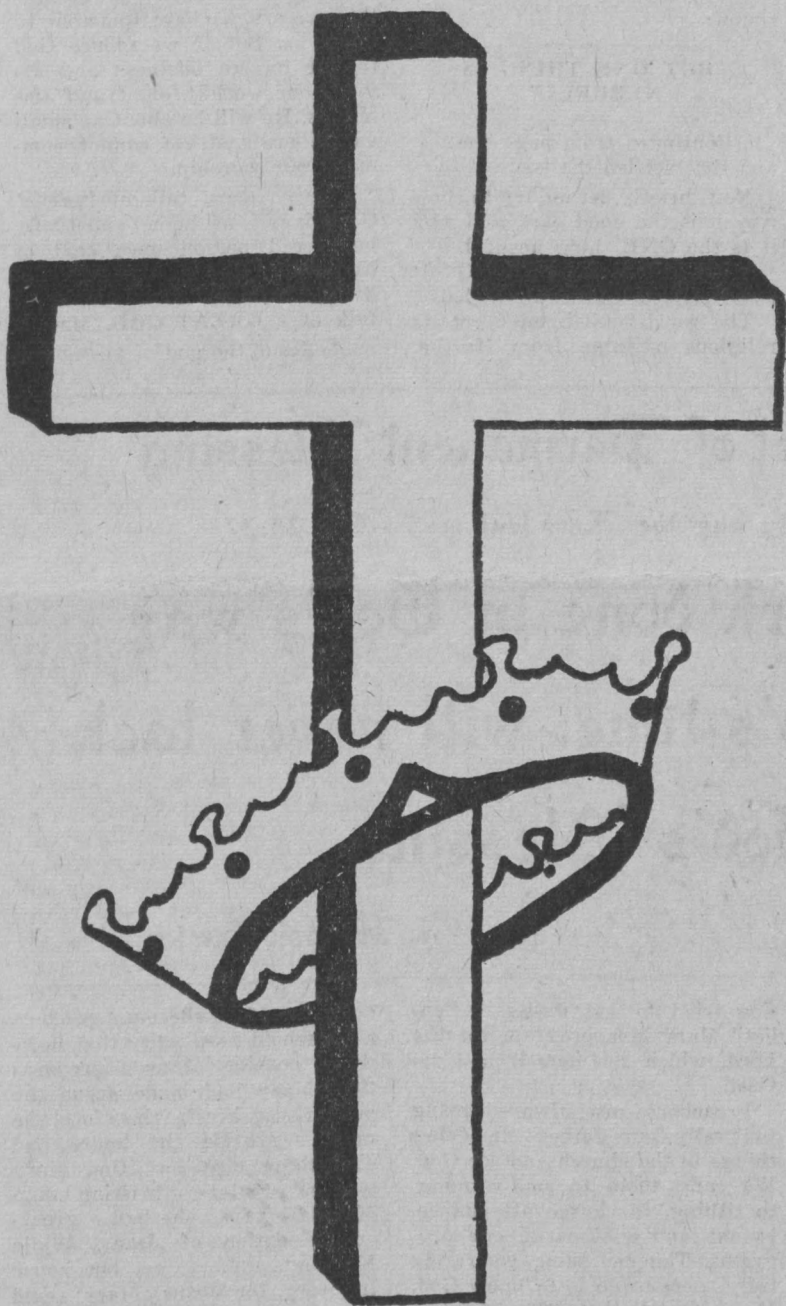
"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me." — John 6:44, 45.

We have a good illustration of this truth in the experience of Lydia, the first convert of Paul in Europe. It is said within the Word of God that the Lord opened her heart. We read of her conversion:

"And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul." — Acts 16:14.

Perhaps there may be some to whom this message may come who, like Hagar, are in the place of despair. May you realize that there can be no salvation apart from the workings of God's Grace. However, may it please the Lord to open your heart and to give you the gift of repentance and faith that you may be saved. May God graciously bless you and save your soul!

