

Devoted to Evangelism, Missions and Bible Doctrines.

# 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).

WHOLE NO. 446

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## BAPTIST FREEDOM IN THEORY AND IN ACTUAL PRACTICE

By Roy Mason,  
Tampa, Fla.

Theoretically all Baptist churches are free and independent. Practically, and actually, many of them are nothing of the kind. Practically any denominational official will in public address or printed article, emphasize that Baptist churches are free, and that their sovereignty must not be violated. But at the same time co-operation according to a scheme laid down from above is urged in such a way that there is a veiled threat of "co-operate or else."

### The System That Has Grown Up Among Southern Baptists

We have a system that has grown up in the South that threatens the freedom of churches and pastors. We point out some of the

leading features of this system:

1. A subsidized (and often subservient) press.

Most denominational papers are owned by the denomination and are committed to the denominational system right or wrong. Few speak out against abuses, or dare criticize Baptist leaders even when they are plainly in the wrong.

A controlled denominational press, is as dangerous as a Nazi-ized press.

2. A Chain Book Store System.

We have a book trust with ownership in Nashville. Books of the old time orthodox stripe stand small chance of getting published. (We had an experience of our own in this matter). At the same time, the chain book stores help to disseminate all sorts of modernistic literature. Fosdick's

books almost top the list. This book trust is a dangerous thing.

3. An Auxiliary System, whose loyalty heads up outside the local church — more responsible to "headquarters" than to the local church. This system makes every church as much alike in its workings as the A. and P. headquarters makes each local unit of its grocery store system alike.

### Objections To The Auxiliary System

(1) It is absolutely and completely unscriptural. It utterly changes the plan of organization set forth in the New Testament, substituting for simplicity or organization, multiplicity. We have as much right to change New Testament doctrine as to change New Testament organization.

(Continued on page two)

## You Can't Fool God!

You can fool the hapless public,  
You can be a subtle fraud,  
You can hide your little meanness,  
BUT YOU CAN'T FOOL GOD!

You can advertise your virtues,  
You can self-achievement laud,  
You can load yourself with riches,  
BUT YOU CAN'T FOOL GOD!

You can criticize the Bible,  
You can be a selfish clod,  
You can lie, swear, drink and gamble,  
BUT YOU CAN'T FOOL GOD!

You can magnify your talent,  
You can hear the world applaud,  
You can boast yourself somebody,  
BUT YOU CAN'T FOOL GOD!

—Greenville Kleiser

## A Study In God's Word, Showing That Death Only Ends The Marriage Vow

Reprinted From Sound Words

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and they shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."—Genesis 2:24.

"And He answered and said unto them, Have ye not read that which made them at the beginning male and female, and said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder."—Matthew 19:4, 5, 6.

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and they two shall be one flesh."—Ephesians 5:31.

In the first Scripture we hear the voice of God from the beginning.

### A PREDICTION

A short time ago Roger Babson, "counselor to executives since 1904," issued a terrifying brochure, which precipitated a storm of protest, which has raged ever since.

He is not a man to be taken lightly, for his charts are famous and his conservative investment service has thousands of subscribers. He forecast, among other things, the crash of 1929.

We quote from the pamphlet: "The chances are nine out of ten that Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and other coastal and border cities will be totally destroyed within the next twenty years."

"If you reside within ten miles of one of these objectives, the risk to your family is also great. Nobody knows when, but the damage will be done in a matter of minutes—before defense preparations can be utilized."

"You can time the bombing of your city more accurately by following events leading up to it in Babson's Atomic Service. Have

(Continued on page two)

ning. In the second Scripture we hear the voice of the Son of God. (The Son of the Father, in truth and love. 2 John 3). In the last Scripture we hear the voice of the Holy Spirit confirming the word of both the Father and the Son, speaking by the Apostle to us Gentiles.

How good it is to be in fellowship with the Apostles' teaching, knowing their fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son, Jesus Christ—1 John 1:3.

The Apostle Paul, speaking by the Spirit of God to the Church of God, says, "For I am jealous over you with Godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ."—2 Cor. 11:2.

Has the Church been faithful to Christ? No, she has been guilty of spiritual fornication and has suffered, in a large measure, a spiritual death for her unfaithfulness during the past nineteen hundred years. Has this unfaithfulness broken the tie of relationship between the Blessed Lord and "the Church which is His Body"?—Eph. 1:22, 23.

(Continued on page three)

### OUR NEW FAMILY

Beginning with this issue, once each month The Baptist Examiner will be six pages instead of four, and these two additional pages will bring you news, views, and other interesting matter concerning the Amazon Valley Baptist Faith Mission, doing mission work in both Brazil and Peru.

This is the soundest and most orthodox mission work that is being done today. Eld. Joe Brandon and Elder R. P. Hallum laboring in Brazil and Peru are the two soundest missionaries the editor has ever met. Thank God for their challenging Baptist message in these foreign countries.

Eld. H. H. Overbey, Detroit, Michigan, will be editor of these additional pages of The Baptist Examiner. He too is a real Baptist and I thank God to have him thus associated with us in the editing of this

(Continued on page two)

### Mused Uncle Mose

"Accordin' to de Bible, dem sheep knows His voice an 'dey follers Him; but dem goats, dey jis rambles around'."

## -- The First Baptist Pulpit --

### "Godly Companions"

By Arthur Pink

"I am a companion of all them that fear Thee, and of them that keep Thy precepts" (Psa. 119:63).

In the above verse we have a description of God's people according to the course of their lives and conduct. They are a people marked by two things: fear and submission, the latter being the fruit of the former. Regenerated souls obey God conscientiously out of reverence to His majesty and goodness, and from a due regard of His will as made known in His Word. The

same description of them is given in Acts 10:35, "In every nation he that feareth Him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with Him." It is a filial fear which is awed by God's greatness and is careful not to offend Him; which is constrained by His love and is anxious to please Him. Such are the only ones fit to be a Christian's "companions."

A "companion" is, properly speaking, one with whom I choose to walk and converse in a way of friendship. Inasmuch as the companions we select is an optional matter, it is largely true

that a person may be known by the company he or she keeps; hence the old adage, "Birds of a feather flock together." Scripture asks the searching question, "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3). A Christian, before conversion, was controlled by the Prince of darkness and walked according to the course of this world (Eph. 2:2,3), and therefore did he seek and enjoy the company of worldlings. But when he was born again, the new nature within him prompted new tastes and desires, and so

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## The Greivous Sin Of Open Communion And How It Affects Our True Churches

"Open Communion" says that all professed Christians should be invited to take the Lord's Supper with a church whether or not they are a church member and regardless of their faith or church membership. Permit me to point out the sinfulness of such a practice.

1. THIS PRACTICE RELIES UPON THE HERESY OF UNIVERSALISM. If the true church is universal and every child of God is born into it; then "open communion" would be fine, but we see in the Bible that each local congregation is a body within itself and should observe the Supper within that body. I Cor. 11:12. "Open Communion" slaps the Lord's churches in the face by universalizing them, denying the Bible teaching concerning what a church is. The great "EKKLESIA" for church in the New Testament means "an assembly" or "congregation" of true followers of Christ and is NOT USED EVEN ONE TIME in a universal sense, although many times in the institutional sense.

2. IT DEGRADES THE LORD'S CHURCHES TO AN EQUAL BASIS WITH WORLD-

LY, MAN-MADE CHURCHES! "Open Communion recognizes all churches as being equally Scriptural and these various churches preach conflicting doctrines, thus presenting Christ as being divided against Himself. Christ did build His church. Lk. 6:12-13 and Matt. 16:18, and it certainly is sinful to equalize them with churches built by Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Wesley, William Miller, Alexander Campbell, Amy McPherson, and many others too numerous to mention.

