

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!"

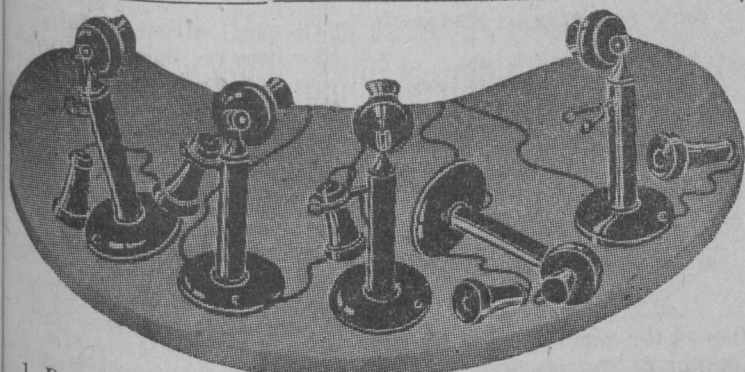
"To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." (Isa. 8:20).

WHOLE NO. 451

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SATURDAY, DEC. 21, 1946

VOLUME 15, NO. 46

Is Xmas Really Christian?

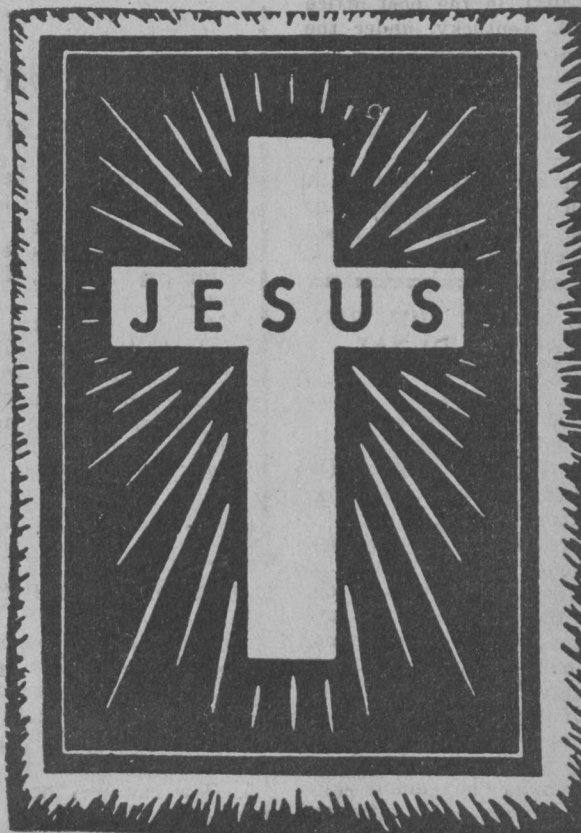


"Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen . . . for the CUSTOMS of the people are vain" (Jer. 10:1-3).

Christmas is coming! Quite so; but what is "Christmas?" Does not the very term itself denote its source — "Christmass." Thus it is of Romish origin, brought over from Paganism. But, says someone, Christmas is the time when we commemorate the Saviour's birth. It is? And who authorized such commemoration? Certainly God did not. The Redeemer bade His disciples "remember" Him in His death, but there is not a word in Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, which tells us to celebrate His birth. Moreover, who knows when, in what month, He was born? The Bible is silent thereon. Is it without reason that the only "birthday" commemorations mentioned in God's Word are Pharaoh's (Gen. 40:20) and Herod's (Matt. 14:6)? Is this recorded "for our learning?" If so, have we prayerfully taken it to heart?

And who is it that celebrates "Christmas?" The whole "civilized world." Millions who make no profession of faith in the blood of the Lamb, who "despise and reject him," and millions more who while claiming to be His followers yet in works deny Him, join in merry-making under the pretense of honoring the birth of the Lord Jesus. Putting it on its lowest ground, we would ask, Is it fitting that His friends should unite with His enemies in a worldly round of fleshly gratification? Does any truly born-again soul really think that He whom the world cast out, is either pleased or glorified by such participation in the world's joys? Verily, "the customs of the people are vain;" and it is written, "Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil" (Ex. 23:2).