Inseparably Joined. . .



"If we suffer, we shall also reign with Him" --I Tim. 2 12.

Just so, salvation is not a product of the earth but rather it has come from above. Man never even planned salvation. Man could never have devised or executed it. In every respect it came from above — it came from God.

"But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord." — Jonah 2:9.

Jonah was not an Arminian. He wasn't always very faithful. God had to permit him to enroll in a strange school — that of the belly of a whale — where he learned what I choose to call "whale-belly theology." When he graduated from this college and hung up his diploma the only text he knew was:

"But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving:

my name, he may give it you." — John 15:16.

That salvation which is ours as a result of His choice is in no sense a product of man but entirely of God. Paul makes it unmistakably clear that salvation from beginning to end is entirely the work of the Lord. Listen:

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the first-born among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called; and whom he called, them he also justified; and whom he justified, them he also glorified." — Romans 8:29,30.

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the

RAMBLING WITH THE EDITOR

"I thoroughly enjoy your paper. I certainly do admire your stand for the right, and your straight-from-the-shoulder writing," so writes Mrs. H. L. Hahn, Tampa, Florida.

All of which call to mind that Brother Charles Holbrook of Ashland, Kentucky, who doesn't live so far from the printing shop, comes in to see us occasionally. We always have a blessed time of fellowship together and the offerings he leaves helps us to keep this paper in the mails.

Mrs. J. D. Everman, Carter City, Kentucky, sends us twelve new "subs," saying that these are members of a newly organized church, and then adds: "I don't know of anything that would be of more help to young converts than for them to get THE BAPTIST EXAMINER to read each week."

"I thank God for what you have meant to me through THE BAPTIST EXAMINER," so says Brother F. E. Scott, Grand Rivers, Kentucky.

"You serve so many people through your paper. Doubtless there are hundreds like myself who have come to depend upon it for spiritual food," thus writes Miss Gaye Carroll, Shoals, W. Va., who is a close personal friend of the editor and a real supporter of this paper.

Perhaps no letter that I have received within the past several months has meant more to me than the one written by Mrs. Leona Kays, the wife of Pastor Raymond Kays, of the Calvary Baptist Church, Richmond, Kentucky. The S. S. class which she teaches, being Adult Ladies have sent us a splendid offering for the paper. When taking the offering, Mrs. Kays said that while all her class expressed their good opinion of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER that one went farther and said, "It is the best Baptist paper published." Thank God for these encouraging words from Sister Kays.

"Honestly, I am a better Baptist than I was before I began to read your paper. I always believed that I was a dyed-in-the-wool Baptist, but I did not know doctrine like I know it now. I only wish that I could find words to tell you how much I admire your paper and how much good it has done me," thus writes Brother J. B. O'Neal, Walton, Kentucky, one of the editors special friends. He is nearing his ninetieth birthday and gloriously happy in the Lord.

We have just received a fine letter from Elder B. B. Caldwell, Greenville, S. C. who says, "I thank God for men who have convictions and are not afraid to express them. I have just recently conducted a Bible conference in the Harmony Baptist Church near Elizabethton, Tennessee. There through your good friend, D. L. Brainerd, and his dear wife, I got acquainted with THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. They gave me many of their old copies and I have been feasting on them."

"I am with you on your stand for the Word of God. May the Lord bless the messages contained in THE BAPTIST EXAMINER as you send it forth."

Elder C. C. Williams, Fairmount, N. D.

"I always enjoy your paper. It is the most out-spoken periodical since the days of 'News And Truth.' How badly it is needed in this time!" So says Elder Roy Mason of Tampa, Florida.

Elder Harm Rust, Worthington, Minn., who has sent us approximately 25 subscriptions for our paper within the last few weeks, says, "I sincerely hope that you will be able to continue editing THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Very few of us have the courage and ability it requires for a fearless ministry like yours."

"Can't be without THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. It is the best Baptist paper printed. It stands for the Truth without any mixture." These are the much appreciated words from Bro. Albert Jackson of Williamson, W. Va.