3. "OPEN COMMUNION" IGNORES EVERY RESTRICTION IN THE BIBLE EXCEPT ONE AND MISAPPLIES IT. It is sinful to fly in the face of God's inspired Word by ignoring and disobeying it. We find the following restrictions in I Cor. 11: (1) Must be taken only in a local church body. V. 2, 20. (2) Cannot be

(Continued on page three)

### "PROBLEM LETTERS"

Walter Maier has a tremendous ministry in his weekly broadcast over 600 stations in 28 countries. "I try to quote at least one Scripture verse for each minute on the air," he says; "always it is the Gospel that brings the best response."

Maier's father was a devout Christian "who often would pray for hours at a time. What an answer he has had in his son!" It requires a staff of 55 girls to open the 25,000 letters coming in weekly. One in twelve of the letters are "problem" letters which Bro. Maier answers personally, half of them from Christians who have married unbelievers and whose lives have been wrecked as a consequence.

God's Word is clear: Christians are to marry "only in the Lord," that is, only to another Christian. (1 Corinthians 7:39). Perhaps we should quote this entire verse to get the rest of its teachings: "The wife is bound by the law (of her husband) as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead

(Continued on page three)



## THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN-EDITOR

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## BABSON PREDICTS DESTRUCTION

(Continued from Page One)  
you a refuge?"

Whether Roger Babson is right or wrong regarding the destruction of eastern coastal cities, there is a divine prophecy that "the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." (2 Peter 3:10).

It is apparent that a Refuge—other than an earthly one will be needed for that time of judgment and conflagration. Have you such a refuge?

"God is our refuge and strength."—Ps. 46:1.

## BAPTIST FREEDOM IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

(Continued from page one)  
tion.

(2) It sets up false standards of success.

Various departments have "standards of excellence" set up—not by the Word of God, which is supposed to be the only "rule of faith and practice" for Baptists, but by "experts" of the denomi-

nation. A church and pastor must needs devote most of their energies in attaining these wholly artificial and extra-scriptural standards. More often than not, they feel that if they are A-1, they have succeeded, when perhaps few souls have been saved, attendance on the preaching is small, and members are as worldly as the devil could well ask. And—no matter how many souls are won; no matter how missionary; no matter how spiritual the membership; no matter how ardently a church and pastor may labor, if they are not conforming to these man-made schemes of organization, they are considered as doing practically nothing. My own church is a case in point. In matters not that we have the largest group of people meeting here on Sunday evenings, that is to be found in this whole section, since we don't plan the meetings according to "Hoyle" we are not even thought of as having anything worthwhile. We could name churches that have all of the organizations, but less than a half dozen converts for the past year. We could name churches that have "the Brotherhood" and the "W. M. S." but that give less to missions than a single member ought to give.

(3) It promotes factionalism and disharmony in churches. All you need to do to prove this true is to look about you at the church strife.

## OUR NEW FAMILY

(Continued from page one)  
paper.

All true Baptists long ago came to realize that there was nothing to hope for in the work of the hierarchy of the Southern Baptist Convention. Independent Baptist papers and independent missionaries are the hope of plain, God-fearing Baptists who want their money used to preach the Work of God.

If such a program appeals to you, we urge you to have fellowship with us unto the ends of the earth.

In every company, remember you profess to be a member of Christ, a child of God, a temple of the Holy Ghost.

## SAILOR, RESCUER, SWIFT TO DEATH OVER VERNAL FALLS

Keene Freeman, 11-year-old son of Dr. Walter Freeman, famed Washington, D. C. neurologist, slipped into Yosemite's misty, snow-swollen Vernal Falls to retrieve a canteen.

He lost his footing fell into the turbulent rapids of the Mercedes River just above the 325-foot cataract.

While tourists gaped open-mouthed at the helpless youth, Orville Dale Loos, 21, of Dayton, Ohio just out of the Navy and still in uniform, vaulted the guard rail and swam to the Freeman lad, reaching him about fifteen feet from the edge of the falls.

He caught the boy's shirtfront, lost it, groped, seized him again and held on; but was unable to drag the lad back against the force of the current and both were swept over the roaring falls to the jagged boulders 325 feet below.

"Willing but unable," we said as we read of the attempted rescue—a contrast of the Lord Jesus who is both willing and able to save helpless strugglers in the turbulent stream of sin and unbelief, before they are rushed over the brink into a lost eternity.

Both the Savior's willingness and ability were questioned by needy ones while He was on earth; but the Lord never allowed anyone to remain in doubt when they appealed to Him.

"There came a leper to Him, and kneeling down to Him, and saying unto Him, If Thou wilt, Thou canst make me clean.

"And Jesus moved with compassion, put forth His hand, and touched him, and saith unto him: I will; be thou clean.

"And as soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed." (Mark 1:40-42)

On another occasion a distraught father brought his violently demon-possessed son to Him saying: "If Thou canst do anything, have compassion on us."

Jesus said unto him, "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

The father of the child cried out, and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help Thou mine unbelief."

## To Save Money

WE DON'T SEND EXPIRATION NOTICES.  
THEREFORE,  
TAKE YOUR PAPER SERIOUSLY, AND  
SEND IN YOUR RENEWAL PROMPTLY.

## SOMETHING SURE TO HAPPEN

A blind orphan girl in Jerusalem was rescued from the Turks. They wished to take a photograph of her, and the photographer got her to pose holding a book in her hand. But when the photograph was printed in was found that she had spoiled it by moving her hand. The photographer remonstrated with the child, and then discovered the reason. She was holding a Braille New Testament, and she said to the photographer, "My hand touched the name of Jesus, and I could not wait but had to see what happened." She had a feeling that wherever Jesus was that something would surely happen. That is the teaching of our lesson. The deaf heard, the dumb spoke, and He hath done all things well.

—The Sunday School Chronicle

lief."

Immediately the demon was cast out. (See Mark 9:14-27)

With these incidents in mind, let no one question the Lord's willingness or His ability to save.

If He were not willing, He would not have gone into the dust of death for our sins.

Since all power of heaven and on earth was given unto Him in resurrection, it is apparent that He is able to save to the uttermost all that come unto God by Him. (Hebrews 7:25)

There is also the definite statement that He is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9)

Those who perish, do so because they "neglect," "despise," or "reject" His willingness and ability to save them.

## MORE ABOUT BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS A DAY OF PRAYER

The pastors of the churches of the Detroit River Association met in Feb. 1945, for a day of prayer and the Lord heard and answered definitely many of the requests that were made that day. The directors of Baptist Faith Missions voted to have a day of prayer once each month on the third Monday to pray for our mission work and their own church work. Brother Brandon has spoken to many pastors about this and we trust that they will get together in groups of two, three or more and have a day of prayer each month for this mission work and the work in their own churches. Brother Hallum also suggests the same and to of the great need of prayer for the missionaries on the field where it is hot and sultry at the times trying. Brethren, join with us in this time of prayer and write and tell us about it. A good suggestion is to meet and pray and not to eat and read call upon God.