Some will argue for the "keeping of Christmas" on the ground of "giving the kiddies a good" (Continued on page four)



A Scriptural Study of The Glorious Doctrine Of The Believers Assurance

By C. D. COLE
Mortons Gay, Ky.

The way to be saved is clearly set forth in such scriptures we now quote: "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: Not of works lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8,9). "And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31). "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up; that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:14,15). "Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace" (Rom. 4:16a). "Whosoever be-

lieveth that Jesus is the christ is (Gk. has been) born of God" (1 Jno. 5:1a). Such passages could be multiplied many times over, but these must suffice, and should suffice for everyone, to prove that salvation is by faith in what Jesus Christ is and has done rather than by what any man is or has done or can do.

We are saved by faith; we know we are saved by knowing that we have faith. If we have the faith referred to in the above scrip- (Continued on page two)

ATOMIC BOMBARDMENT

The Army has asked Congress for money with which to develop an atomic missile which, fired from the United States, can hit any part of the world within an hour. As a means of defense the Army already is developing pilotless bombers. It expects to be able to guide a giant bomber plane loaded with 5,000 pounds of bombs, to any point on earth by means of remote control. The other day it took a long step in that direction by successfully piloting a large bomber plane by remote control from Hawaii to California.

"We must expect other nations will develop missiles capable of crossing oceans," said Col. S. B. Ritchie, acting chief of the research and development service. "Counter-measure missiles are therefore included in our over-all program." Oceans will be no more useful to the U. S. as a defense in the next war than the English Channel was to Britain in World War II. Surely "perilous times" are ahead! — The Pentecostal Evangel.

1. Does Jer. 51:25 refer to the Axis powers?

The prophecy of Jer. 51:25 is a direct reference to the ancient city of Babylon which God promised to destroy. It has no reference whatever to the Axis powers.

2. Does James 5:14 refer to physical or spiritual sickness?

This is a direct reference to those who are physically sick. Our Lord healed when He was here in the days of His flesh. He remains the same. Read Heb. 13:8. Surely then He is able to heal today.

3. Is it right for a Christian to smoke?

There is no direct reference to it in the Word of God. There are

several reasons why a Christian should abstain therefrom. First of all, it is an expensive habit which pampers only our fleshly nature. At the same time, I do not believe that our Lord would use cigarettes if he were here on earth today. Finally, our body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. Read I Cor. 6:19,20. Surely we ought to keep this temple clean.

4. Was Peter "born again" before his denial of Jesus?

Undoubtedly so. He had been both on the Mt. of Transfiguration and in Gethsemane with Jesus. Mt. 16:16 would surely show him to be "born again." It is true that he backslid and denied his Lord, yet he never (Continued on page two)

Should Children Be Taught Form Prayers To Say In Childhood?

Preliminary

Lest we be later misunderstood, let us state in the beginning that we believe that God certainly has provision made for the safety of children who die previous to reaching the years of accountability. We confess that we don't know a lot about the how, but we are sure of the fact. One Scripture is enough just here. (II Sam. 12:20-23). Certainly David was a saved man, and if so, and if he expected to go to be with the infant child that died, he meant to go to heaven. But—

Should Children Be Taught Prayers To Say?

Answer: So far as we can find, (Continued on page two)

Mused Uncle Mose

Hit look lak ole Santa Claus 'bout to crowd Chris' out o' Christmas.

-- The First Baptist Pulpit --

"Everything New"

"When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?" — John 5:6.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." — 2 Cor. 5:17.