HITLER'S EXPECTATION

(Continued from page one)

concerning a final judgment and accountability for the life here. But neither was comfortable or happy in this attempt. While neither could plan beyond this life, both feared that God might have the last word—and He has.

composed of those who found all their principles, all their code of morality, all their plans of conduct, upon the acquisition and enjoyment of mere temporal things.

What is to be "the attitude" of the child of God toward it? The dictum of God's Word is, not to "fight" it (John 18:36), not to be a "friend" of it (Jas. 4:4), not to "love" it (I John 2:15), not to be "of" it (John 17:14-16), not to be "conformed" to it (Rom. 12:2), but to regard it as a condemned malefactor, nailed to the cross, crucified unto me, and I unto it (Gal. 6:14). We are called upon to make "no compromise" with it, to think of ourselves as "pilgrims and strangers and sojourners" going home to our Father in heaven (I Peter 1:17, 2:11; Heb. 11:13). The realization of all this will be yours as you enter into God's method of victory over it—THE LOVE OF THE FATHER IN YOU. — Belsham.

"BUT ONE THING IS NEEDFUL"

(Continued from page one) and that settled the issue.

Now, briefly, let me try to show why it is the good part, and why it is the ONE thing needful.

What is that ONE THING? It is, briefly, to contemplate God.

The word "enlistment" got its religious meaning from Martha.

grow strong in grace, we must give up and still let Him do for us.

The only thing that will genuinely "rally" any man to the "cause of Christ" (as we so often say), is to let Him see what a great God Jesus is. Great personalities command us. If the president sent us a message, asking us to come to Washington to see him, we would set aside any matter before us, and go. But I dare say, if I sent such a message, it would be a mighty small somebody that would respond to it. Why? Because he is a person of high rank, and most of us would be glad to go and sit down before him and listen to what he would say.

Now, if we could get a vision of God — just how great He is — and actually see Jesus as Mary saw Him, we could put everything out of our way for Him.

As long as Christ is greater than we are, we have some one to impel us. But if we reduce God to our human business and affairs, our worldly plans and ambitions, He will be about as small as we are and He cannot command our worship.

I have heard talk of "great Christians," as some spiritually unlettered person once said of Kagawa, "He is the greatest living Christian," but I prefer to talk of a GREAT GOD. Martha made Jesus the god of her house-

old sermon every day; same old Noah! Never had time for any thing but to build that ark! Paid no attention to scorn and rejection! Why? He was acquainted with a God who could flood the world with water, and start a new world with one family. Walking "big folk," and didn't have time to worry about what people thought of him! Filled with the wonder of God!

Why did Abraham believe God in the face of physical impossibility? He had seen a God so great that he wasn't afraid to start out with Him, not knowing whither He went.

Why did Moses and Caleb and Joshua press on through years of trial and discouragement, through danger and delay, with just the promise of a land prepared for them? Why, they had seen God who could split the Red Sea wide open and close it back on their enemies!

Why did David go down to Goliath with only a sling and stone and the Lord? He had contemplated God back in the hills, and he had felt His power to slay a lion and a bear. He had seen a greater God.

Why did Saul of Tarsus turn from his mad campaign to slay all Christians and become one, slaved to the Jesus whom he had persecuted? Because he was led up to the third Heaven and saw a Man whose glory was unutterable!

Why do people who are saved get jittery and nervous and bored with prayer meeting, preaching, Bible study, and have to run off to some worldly amusement like a picture show or card game or dance to get diversion and "soothe" their nerves? Because that's the size of their God. That is all they have seen of Him — just a guarantee against hell.

Their spiritual lives are stunted and soured, and they can't grow any bigger than the God they know. They have reduced Him to their little affairs, and made Him a pet of their institutions and lives.