## THE GREATEST NEED

The greatest need of the missionaries is help. They need other missionaries to go and help them. Think of this: J. F. Brandon has been in Brazil for 23 years and has organized 10 Baptist churches and is now caring for these churches trying to evangelize the Jurua valley from 30 miles below Cruzeiro do Sul to about 300 miles above Cruzeiro do Sul. Wherever the God called couple that say here am I Lord, send me. The Hallums have been in Peru for 11 years and have a Baptist church organized in Iquitos, Peru and a well established work. No one has gone to help them. Miss Marguerite Hallum works with the women and children had more children in the Daily Vacation Bible School than she had room to handle. The field is white unto harvest. Who will go and help reap these souls for the Lord? They speak Portuguese in Brazil and Spanish in Peru and missionaries are there, who know the language, to help you.

## FIELD GLASSES NEEDED

Missionary J. F. Brandon wants a good pair of field glasses. Perhaps some one has a good pair that they will give him or sell him at a reasonable price. Perhaps some returned service man has a good pair that he brought home from overseas and would like to put them to use in the Lord's work. Also, Missionary Brandon wants to buy a 5 h. p. Johnson outboard motor. He has a 16 h. p. now at Cruzeiro do Sul in Brazil but needs a smaller one for shore runs. Also Missionary R. P. Hallum wants to buy a 9.8 h. p. Johnson outboard motor for his work in Iquitos, Peru, so that he can make journeys on the river without having to paddle the canoe by hand. Anyone who can tell us where to get these please let us know immediately as we have not been able to get them from the factory or dealers in Detroit.

## A HELPER TO THE TRUTH

One of the most valuable religious periodicals published today is the "Baptist Examiner" because it stands for the truth as revealed in the New Testament. Its Editor and contributors are bold enough to proclaim this truth through its columns regardless of opposition or criticism.

The reader will find in its pages the great doctrines of the Bible explained in detail so that any one may understand them. Such doctrines as Election, Grace, Salvation, Immersion of believers, Security of the Saints and rewards promised to all His Redeemed are Scripturally taught in The Baptist Examiner. One thing else that makes me love it is that it distinguishes between the kingdom and the church.

I am happy to commend it.

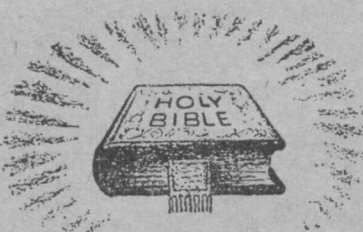


DR. MAC WHITIS  
East Bernstadt, Kentucky

## Favorite Verse

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in council of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful."

—Ps. 1:1





MISSIONARIES  
IN BRAZIL  
J. F. Brandon  
Miguel Ibernou  
Cicero Bicipo  
Ebenzer Guimaraes  
Maio Dutro  
Eufrazo Soraes  
(Portuguese Language)

## BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

In Peru Since 1935

In Brazil Since 1923

A NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST FAITH MISSION WORK JUST LIKE THE LORD  
JESUS COMMISSIONED HIS CHURCHES TO DO.

Go—Make disciples—Baptize them—Indoctrinate them. Matt. 28:19-20.

MISSIONARIES  
IN PERU

R. P. Hallum

Mrs. R. P. Hallum

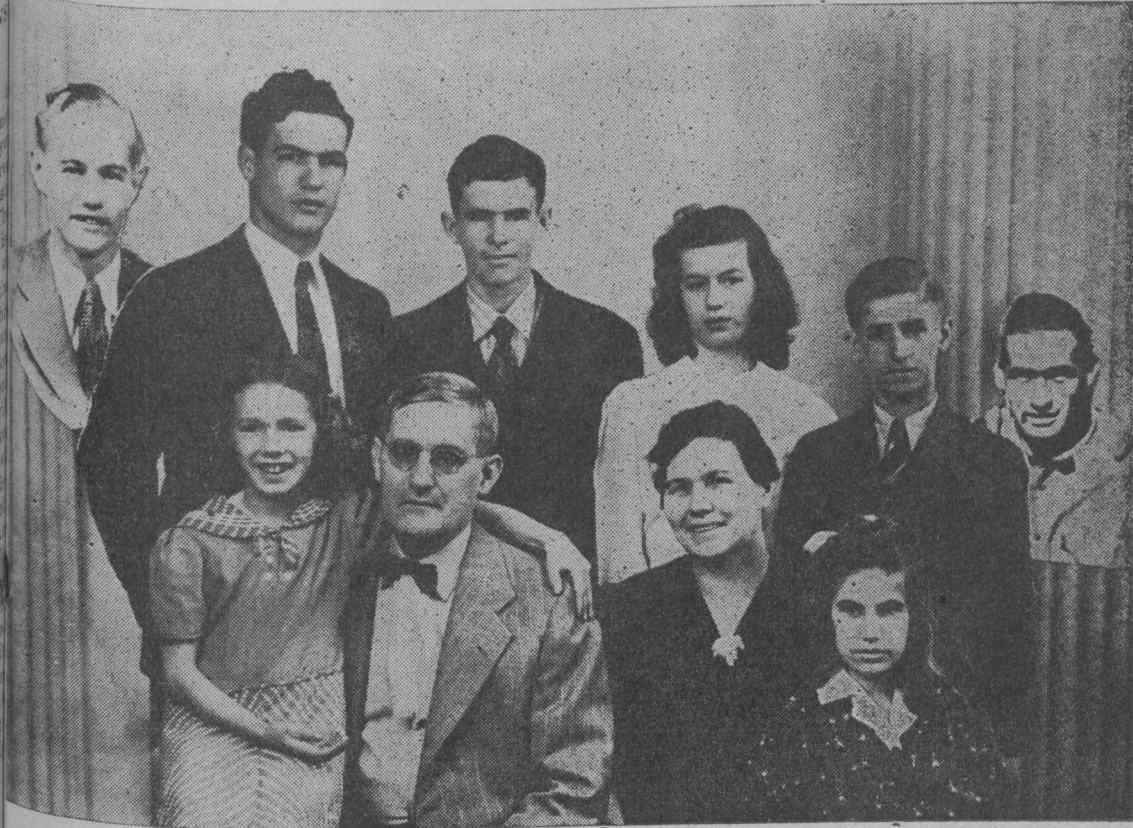
Miss Marguerite Hallum

(Spanish Language)

# MISSION SHEETS

Detroit, Michigan, November, 1946

Number 11



THE BRANDONS  
(Brazil)

Missionary Brandon and family went to Brazil in October 1923. He did some work while learning the language at Santarem on the Amazon river 500 miles above its mouth. From here they moved to Manaus, the capitol of the State of Amazonas. This is the place where Missionary E. A. Nelson was the first Baptist in the Amazon valley having gone there in about 1889 and labored for about 48 years. He organized about ten Baptist churches from Belem at the mouth of the Amazon to Manaus which is 1000 miles up river. The Brandons then moved above Manaus on the Amazon river to a place called Codajaz and from

here worked villages on the Amazon and other rivers. He went up to Cruzeiro do Sul in 1926 the first time which was three years after reaching Brazil. Here he labored and led several to Christ and also at Japyni still about 30 miles further up. He then returned down river and continued to work there. In 1928 he returned again to Cruzeiro do Sul and organized his first church there. In 1931 he organized his second church at Japyni and then in 1932 he organized three churches, Codajas, Esperanca and Coary. In 1933 he organized the church at Boa Fe and in 1935 the church at Catua in 1935. The last five mentioned are in the State of Amazonas and the first two are in the territory of Acre. The two fields being some 2500 miles apart by boat. Since returning to the

field five years ago he has organized three more churches in the Acre Territory. Morapirango in 1943, Parana in 1944 and Amonho in Feb. of this year 1946.