I like to read the Scripture story which I have read to you this morning from the fifth chapter of John's Gospel. I like to read it because of the human interest angle of it. It tells of a poor fellow who has been sick

for 38 years and in all these years he has not gotten one bit better. The only hope of a cure that he has ever had, has passed him by time and again. He has laid there by the pool of Bethesda through these years waiting for the angel to trouble the water, for he understood that the first individual into those waters afterward would be healed of whatever disease from which he might be suffering. For 38 years this man had been lying there beside that pool hoping that he might be the first into the water, but always his hopes came to naught, for someone else succeeded in

stepping down into the pool ahead of him and thereby got the desired blessing while this man continued to suffer, and for 38 years it had been thus.

On this day our Lord came by, with the eye of a practiced physician. He scrutinized this group of doubtlessly human incurables lying there by this pool of Bethesda. Being God Himself in the flesh, He knew that the Heavenly Father had given the gift of faith unto this poor individual, and that this man had faith to receive the healing. Therefore, the Lord Jesus Christ asked him (Continued on page three)

THE BRONX "MIRACLE"

Supposed visions of the Virgin Mary by Joseph Vitolo, the nine-year-old Bronx, New York boy, brought as many as 25,000 people a night to watch in vain for a miracle in cold and rain for sixteen nights.

On the 16th night when the miracle failed, Joseph became "abusive" to reporters, according to the Pathfinder, and said that the "vision" told him: "Blondie sent Dagwood for steak but he brought sausages which turned to stone." (Blondie and Dagwood are comic strip characters). Someone has well said: "A Lourdes 'miracle' is better staged on a hill with a shepherdess in an illiterate country like Portugal, where 'Our Lady of Fatima' was successfully exploited. The New York Bronx is too prosaic, despite the presence of many priests and nuns."

But even if the miracle had happened, it would not be sufficient proof in itself that it was of the Lord; for the Lord Himself said: "Many will say to Me (Continued on page four)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN-EDITOR

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SHOULD LITTLE CHILDREN BE TAUGHT TO SAY PRAYERS?

(Continued from page one) the Lord nowhere teaches us to teach our children prayers. (If you know of such direct teaching, please inform us.)

Therefore, we do not believe that we ought to do something that God does not tell us to do, and that the Scriptures are utterly silent about. Besides this, we point out some of the dangers of teaching children to go through a form of praying.

Forms of prayers — such as "now I lay me down to sleep" are as worthless as "hey diddle diddle." All saying of memorized forms are worthless. Real prayer must be the real sentiment of the heart of the one praying — not formality.

A habit of prayer taught children is liable to blot out distinction concerning the difference between converted and unconverted. We have known of B. Y. P. U. members leading in prayer when they had never even made a profession of faith in Christ. How could they get to the Lord, when Jesus says, "No man cometh unto the Father, but by me?"

Previous to conversion one does not have the Holy Spirit, and prayers should be prompted by the Spirit. (Ephesians 6:18).

How can one meaningfully and effectively call upon one in whom he has not personally believed? (See Romans 10:14).

"Oh," somebody says, "but it seems so sweet and so beautiful to see a little child saying its prayers." Maybe so, but that does not have anything to do with it. The question is, does the Bible teach such?

What Does The Bible Say That We Should Teach Our Children?

Ah—! Lots of people ignore what God says to teach their children, but resort to teaching them something that He does not tell them to teach them. Note what God says about adding to. (Deut. 4:2).

God says to teach our children the law and commandments of the Lord. See Deut. 31:12-13; 18:19-20. (See particularly Deut. 6:6-9; Deut. 11:18-19).

Example is given of how Paul was taught the Scriptures in childhood. (II Tim. 3:15).

How important this is. In such case parents would teach their children the meaning and danger of sin, and the way of salvation. We confess that it is much easier to teach a child a little prayer than it is to study and learn the Scriptures and then to teach the

children, but nevertheless this is the thing that is told us should be done. Usually this job is turned over to the Sunday School teacher or pastor. Now you who may want to criticize the pastor for not approving the teaching of prayers to children, just face this question: Have you done what God says to do — Have you taught your children the Scriptures? If not, we suggest you do what He says before you complain about somebody else for not teaching you to do what the Lord has not commanded.