Why are they in this state? Because they have ceased to contemplate God. They don't eat His Word; they don't breathe His prayer life; they don't seek His fullness; they don't sit at His feet. They haven't time. Club social life, political campaigns, money, business, and all such things have become so big in their lives that they have had to reduce the size of their God. They have made Him just as small as their little affairs, and they must set things in readiness for Him.

When a church reduces its God to a little program of human effort and human deeds and affairs, it takes "all hands and feet" to keep things in readiness for Him. But when they have time to contemplate God, and He grows big, like Mary's God, they can set the entire household of faith aside for Him, and let Him speak.

A church or a Christian like Martha will find so many things to do to entertain her God! But a church or Christian with Mary's God will push the whole business aside and sit down at His feet. And HE WILL DO THE REST. If we will take time to do the all we are trying to become by our method, He will make us. When we must take time. When I see a Christian seeking the world for entertainment, or is too busy to let God speak to his heart, I know that his God has grown small — too small to call his attention from business and pleasure to eternal things. He has ceased to sit at the Master's feet and the ONE THING NEEDFUL!

The Secret of Permanent Blessing

"I being in the way, the Lord lead me." --- Gen. 24:27

God's work done in God's way and in God's time, will never lack God's Blessing

J. Hudson Taylor

JOINING THE CHURCH

(Continued from page one)

lows:

1. Do you believe and realize that you are a sinner in the sight of God?
2. Do you in your heart repent of your sins and desire to turn away from them?
3. Do you accept and rest upon Jesus Christ, God's Son, as your personal Saviour?
4. Do you desire and purpose by God's help to live a Christian life?
5. Are you willing to be governed by this church as long as you are a member of it?

The important matter is for each applicant for membership to confront these facts about himself. The criticism is frequently made that it is "too easy to get into the church." If one honestly answers these five questions in the affirmative it shows a very decided state of mind and fixed purposes. It is very important to have a clear understanding as to what church membership implies. — W. M. Anderson.

"THE WORLD"

(Continued from page one)

educational or religious — which does not place God first, or is devoid of the Spirit of God. It is the counterfeit of the church of God. It is Satan's system. It is

She tried to get Jesus to "enlist" Mary in a program for the Lord, which she herself had devised.

Preachers are always trying to "rally our forces" in doing things in the church and for God. We rally them to soul-winning, to tithing, to church attendance, to one and another of our programs. The one thing we rarely rally them to do is to know God. Mary found that "The Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister and to give his life for a ransom for many." She learned that letting Jesus give Himself to us was serving Him in the highest capacity.

Of course, this is our hardest task. Much harder than visiting Sunday School pupils, or setting a dinner at the church, or taking part on a program at some meeting. For when Jesus comes in, somebody has to move out; and that is likely to be us, with our business and plans and programs. So, it is harder to let Jesus fill us with His presence than to do something for Him. The program of works has always appealed to the natural man. But letting Jesus work for us, and thus fulfill what He came to do, is mysterious to our way of seeing, as well as repulsive to the flesh.

When we wanted to be saved, we had to give up and let Jesus do for us. Well, if we would

hold; therefore she must produce a household hospitality that lacked in nothing of such preparation. Mary had made Jesus the god of her heart; therefore she must set aside the house and everything else for Him. Mary was a greater Christian than Martha because she had a greater conception of Jesus. While Martha sought to set her house in order for Jesus, Mary could set it aside for Him.

To be filled with Him was the one thing needful. So says the Apostle in one of his letters: "Be filled with the Spirit." This is the Spirit of Jesus, the actual spiritual presence of Jesus. It makes a difference in our affairs. It has been so in the lives of all God's heroes of faith.

Enoch was satisfied to walk with God. Can you imagine him saying, "Lord, I can't just walk with you all the time; I get tired of reading the Bible and praying and talking about religion all the time; I'd like to go to a picture show or something to settle my nerves, and give me a little diversion? We must have our lighter moments?" Can you imagine him saying that? Why? He was so filled with the wonder of God that nothing else appealed to him.

Why did Noah hang on to that old sermon about a flood for a hundred and twenty years in the face of scorn and rejection? Same