He also has at least 30 preaching points where journeys are made to, and the gospel preached to the people that gather there. The Brandons have seven children living. All five of their sons were in the service in the U. S. Army and all saw service overseas. George the oldest son was killed in Germany a short time before the war ended. Elizabeth died when about nine months old and is buried in Manaus, Brazil. Mrs. Brandon and the four youngest children live in Benton, Kentucky where the children are in school. Pray for the Brandons and then join in their support as the Lord shall lead you.

## BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

Many people will be reading this paper for the first time with this issue and will be wondering what it is and what it stands for. Baptist Faith Missions is a New Testament Baptist Faith Mission Work just like the Lord Jesus commissioned his churches to do. It has no paid secretaries or officers. All connected with it help support it and all the time editing the paper and carrying on the work as Treasurer and Secretary is given free. There is no office expense nor big overheads. The funds given are used for the support of the missionaries and their families and their traveling expenses and supplies for carrying on the work and making journeys away from their headquarters. Also at present we have native Baptist preachers who are supported. In addition to this, actual cost of postage, paper and printing is paid for. The Editor prepares the copy for the

printer as a work of love and Editor John R. Gilpin of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER prints the paper bearing a good share of its actual cost himself. In short all the offerings are used for the mission work and that alone.

### NO TIME FOR ISMS

This mission work has no time for the isms. We believe in unity but not unionism. We believe the Bible to be the inspired word of God. We believe in the doctrines that Baptist have died for down through the centuries. We have no time for the Federal Council of Churches nor any other Modernistic organization. We are not against true Baptist Missionaries and their good work in other fields, in fact we are for them and pray God's richest blessings upon them. We do not believe that Baptist mission money should be used for the support of modernistic missionaries, nor for the support of modernistic professors and teachers in Baptist seminaries and

schools. We do not believe in the so called "Social Gospel", and do not believe that Baptist mission money should be used to support it.

### NO INTERFERENCE WITH CHURCHES

We believe that every local Baptist Church is a body of Christ and that her "say so" is final and that we nor any other have the right to interfere in the least. We believe that a Baptist church can give her mission money to this work if she feels so led of the Lord, or not to give it, or to give it as she pleases (so long as she is Scriptural in doing so) and that she is still a Baptist church and within her God given rights. We welcome those who believe in a New Testament Baptist Faith Mission Work to join with us in its support as the Lord shall lead. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ built His church here on earth in Palestine during His earthly (Continued on next page)

## Mission Sheets

Five years ago when Missionary J. F. Brandon was in the States on furlough he found himself without a paper to support his work. While in our home in Wheaton, Ill., (where we lived at that time) we prayed about this each night for about two weeks. As a result we felt led to use our mimeograph machine and start a little sheet telling about Brother Brandon's work in Brazil and keep it before those who were interested. The first issue went forth in January 1942 with a total of thirty issues. We had \$14.00 to report that had been sent in for the work to us in both November and December 1941. In Feb. we sent out a few more issues than we did in January and had \$14.50 to report as being sent in for January 1942.

### A STEADY GROWTH

The circulation began to grow and more and more churches joined with us in the support of the work. Someone (we do not recall who it was or just when or why) referred to the little mission paper as the MISSION SHEETS and as a result it is still called by that name. In January 1946 we began to print the paper instead of mimeographing it and beginning with this issue the size is increased to cover both the work in Brazil and Peru. Also the circulation has grown from thirty with the first issue in January 1942 to about thirteen thousand with this issue. For all this we are careful to give a merciful God all the honor and glory.

## DONNA MARIA

J. F. Brandon

There she stood on top of an eight foot ladder, picking coffee from a small tree on the farm of a Baptist deacon near the village of Japyni. There were a number of other coffee pickers nearby, all in talking distance, some on ladders, others on the ground. Donna Maria, the one referred to above, was as usual, the one leading the conversation. The missionary had gone to visit the deacon who was just in the midst of the coffee harvest and as we walked about the place we passed these coffee pickers to invite them to come to the worship that night.

### DONNA MARIA WORSHIPPED IDOLS

I asked the Baptist deacon who was the untidy looking creature on top of the tall ladder and he advised that she was Donna Maria Ferreira and added that she was the most religious person in the village. You see she belonged to the Sacred Heart of Mary, her favorite saint being Saint John. We drew near and bid them a good afternoon, inviting them to come to the Gospel services at the home of the Baptist deacon. Her reply was brief but very exact. We have no faith in the Protestant Gods; we belong to the Sacred Heart of Mary and celebrate the feast of Saint John.

## WE RECOMMEND THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

Beginning with this issue the MISSION SHEETS will once a month be printed as part of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER which is edited by Elder John R. Gilpin. All those who have been getting the MISSION SHEETS free will continue to do so. In addition to this, all the readers of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER will also get the MISSION SHEETS extra as a part of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. The editor of the MISSION SHEETS recommends that every reader of the MISSION SHEETS subscribe for THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. This is a Baptist Paper that goes to every State in the Union and to many foreign countries. It is a weekly paper and every issue is full of good things for Baptists and others to read. The subscription price is only fifty cents a year. Now sit down and write to Brother John R. Gilpin, Russell, Kentucky and send him a dollar bill for two years subscription for THE BAPTIST EXAMINER.

### A MISSIONARY BAPTIST

Brother Gilpin is a real Missionary Baptist. In addition to being editor of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER he is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Russell, Kentucky. As a result of his radio ministry in the past a church was organized at Coal Grove, Ohio which is across the river from Russell a short ways. Brother Gilpin is also Pastor of this church which has built a new building. Following the Sunday morning service in Russell he goes to Coal Grove and preaches to the church there and again on Thursday night for prayer meeting.

### A HELPER TO BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

Brother Gilpin and his paper and his church at Russell supported a missionary family in Brazil full time for some three years or more. We are happy to announce that he, his paper, and churches join with you and us in the support of Baptist Faith Missions which is the work of the Brandons in Brazil and the Hallums in Peru. Now we invite all our new readers to join with us in the support of this New Testament Baptist Faith Mission Work.

Her reply seemed to satisfy the others and as no progress had been made we went to invite others.

### LULLABIES TO THE SAINTS

Instead of going to the Gospel services as many of her neighbors did, Donna Maria with some of her devout companions gathered in her home to sing lullabies to the image that the priest had consecrated for her at Saint John. This they did for several nights, making vows to the idols and asking them for protection and other blessings that God alone can give. Something went wrong with her service. The blessings sought were not forth coming and pro- (Continued on next page)



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Detroit 11, Mich.

AVBFM

The Amazon Valley Baptist Faith Missions was started by the late H. Boyce Taylor of Murray, Ky. some 25 years ago. Some half dozen or more missionary families went to the Amazon Valley under this mission. All but two of them returned because they felt that it was not for them, or because they did not make good. Brother Brandon and family went to Brazil under the AVBFM in October 1923 and continued under that mission until 1928, since which he has been supported by others and now by Baptist Faith Missions. In 1935 the Hallum family went to the Amazon Valley in Peru under the AVBFM and continued their work under that mission until recently.