Attention!

LOUISIANA BAPTISTS

The editor will be with Pastor Gill and the Second Baptist Church of Mansfield, (D. V.) for one week beginning Sunday, December 29.

Arrangements are being made to entertain all out-of-town folk who wish to attend. Write Pastor Gill if you plan to attend and PRAY much for these services.

EVERYBODY IS ASKING

(Continued from page one) stopped believing that Jesus was his Saviour, since Christ prayed that his faith fail not. He was later restored to fellowship. Cf. John 21 and I John 1:9.

5. How can we "pray without ceasing?"

We "pray without ceasing" when we are, ever in the attitude of yieldedness, and desire to know and to do the will of God. There is danger that, having uttered our prayer to God, we may forget it and fail to look for the answer. We are "always to pray, and not to faint" (Lk. 18:1).

6. Can you tell us what is the estimated wealth of the chemical salts in the waters of the Dead Sea?

It is estimated that the potash, bromine and other chemical salts deposited in the Dead Sea basin are worth more than all the other wealth of the world beside. The figures of the experts are staggering. They declare that the potential value of these deposits is more than twelve hundred billions of dollars. How thrilling it is to reflect that, while men for centuries considered the Dead Sea basin as the most worthless and God forsaken spot on earth, God was using it as a safety deposit vault to make the land of Israel the richest territory in the world! Surely, His ways are not as our ways.



THE DOCTRINE OF ASSURANCE

(Continued From Page One) turs we may be assured of our conversion and salvation.

AN INTERESTING QUESTION

This is an interesting question to most everybody. People who ever have any dread of death and judgment to come would like to be assured of their safety in that day. A person who is not saved may be interested in this question. Everybody who believes there is a hell would like to be assured of his escape from such an awful place. It would be comfortable feeling for anybody to be assured of salvation and never be bothered with doubts and fears — regardless of how he lives. But

St. Bartholomew's Night

Monuments, says Macaulay, the great English historian, are "footprints of history on the pages of time." Many, in marble and metal, pyramids and plaques, speak of the deeds of great men through the ages, others of the torture and sufferings endured by the martyrs of history in the struggle for freedom.

In Paris, on the Rue de Rivoli, stands the figure of another great martyr to the cause of true Christian teaching: Gaspard de Coligny, noble French admiral and

Guise, brother of the Cardinal of Lorraine, took charge of the murder of Coligny. Thus fell the leader of the French Protestants, a man of inflexible Christian principles, said to be blameless in his morals and possessed of an immutable trust in God. More than 5,000 Huguenots perished with him in the city of Paris alone. In all, about 30,000 were killed.

This atrocious crime, regarded with horror and detestation by all civilized people, was glad news



Above is a picture of the two sides of the medal struck by the Vatican to commemorate the slaughter of the Huguenots. One side bears the impression of Pope Gregory XIII; the other of the destroying angel and the words: "UGONOTTORUM STRAGES, 1572"—"The Slaughter of the Huguenots, 1572."

Huguenot leader. It stands over the multitudes that daily throng this busy thoroughfare, a reminder of what the freedom of today cost the men of yesterday.

Deeds of infamy have also been recorded in marble and metal, and among these is the medal struck by the Papacy to commemorate the slaughter of Coligny and the Huguenots on St. Bartholomew's night, August 24, 1572. It took place at the instigation of professional conspirators acting for the feeble-minded king and the crafty Roman Curia. The destruction of the most eminent Protestant men of France had been diligently prepared and allotted to individuals. At a concerted signal, the murderers fell upon their Huguenot victims. The Duke of

Madrid and Rome. It is said that King Philip II of Spain, for the first time in his life, laughed aloud. In Rome, Pope Gregory XIII ordered a Te Deum sung, and for days the whole Papal court celebrated the event by processions and jubilant thanksgiving. The medal, specially struck to commemorate the massacre, bears on one side the image of Pope Gregory XIII; on the other, the destroying angel with the words: "UGONOTTORUM STRAGES, 1572."

The Pope further had the famous artist George Vasari paint a picture of the slaughter of Coligny and his Huguenot followers. — The Converted Catholic Magazine.

this thing of assurance, with the joy of salvation, is not something you can get behind you and forget it, and live carelessly. It is not all that easy.

YOU CAN BE SAVED AND NOT KNOW IT

If the reader questions this, then let him see that to do so is to take the position that all the members of a certain denomination are certainly lost. The so-called Hardshell Baptists, to the last man, confess that they do not know for certainty that they are saved; they merely hope so. And yet many of them give quite as much evidence of a saved state as do the best members of our group.

Some are saved and are not sure of it because they have not had the feeling they expected. They have not been able to square their experience with the wonderful experiences they have heard related by others, and this makes them question their own experience.

Some are saved and are not certain of it because they cannot fix the exact time of their second birth. Francis Ridley Havergal could never fix the date of her conversion, and this caused her long and grievous doubt. I have heard men base their assurance on the fact they were present at their second birth. Well, I was present at my first birth, but I do not base my assurance of being alive by remembering it. And I was present at my second birth, but I do not base my assurance of being alive spiritually by remembering just what happened.

I have better evidence than that of remembering my birthday. I have evidence that I am alive, and if I am alive now, I must have had a spiritual birthday sometime in the past.

Some are saved and not sure of it because they are not absolutely sure whether their faith is saving faith. They know from the word that saving faith is not alone, that it is accompanied by love and good works. Saving faith is the faith that works by love (Gal. 5:6).

ONE CAN THINK HE IS SAVED AND YET BE LOST

There can be a false assurance. The writer is sincerely fearful that this is the condition of many church members; in their own minds they are sure of their salvation, while it is obvious they have no signs of spiritual life. These words of our Lord are most solemn; "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matt. 7:22,23).

It is better to be safe and have doubts of one's conversion than to have a false assurance: to be lost and feel sure of salvation.

Some ground their assurance on the doctrine of once saved always saved. This is truth but this truth is not the ground of Bible assurance. And some base their assurance on a certain happy feeling they once had. It is enough

to say right here that one may be just as happy in the belief of lie as in the belief of a truth. I sincerely believe that I am numbered in a will, about to be probated, that will greatly enlarge me, I am just as happy as if were true.

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE

True assurance is the witness of the Holy Spirit. "The Spirit himself (Himself) beareth witness with our spirit, that we are children of God" (Rom. 8:16). "And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us" (1 Jno. 3:24). How does the Spirit bear witness with our spirit that we are children of God? He uses the word to strengthen previously existing faith so that there is no longer any doubt that we possess it. "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life" (1 Jno. 5:13). The purpose of this first epistle of John is to set forth the marks of a child of God, so that the believer may see these marks as belonging to him. The witness of the Spirit is not a new or fresh revelation from God (this would be an addition to the once delivered faith) but an operation on the mind that the marks of a child of God may be personally recognized. Thus the means of assurance and faith are exactly the same as the means of faith, the word in the hands of the Spirit. It is an honest and true saying, That the assurance secures and the word assures. The word assures by revealing the evidence of life of Christ.

WHAT IS SAVING FAITH?

This brings us to the all-important question, What is saving faith? Let us look at some of the characteristics of saving faith given by John in his first epistle.

1. It is faith in a person, Lord Jesus Christ, who is both able and willing to save. The object of saving faith is not doctrine, nor church, nor feeling, nor self, it is Jesus Christ who put away the guilt of sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

2. It is a faith that is accompanied by love. "Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God; and every one that loveth God; and every one that loveth God is (Gk. has been) born of God and knoweth God" (1 Jno. 4:7,8). "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren" (1 Jno. 3:14).