FUNDS ABOUT USED UP

When Brother H. B. Taylor died in 1932 the AVBFM had several thousand dollars in their treasury. They sent out and supported the Hallums for the past eleven years. Now their funds will soon be used up and the AVBFM released the Hallums that they might apply to Baptist Faith Missions and continue their work in Peru. Brother E. B. Holland who is the treasurer of the AVBFM wrote to us advising that: 1. The AVBFM had voted unanimously to release the Hallums so that they could make arrangements with us or another mission. 2. They voted to pay the Hallum's salary for the rest of the year 1946. 3. They voted to pay the Hallum's passage back to Peru. 4. They voted to then give to the Hallums the rest of the funds left in their treasury at that time. 5. They appointed a committee to draw up resolutions setting forth their approval and satisfaction for the efficient work that the Hallums have done.

BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS  
(Cont'd from preceding page)

ministry and that he left her a commission to go, make disciples, baptize them and then indoctrinate them in "all things." We believe that sinners are saved by grace through faith and that there are many saved people in man made organizations that call themselves churches. Also we believe that many will be in Heaven that were never members of a Baptist church or any other organization. However we do believe that every saved person, who will lay aside prejudice, relative and their temper and take the Bible as it is, will be a Baptist. If you have questions to ask we shall be happy to try to answer them. Now will you pray for the missionaries and their work and also ask the Lord what He would have you do about its support.

MISSION SHEET EDITOR  
IN KENTUCKY REVIVALS

The editor of the MISSION SHEETS has been invited to be with the Sinking Springs Baptist Church, Murray, Kentucky, and Pastor W. M. Hampton in a meeting October 30 through Nov. 10. Also with the First Baptist Church, White Plains, Kentucky, and Pastor Dewey Noffsinger for a meeting beginning on Nov. 11. Remember to pray for us.



THE HALLUMS  
(Peru)

Missionary Hallum and family went to Peru in 1935. This family consists of four. Missionary and Mrs. Hallum and a son R. E. who is married and lives in Hammond, La., and a daughter, Miss Marguerite Hallum who is also a missionary with her father and mother. Not often does one find a young woman who will leave all the comforts and advantages of life in the United States and go to a foreign land to a heathen people and there suffer the heat and hardships that the women and children may come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their own personal Saviour. The Hallums work in Iquitos, Peru, a city of perhaps thirty to forty thousand people. This city is on the Amazon River still up river from Brazil. By air Iquitos is less than 300 miles from Cruzeiro do

Sul where Brother Brandon labors. But by water it is nearly 3000 miles. They reached Iquitos, Peru in 1935 by going from New York to Belem, Brazil at the mouth of the Amazon river then up the Amazon all the way through Brazil and into Peru. Now they will return by boat from New Orleans and cross over to the Pacific ocean through the Panama Canal and then to Lima, Peru. From there they can take a plane to Iquitos or go by truck part way and then the rest of the way by boat. They plan, the Lord willing, to return to Peru, leaving New Orleans in January 1947. They learned the language which is Spanish in Peru and did work from house to house and on the rivers nearby and have been able to organize a church in Iquitos. They hope to get an outboard motor and enlarge their field of work and reach many who

have never heard the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. We suggest that Pastors read the MISSION SHEETS carefully and keep the mission work before their churches. Missions will cause the local church to grow. Tell them about these missionaries and have your churches pray for them at each service and tell of the need and pray for more helpers and the Lord may call someone from your church to go to Brazil or Peru. Missionary R. P. Hallum and Brother Z. E. Clark (who is treasurer of this mission work) went to Bible School together and graduated in the same class. They finished the work in the West Kentucky Bible School at Murray, Ky. which was carried on by Brother H. B. Taylor in his lifetime. Remember the Hallums before the throne of grace and ask the Lord what He would have you do.

FINANCIAL REPORT OCTOBER 1946

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Hopewell Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio               | \$ 5.00  |
| Tabernacle Baptist Church, Lewisburg, Ky.           | 60.00    |
| Richland Baptist Church, Livermore, Ky.             | 23.86    |
| First Baptist Church, White Plains, Ky.             | 10.00    |
| South Side Baptist Church, Winter Haven, Fla.       | 15.00    |
| McRoberts Baptist Church, McRoberts, Ky.            | 7.50     |
| Seven Springs Baptist Church, Dycusburg, Ky.        | 13.56    |
| First Baptist Church, Coal Grove, Ohio              | 60.50    |
| First Baptist Church Russell, Ky.                   | 88.00    |
| South Union Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.              | 25.00    |
| Second Baptist Church, Marion, Ky.                  | 12.05    |
| Shady Grove Baptist Church, Wickliffe, Ky.          | 25.00    |
| Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Hickory, Ky.         | 11.00    |
| Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, Alleghre, Ky.             | 75.00    |
| Mrs. E. H. Purdom, Elmhurst, Ill.                   | 25.00    |
| Scotts Grove Baptist Church, Murray, Ky.            | 31.00    |
| Don Grollmund, Fort Worth, Texas                    | 5.00     |
| Grace Baptist Church, Base Line, Mich.              | 52.48    |
| Grace Baptist Church, Base Line, Mich., B. Y. P. U. | 5.37     |
| Liberty Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio, B. Y. P. U.   | 5.00     |
| Liberty Baptist Church Toledo, Ohio                 | 10.10    |
| Benton Baptist Church, Benton, Ky.                  | 57.49    |
| Ryan Road Baptist Church, Van Dyke, Mich.           | 7.34     |
| Friendship Baptist Church, Lincoln Park, Mich.      | 12.71    |
| Westwood Baptist Church, Trilby, Ohio               | 11.50    |
| Hopewell Baptist Church, West Toledo, Ohio          | 5.00     |
| Fenton Road Baptist Church, Flint, Mich.            | 5.00     |
| Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.              | 65.75    |
| TOTAL   | \$730.21 |

Z. E. CLARK, Treasurer

HALLUMS RECEIVED BY  
BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS  
AS MISSIONARIES

As announced in the last issue of the MISSIONS SHEETS the Hallums applied to Baptist Faith Missions and were unanimously received as our missionaries. Baptist Faith Missions will begin to support the Hallums as soon as the funds of the AVBFM are used up which will be sometime in 1947. Of the missionaries who went to the Amazon Valley under the AVBFM the Brandons and Hallums are the only ones who remained and made good. We are now happy to announce that both the Brandons and Hallums are the Missionaries of Baptist Faith Missions with work in Brazil and Peru respectively. To the Brethren on the board of the AVBFM we send our greetings and pray God's blessings upon them and invite them to join with us in the support of this great mission work.

DONNA MARIA

(Cont'd from preceding page)  
fection was not insured, for Donna Maria fell and bruised herself considerably. Besides losing the time from the most profitable work of the year she was very sad that Saint John had failed to protect her.

UNDER CONVICTION OF SIN

It was then that the battle began in her heart that no one could take part in but herself and of course she had to be the loser. There it was that she was brought under conviction of sin. Then in the lonely hours of suffering she promised God that if He would have mercy on her she would go to the Baptist Gospel service and hear what she had to say. A few nights later when the singing was finished and I had begun to preach, someone slipped into the hall and sat down on the back seat. Not heard when she entered but the missionary. The services that night were good and the Lord was present and gave liberty.

DONNA MARIA IS SAVED

A happy expression was upon the faces of all except Donna Maria and this poor, haggard, weary, disfigured one seemed to be struggling against the power of the underworld for liberty. Something her poor polluted soul had never known. At the close of the service when the invitation was given and the believers began to sing "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" Donna Maria crept out into the open and boldly came down to the front and she pressed the hand of the missionary she said "I have rejected as long as I can, here and now, am accepting Jesus as my only God and Saviour, I find no peace elsewhere, I want to be baptized."