3. It is a faith that obeys. "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments" (1 Jno. 2:3).

4. It is a faith that does righteousness. "If ye know that every one that doeth righteousness (Gk. has been) born of Him" (1 Jno. 2:29).

It has been said that whoever could read Jonathan Edwards' "Religious Affections," and still believe in his own conversion might well have the highest assurance of its reality. Dr. Hopkins and Dr. Emmons, disciples of Edwards and religious leaders in New England, were never able to be positively assured of their salvation. And so the writer says of this first epistle of John, that whoever can read and study this epistle and still believe in his own conversion may well be assured of its reality.

It is our duty to be sure of our salvation. To this end we must give all diligence (2 Peter 1:10). The Holy Spirit, the Author of true assurance, will not put a premium on sin by giving us assurance, and the joy of salvation while we are living loose lives and bringing reproach on the name of Christ and His church.

MISSIONARIES IN BRAZIL

J. F. Brandon
Miguel Ibernion
Cicero Bicipo
Ebeneszer 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, December, 1946

Number 12

Elder J. F. Brandon Visits With Many Churches In Florida And Kentucky

J. F. Brandon
Brazil

Calvary Baptist Church
Tampa, Florida

Arriving in the afternoon at the home of Brother Mason we began to make preparation to speak to a young people's meeting at the Calvary Baptist Church in the evening. This meeting was not conducted as any other that I had attended. The pastor of this church is an elderly man, great singer, good personality. I feel that I should enjoy knowing him better. I enjoyed speaking to the young folks and they indeed were very attentive. After the service a young man came up and said that he believed the Lord was calling him to do mission work somewhere and asked a number of questions about the field in Brazil.

North Blvd. Baptist Church

On Tuesday night we attended a revival meeting at the North Blvd. Baptist Church where the young pastor was doing the preaching. We did not have an opportunity to speak to the people but he assured us that they were interested and would appreciate receiving the MISSION SHEETS regularly each month for his people to read.

Prayer Meeting At Buffalo Avenue

Wednesday night was the night of prayer at Buffalo Avenue Church and we were invited again by Pastor Mason to speak to his people about our mission work and this we did with great pleasure to an audience of not less than 300 people. There appeared to be much interest and after the meeting was over, many lingered to talk and there was such an impression of favor that we were very happy.

Winter Haven Baptist Church Winter Haven, Florida

Thursday afternoon Brother Mason and wife together with Brother and Mrs. Hahn carried me over to Winter Haven, Florida, where I was to spend the next Sunday with Pastor R. H. Malcolm. He had called a meeting for Thursday night and the

BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

Many have read about this mission work for the first time although it is now in its twenty-fourth year. Many are dissatisfied with the way that their mission money is being used and want a real New Testament work to support. We have just received a letter from a brother in Texas telling us that when he read about this work that he said to his wife that he believed that this was an answer to prayer and he sent an offering and it is now his mission work too. You don't have to join anything to support this mission work. Churches can just send their offerings and individuals can designate their offerings through their church to this work or send direct if that is not possible.

15 BAPTIZED AT MORAPIRANGO



This picture shows Missionary J. F. Brandon baptizing a Brazilian believer at Morapirango. There were 15 baptized at this time and now there is a Baptist church there. If you want to put your money in a work where you will know what is being accomplished we invite you to join with us in the support of Baptist Faith Missions in Brazil and Peru.

Elder Overbey Tells More About Visiting Churches With Bro. Brandon

(Continued from preceding issue)

Immanuel Baptist Church
Monticello, Ky.
(Pastor Charles Graves)

We arrived in Monticello, Ky., Wednesday afternoon and Brother Graves and wife and daughter welcomed us into their home and we rested from a hard day's journey. To tell of Immanuel Baptist Church and Pastor Graves and their victories would be a whole issue. The church was organized in 1938 and the building built the same year. A beautiful brick building with red Tennessee sandstone facing the front and a beautiful auditorium and basement. This church only recently learned of Brother Brandon's work and now are supporting it. We enjoyed the music from the Hammond organ and violin. Pastor Graves is a talented musician as well as a good preacher and pastor. The people were wonderful and after Brother Brandon thrilled us with a great message the people gathered around the map and asked questions about the work which is new to them and which is now their own. It was good to pray with this pastor. We spent the night in the home of Deacon W. C. Dabney who is also the county attorney. We enjoyed the visit so well that we could hardly get away the next morning.

McRoberts Baptist Church
McRoberts, Ky.
(Pastor Ben C. Taylor)

After a long drive which was beautiful we passed Cumberland Falls and followed the Cumberland River for many miles as we passed through the mountains of Eastern Kentucky. We had a good time in the home of our

good friend Brother Ben C. Taylor. We have had some good times of prayer with him when he was in Detroit. He is certainly doing a fine piece of work. His ability as a personal worker and home visitor is paying in larger attendance and souls saved. He had a good crowd present to hear the Missionary speak. Then on Friday morning we went to Pikeville and the Enterprise Association was in session and the moderator, Brother E. L. Howerton, gave the editor and Missionary Brandon each eight minutes to speak. I never heard Brother Brandon present as much on missions in eight minutes as he did here. We met many new people and many requested that we put them on the mailing list to receive the Mission Sheets.

West Van Lear Baptist Church
West Van Lear, Ky.
(Pastor Earl Morris)

We arrived at the home of Pastor Lee Dennington Friday afternoon and was happy to be with him and his fine family again. After supper we went to West Van Lear Baptist Church. Brother Dennington led the singing and Bro. Morris introduced us and we had another fine meeting. We went home with Brother Morris for the night and then with Brother Dennington we drove out to see his churches the next morning and after a season of prayer we left for Russell, Ky., for two nights with Pastor and Editor John R. Gilpin. We have already told of our meeting with him. Mrs. Gilpin prepared us a fine lunch both going and coming on this journey.

(Continued on next page)

Some Things As To Missions In Peru

By R. P. Hallum
Peru

Are the people civilized? This question was asked me by a brother who was interested in missions. It is a timely question and a good way to learn is by asking questions.

With the exception of some wild Indian tribes far back into the interior of Peru the people in Peru are civilized, perhaps in some ways more civilized than in the U. S. They are more courteous to one in their homes and on the streets; there are far less murders and holdups according to population than in the U. S. I attribute this to the fact that the movies have not had time to develop these characteristics in the young generation as yet. They are civilized but not evangelized.

A Wrong Idea Which Is Prevalent

Many people have the erroneous idea that in unevangelized countries the people are longing for the gospel and are ready to receive with open arms the one who goes to take the gospel to them.

They forget that all the Old Testament prophets were killed, that our Lord was crucified by his own people and all His disciples were killed for Christ's sake. They forget that the Word of God says, "There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God." Romans 3:11.

The people are not asking for the gospel nor do they have any desire for it until they hear the truth; they are dead and only the living Word can quicken them that they may desire or seek God.

It is the solemn obligation of every one of those who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ to put his or herself at Jesus' feet to be used in taking His message to the dead.

We are thoroughly convinced that we have seen the outward manifestation of miracles of grace wrought by the Holy Spirit with the Word of God.

Another Difficulty To Be Overcome

Roman priests have told the people of South America that the U. S. Government has evil designs in permitting Protestant missionaries to come to South America. (Baptist are considered Protestant). They say that America thinks to take possession of South America through Protestantism, that Romanism is the state religion and that Baptist and Protestants have no right to agitate the people by teaching another religion; they say that if the government is sincere in its "good neighbor policy" it ought to keep its missionaries at home. Some of the people believe them, therefore this is a difficulty to be overcome.