THE PEOPLE WERE HAPPY

I never saw so many people so happy over the conversion of one person. Everybody was brought to tears of joy as Donna Maria became a new creature in Christ Jesus. The service was prolonged as she gave her experience, telling how her Saint had failed her and how the Lord had reprimanded her when she fell from the ladder, and how lonely and weary she became while waiting for her bruises to heal that she might come to the Gospel services and hear the Word of Life. Sixteen years have passed each bringing their portion of trials and vexations to the life of Donna Maria yet each have seemed rather to have enriched her unbroken fellowship with the Lord rather than break it.

DONNA MARIA LEADS MANY  
TO CHRIST

Soon she became a mother in Israel, for her testimony was so convincing that she led many to the Lord Jesus just to find peace as she herself had found. I am sure that when the truth is revealed that many will draw their salvation back to the personal work of Donna Maria. The Lord willing we will give more interesting experiences of Donna Maria at another time.

Anyone desiring more information about this mission work write to the Secretary of the Mission. Address your letter to:

H. H. OVERBEY  
1210 E. Grand Blvd.  
Detroit 11, Mich.



NOVEMBER 16, 1946

## NOTICE!

WE HAVE ON HAND SEVERAL HUNDRED  
- BACK ISSUES OF

"The Baptist Examiner."

WE WILL BE HAPPY TO SEND A BUNDLE  
OF THESE TO ANYONE DESIRING THEM  
FOR DISTRIBUTION

## GODLY COMPANIONS

(Continued from page one)

he seeks a new company, delighting only in the saints of God. Alas, that we do not always continue as we began.

The Christian is to have good fellowship with all with whom he comes in contact, desiring and seeking their best interests (Gal. 6:10), but he is not to be yoked to (2 Cor. 6:14) nor have any fellowship with (Eph. 5:11) those who are unbelievers, nor is he to delight in or have complacency toward those who despise his Master. "Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the Lord?" (II Chron. 19:2). Would you knowingly take a viper into your bosom? "The wicked is an abomination unto the righteous" (Prov. 29:26). So said David, "Do not I hate them, O Lord, that hate Thee, and am I not grieved with those that rise up against Thee? I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies" (Ps. 139:21,22). That holy man could not confederate with such.

Evil company is to be sedulously avoided by the Christian lest he become defiled by them. He that walketh with wise men shall be wise; but a companion of fools shall be destroyed" (Prov. 13:20). Nor is it only the openly lawless and criminal who are to be shunned, but even, yea, especially those professing to be Christians yet who do not live the life of Christians. It is this latter class particularly against which the real child of God needs to be on his guard; namely, those who say one thing and do another; those whose talk is pious, but whose walk differs little or nothing from the non-professor. The Word of God is plain and positive on this point: "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (II Tim. 3:5). This is not merely good advice, but a Divine command which we disregard at our peril.

In selecting your "companions" get not a pleasing personality delectable to you. The Devil himself often poses as "an angel of light" and sometimes his wolfish agents disguise themselves in "sheep's clothing" (Matt. 7:15). Be most careful in seeing to it that what draws you toward and makes you desire the companionship of Christian friends, is their love and likeness to Christ, and not their love and likeness to you. Beware as you would a deadly plague those who are not awed by

the fear of God, i. e., a trembling lest they offend Him. Let not the Devil persuade you that you are too well established in the faith to be injured by intimacy with worldly "Christians" (?). "Be not deceived; evil communications corrupt good manners" (I Cor. 15:33). Rather "follow righteousness, faith, love, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (II Tim. 2:22).

"Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners" (I Cor. 15:33). The Greek word here for "communications" properly means "a bringing together, companionships." And evil companionships "corrupt." All is contagious, and association with evil-doers, whether they be "church members" or open infidels, has a defiling and debasing effect upon the true child of God. Mark well how the Holy Spirit has prefaced this warning: "Be not deceived." Evidently there is a real danger of God's people imagining that they can play with fire without getting burned. Not so; God has not promised to protect us when we fly in the face of His danger signals. Observe too the next verse, which is inseparably connected with the one to which we have directed attention.

"Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak (this) to your shame" (I Cor. 15:34). The word "awake" signifies to arouse as from a torpor or state of lethargy. It is a call to shake off the delusive spell that a Christian may company with Christless companions without being contaminated by them. "And sin not" in this respect. To cultivate friendship with religious worldlings is SIN, for such "have not the knowledge of God:" they have no experimental acquaintance with Him, His fear is not on them, His authority has no weight with them. "I speak (this) to your shame." The child of God ought to be abashed and filled with confusion that he needs such a word as this.

"I am a companion of all them that fear Thee, and of them that keep Thy precepts." Such are the only "companions" worth having, the only ones who will give you any encouragement to continue pressing along the "Narrow Way." It is not those who merely pretend to "believe" God's precepts or profess to "stand for" them, but those who actually "keep" them. But where are such to be found these days? Ah! where indeed. They are but "few"

in number (Matt. 7:14), one here and one there. Yea, so very "few" are they that we are constrained to cry, "Help, Lord, for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men" (Psa. 12:1).

It is indeed solemn to read the words which immediately follow the last quoted Scripture and find how aptly they apply to and how accurately they describe the multitude of godless professing "Christians" all around us: "They speak vanity every one with his neighbor, with flattering lips, with a double heart do they speak" (v. 2). Note three things about them. First, they speak "vanity" or "emptiness." Their words are like bubbles, there is nothing edifying about them. It can not be otherwise for "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matt. 12:34). Their poor hearts are empty (Matt. 12:44). So their speech is empty too. Second, they have "flattering lips," which is the reason why they are so popular with the ungodly. They will seek to puff you up with a sense of your own importance, pretend to admire the "much light" you have, and tell you it is your duty to "give it out to others." Third, they have a "double heart." They are (vainly) seeking to serve two masters: cf. II Kings 17:32,33.

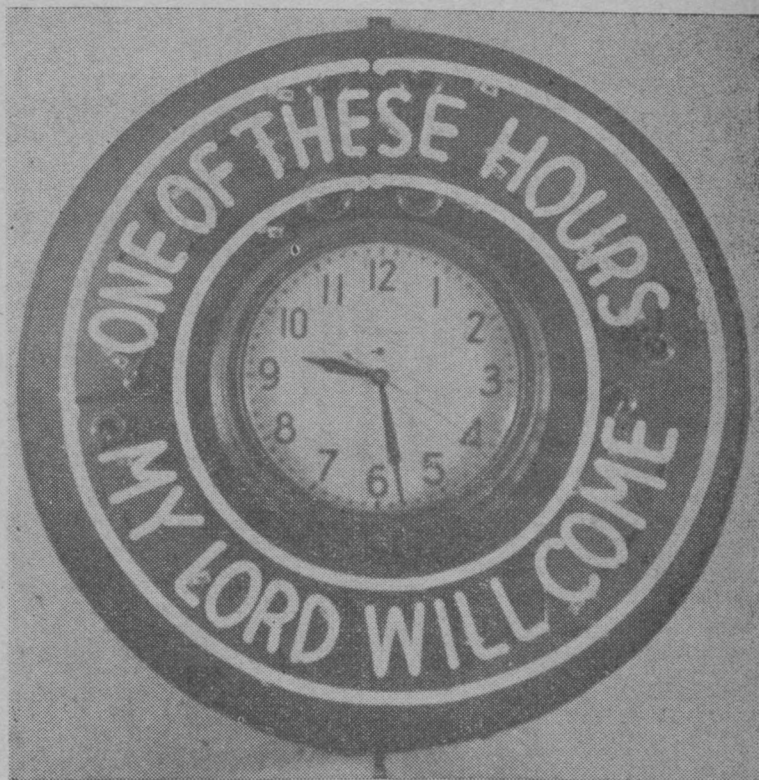
"I am a companion of all them that fear Thee, and of them that keep Thy precepts." There is a very real sense in which this is true even where there is no outward contact with such. Faithfulness to God, obedience to His Word, keeping His precepts, accompanying only with those who do so, turning away from everybody else has always involved a lonely path. It was thus with Enoch (Jude 14). It was thus with Abraham (Isa. 51:2). It was thus with Paul (II Tim. 1:15). And it is the same today. Every city in the land is filled with "churches," "missions," "gospel halls," Bible Institutes," etc., but where are those who give plain evidence that they are living in this world as "strangers and pilgrims," and as such, abstaining "from fleshly lusts which war against the soul" (I Pet. 2:11)?

But, thank God, though the path of faithfulness to Him be a lonely one, it brings us into spiritual fellowship with those who have gone before. We are to walk by faith and not by sight, and faith perceives that walking with Christ "outside the camp" (Heb. 13:13) necessarily brings into communion with "all" His redeemed, be they on earth or be they in Heaven. Thus the apostle John in his lonely exile on Patmos referred to himself as "your brother and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ" (Rev. 1:9). Yes, Christian reader, for a little while it means companionship "in tribulation" but, praise God, it will not mean enduring the portion of the Christless professors left behind when Christ comes for His own (2 Thess. 2:10-12). For a little while it means companionship in "the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ," soon it will be in the kingdom and glory of Christ. May Divine grace enable us so to live now that in that day we shall receive His "Well done."

## PROBLEM LETTERS

(Continued from page one)  
she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord." Many thousands of miserable married men and women wish now, too late, they had obeyed the Lord's command in 2 Corinthians 6:14: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with un-

## Our Electric Clock



Here is a picture of the clock which hangs on the wall in our printing shop. It is approximately three feet in diameter. The lettering "One Of These Hours My Lord Will Come," is in green and rose colored neon tubing. Twenty-four hours of every day, it gives its silent testimony as to our Lord's return. All who come in the shop each day and those who pass the building at night are reminded that He is coming.

Before I ever bought one piece of printing machinery, I had in mind the idea of this clock with its letterings. A short time ago, I bought the clock and then had a local sign builder, Tom Turner, who incidentally is a Baptist layman and close friend, to mount it and do the neon lettering. I thank God that it is now a reality with us. Remember, He said, "Surely, I come quickly."—Rev. 22:20

believers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"—Christian Victory.

## THE SINFULNESS OF OPEN COMMUNION

(Continued from page one)  
taken as a feast. V. 22. (3) Cannot be taken with division and broken fellowship. V. 18-21. (4) Right elements must be used. V. 26-26. (5) Should judge ourselves and be judged by the church. V. 31, and I Cor. 5:12. (6) Must be united in doctrine. V. 18 and Acts 2:41, 42. (7) Finally the Supper is restricted to a self-examination of each church member (not professed Christians) after all other restrictions including the church's right to judge (I Cor. 5:11-12). Its membership is a reflection upon holy Scripture, twisting it and rejecting it to suit one's own self. Therefore, "they do err not knowing the Scriptures, neither the power of God."

4. "OPEN COMMUNION" REJECTS CHURCH DISCIPLINE, THEREFORE IS WICKED AND SINFUL. I Cor. 5:11-12 and 2 Thess. 3:6. If one is only to "examine himself," then he is not to be examined or "judged" by the church.

5. THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN "OPEN COMMUNION" INVITE EXTREME SINFUL CHURCH MEMBERS AND EVEN THE UNSAVED TO THE LORD'S TABLE (I Cor. 5:11-12), whereas God says, "Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of the Devil; ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table and the table of Devils." I Cor. 10:21. The Lord also says, "with such an one no not to eat," I Cor. 5:11. If, then, the Book tells us there are such with whom we should not eat, is it not sinful to invite them to eat

with us?

6. AN "OPEN COMMUNION" BAPTIST IN ORDER TO BE CONSISTENT must eat with the Roman Catholic who prays to priests and images of saints and goes to a human confessional and kisses the Pope's toe! He must eat with the "Campbellite" whose sins have been saturated in water but not "purged" by the blood. He must eat with the Unitarian who flatly rejects the Deity of Christ. He must eat with the modernist in all of his depredations and looseness. He must eat with the Methodist who corrupts the Lord's baptism. He must eat with the "sinless perfectionist" who the Bible says is a "liar" and have 'no truth in them. I Jno. 1. He must eat with the catalogue of corrupt church members of I Cor. 5:11. Therefore, away with this open communion modernism and let us stay with the Paulicans, Waldenses, and Anna-Baptists who kept the pure Apostolic doctrine and handed it to us in purity. If we are going to believe in the "universal church" we should join the Catholics who have taught it for these 1500 years! — By Isaac J. Smith, pastor, Lincoln Park Baptist Church, Canon City, Colorado.

## MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

(Continued from page one)

No, although the Lord has had to withhold His approval of the ways of His Church because she has introduced a third party, the world (James 4:4). He is still the "one husband" spoken of in 2 Corinthians 11:2. So, likewise, "He that is joined unto the Lord is one Spirit."—1 Cor. 6:17.

Do the Scriptures teach that death alone severs the marriage relationship? We believe they do. Our Scripture should suffice for those who profess subjection to (Continued on page four)

How long has it been since you wrote the editor and sent a contribution toward the printing of this paper? If you knew how much we needed you and counted on you, you'd write real soon.



## LORD, INCREASE OUR FAITH

*O Lord, increase our faith, that it may move  
The dismal mountains that our path beset—  
That, conq'ring doubt, Thy power may prove  
When anxious fears annoy, and trials fret.*

*O Lord, increase our faith, that it may be  
A shield to quench temptations evil darts,  
A staff to stay us in adversity,  
A buckler when all earthly help departs.*

*O Lord, increase our faith, lest we become  
Too much cast down by blame, or puffed by  
praise—  
Lest we behold each cloud with spirits glum,  
And fail to give Thee thanks in sunny days.*

*O Lord, increase our faith, that when we toil  
It may supply a quickened energy,  
A depth of calm when irritations roll,  
A zeal for honor, truth, integrity.*

*O Lord, increase our faith, that it preserve  
Our hearts against avenging bitterness—  
When we must bear the losses that unnerve,  
The griefs that crush, the burdens that oppress.*

*O Lord, increase our faith when joys o'erflow,  
Lest blest with gifts, the Giver we forget.  
Love, comfort, sympathy may we bestow  
To troubled ones whose eyes with tears are wet.*

*O Lord, increase our faith, the evidence  
Of things unseen, eternal, which abide—  
Things realized when Thou wilt call us hence,  
When things of time from out our grasp shall  
slide.*

*O Lord, increase our faith from day to day,  
Till life is o'er, till pilgrim days shall end.  
Break Thou the Bread of Life upon our way,  
And walk and talk with us, as Friend with friend.*

—Anna Hoppe

sciences, takes them back to God's original institution of marriage. (Genesis 2:24.) However, this does not suit them and they quote Moses' permission (Deut. 24:1), asking, "Why did Moses then command," etc. The Lord instructs them that Moses suffered them to put away their wives, because of the hardness of their hearts, but from the beginning it was not so. Moses' permission was not for the guilt of either fornication or adultery, because, according to the Word of God (Deut. 22:13-22), both an espoused wife, guilty of fornication prior to marriage, and a married wife, guilty of adultery after marriage, were to be stoned to death; this agreeing with all New Testament teaching that death alone severs the marriage relationship, and likewise giving us to understand the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, (a greater than Moses) God, the Son, to these self-righteous Pharisees—"And I say unto you, 'whosoever shall put away his wife, except (not) for fornication, and shall marry another, committed adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.'"—Matthew 19:9. This stopped the mouths of these Pharisees, seeing they knew what the Word of God taught concerning the stoning to death of both an espoused wife who had been a fornicator and a married wife guilty of adultery. See Deut. 22:13-22.

Thus we see that the Lord taught them that whosoever put away his wife and married another committed adultery unless the wife put away was stoned to death for fornication. "Except for fornication."—Matthew 19:9.

The disciples understood the Lord's answer to these Pharisees concerning a man having his wife stoned to death for fornication, as we see in verse 10 of Matthew 19 where they say, "If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry"; but in verses 11 and 12 the Lord does not enforce celibacy on such a man, which likewise agrees with the teaching of the Word of God on this subject as found in 1 Corinthians 7:1-9.

Matthew 5:31 and 32 bears the same interpretations, saying that whoever put away a wife in Matthew 19:9 the husband commits adultery who marries another after having put his own wife away. Both passages teach that whoever marries the wife put away commits adultery simply because her husband is still living. God's wisdom is surely infinite in everything. What more is needed for those who will be subject to the Word of God? What dishonor has been brought upon the Lord Jesus Christ and His Word, and what havoc and ruin has been wrought among the children of God in receiving the traditions of men and of the Church, thus having made the Word of God of none effect in the souls of many.

Revelation 3:14 presents the Lord Jesus Christ as "The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the beginning of the creation of God" (the New Creation which is the Church of God). He is therefore the only Head of the Church. May we hear Him. Revelation 3:22. "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches."

Apparent incomplete light is for the development and exercise of faith. The fullness of light is often found only when an accumulation of scriptural references on a subject is assembled and examined.

This seems to be the case in connection with the question of divorce. It is very evident from scripture that God permits Himself to be misunderstood when the desire of the individual rejects

light. Men and even whole companies of men-believers as well as unbelievers—go astray on scriptural statements that reveal only partial light.

In this enlightened day and age there is little excuse for ignorance therefore our positions are due to choice and not merely ignorance, many often being blinded by what others think, they are willing to rest their soul's welfare upon questionable interpretations, especially when these interpretations are made and held by noted Bible teachers.

Read Genesis 2:24. This scripture seems to be basic for it is not only the original declaration of the marriage relationship at the beginning but it is the scripture that our Lord based His own statements on and it evidently admits of no change. If this is fully realized there will be no difficulty found in its application in detail. Jesus laid the emphasis there "... and they shall be one flesh."

The other scripture we would like to call attention to is Deuteronomy 22:13-22. This scripture clearly gives the law for fornication and adultery and the words of our Lord, "... except for fornication" can not be understood

apart from this law. Nowhere in scripture was this law altered except in the instance that the Pharisees used to counter statements of our Lord and so provided the occasion for its removal, with its removal every cause for divorce was removed. When we read Deuteronomy 22:13-30 we see that there is now no ground left for divorce but in its place the penalty of death demanded, consequently there would be no fornicator or adulterer alive to marry or to remarry.

We often overlook the fact that the Scribes and Pharisees, as well as our Lord, would base all their statements and arguments on the view of their statutory law which was the position the law of Moses held. This is evidenced by the bringing a woman caught in the act of adultery and ask (for ulterior purposes of course), "Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?" St. John 8:5.

Furthermore, in the light of the high standard of the statements that our Lord transcended the law, would it be reasonable to think that when our Lord said "except for fornication" that He intimated that He advocated a standard of morality lower than even the law? Judge ye.

## Tested! And Found Faithful Or Wanting?

*"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him.—James 1:12.*

## THE WEATHER TEST

Are you a sailboat Christian—making progress in the Lord if the winds are favorable? Or are you a tugboat Christian—plowing right ahead even though the gales are against you?

## THE WORRY TEST

"If you trust you do not worry; if you worry you do not trust." Have you found that "He keeps him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Him," because he trusts in God?

## THE WORLDLINESS TEST

Do you think as the world thinks; go where the world goes; act as the world acts? Does your life give evidence of having your affections set on things above, not on things on the earth?

## THE WALLET TEST

What proportion of your income last year was turned over for the work of the Lord? Was it at least as much as the tithe which the Jew paid before the grace of God was revealed in Christ?

## THE WORK TEST

How much of your energy is being given to the work of the Lord, and is it a reasonable proportion of what you are expending in the day-by-day task of making a living?

## THE WITNESSING TEST

Are you by life and lip commending Christ so that He is attractive to those who do not know Him as a personal Saviour and Lord, and is the vote of your life for Him or against Him?

## THE WAITING TEST

The Thessalonian Christians "turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead" (1 Thessalonians 1:9-10). Have you turned, and are you living with His coming in view?

*"Christianity is the life of the Son of God in my soul."*  
—Copied

## MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

(Continued from page three)  
the Lord. The first Epistle we appeal to is the one written to the Church of God at Corinth binding "upon all that in every place call upon the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours."—1 Cor. 1:2.

Chapter 7, verse 36, teaches "the wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth: but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord." Not only "in Christ," which speaks of relationship, but "only in the Lord" which involves His authority and approval.

Verse 10 and 11 of the same chapter teach us that the Lord commands that there be no separation between husband and wife; and if such separation takes place, there is to be no remarriage. "And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, let not the wife depart from her husband: But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife." Reconciliation is the command of "the Lord."

Verses 12 to 17 teach that an unbeliever is sanctified (set apart) if married to a believer, because such is joined in marriage to the one whom God has now saved.

Verses 15 teach that if the unbeliever will not live with the one who has become a believer then the believer "is not under bondage in such cases"; that is, God does not hold the deserted believer to the responsibilities of the marriage relationship, but does call the believer to go on with Himself "in peace."

Verse 16 teaches the believer as follows, "For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save

thy husband? thou shalt save thy wife?" In this connection see also 1 Peter 3:1-4.

(In the Epistle to the Hebrews, chapter 13, verse 4, we read that "whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.")

In the Epistle to the Romans, chapter 7, verses 1-4, the Spirit of God teaches us that death alone severs the marriage relationship, even though the subject, in its spiritual application, concerns the believer's death to the law (the first husband) and marriage to Christ (the new husband). Here again death alone severs the relationship with the first husband.

Mark's Gospel, chapter 10, verses 2-12, also teach that death alone severs the marriage relationship. Luke's Gospel, chapter 16, verse 18, teaches the same.

There are two other Scriptures, Matthew 5:31 and 32 and Matthew 19:9, that are used by some seeking to prove that death alone does not sever the marriage relationship. To this end, the letter of Scripture has been unduly pressed but the Spirit of Scripture entirely overlooked. However, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God."—2 Timothy 3:16. And "no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private" (separate) "interpretation."—2 Peter 1:20.

Scriptures do not contradict themselves, hence these Scriptures in Matthew's Gospel could but teach the same truth that is taught elsewhere in the New Testament: and, glory to God! this is the truth of the matter.

In Matthew 19:3 the self-righteous Pharisees, seeking, as usual, to justify themselves and their interpretations of the law, come to the Lord Jesus, tempting Him, saying, "Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?" The Lord, seeking, as He always did, to reach their con-