The missionary finds himself a foreigner, unwelcome by many. They say he is a propagator of a new religion; the only way to

(Continued on next page)

MISSION SHEETS

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HAFFORD H. OVERBEY, Editor

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VISITING THE CHURCHES
IN FLORIDA

(Continued from preceding page)
house was well filled and there seemed to be much interest. Friday night we went over to Bay City and spoke to the church there. The pastor, Brother Calhoun, requested that we send them a few MISSION SHEETS monthly. On Saturday we called by request at the home of a Mormon where we had the opportunity of presenting a small portion of the truth.

Sunday At Winter Haven Church

On Sunday morning we were happy to see such a prosperous well developed Sunday School. After the teaching services we enjoyed talking to the church again about our work on the mission field. We were invited to speak to the children in the afternoon meeting. They wanted to learn some songs in Portuguese and we found them to be unusually bright and but little time was required in teaching them and then they sang them at the evening service and the people all seemed to be surprised when they sang in Portuguese. Our evening service was the best one, the Spirit of the Lord was there and we were all so happy. On Monday afternoon Brother and Mrs. Malcolm carried me to the train where I found it hard to say good bye. I consider it one of the greatest opportunities of my life to be among that people although it was only for a few days. I hope that if the Lord wills to have a greater ministry among them.

Back To Kentucky

When I arrived in Fulton, Ky., Brother Cross Spann, Jr., was waiting for me and I was delighted to be in his home in Murray where I spent the night. The next night I went in company with a number of brethren to White Plains, Ky., where Brother Hafford Overbey was conducting a revival meeting. After a very fine service where the Lord saved a young man, we drove back to Murray, Ky., and spent the night in the home of Brother Terry Lawrence, a friend of long standing.

With The Family In Benton, Ky.

I came to Benton to be with my family as much as possible and was invited to speak in my home church, Benton Baptist Church, at the Sunday morning service. We enjoyed much liberty from the Lord and all seemed to be very happy.

First Baptist Church
Murray, Ky.

On Sunday night we went to the First Baptist Church at Murray, Ky., where we were received by the good Brother Braxton B. Sawyer in good will. The house was well filled and the interest keen as we spoke from the pulpit of the beloved H. Boyce Taylor (now in heaven), about the mission work that he started in the Amazon Valley of Brazil and that he loved so well. We were happy to be able to speak to these people and they showed a spirit of gratitude for which we thank them and praise the Lord Jesus. Brother Sawyer requests that we send them 100 MISSION SHEETS each month. On Wednesday night we were with the saints in my home

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1946

Tabernacle Baptist Church, Lewisburg, Ky.	\$ 50.00
First Baptist Church, White Plains, Ky.	10.00
Seven Springs Baptist Church, Dycusburg, Ky.	17.00
South Side Baptist Church, Winter Haven, Fla.	15.00
North Side Baptist Church, L. B. C., Mayfield, Ky.	5.00
Richland Baptist Church, Livermore, Ky.	19.48
Cleaton Baptist Church, Cleaton, Ky.	45.00
Oak Baptist Church, Royal Oak, Mich.	13.88
Oak Baptist Church, Royal Oak, Mich.	14.94
South Side Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky.	45.00
Bethel Baptist Church, Roseville, Mich.	19.00
Bethel Baptist Church, Roseville, Mich.	15.00
South Union Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.	22.50
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Hickory, Ky.	9.64
Grace Baptist Church, Baseline, Mich.	55.70
Grace Baptist Church, B. Y. P. U., Baseline, Mich.	7.40
Raiford Baptist Church, Raiford, Fla.	5.00
Scotts Grove Baptist Church, Murray, Ky.	30.00
Liberty Baptist Church, Central City, Ky.	7.00
Second Baptist Church, Marion, Ky.	8.55
Ryan Road Baptist Church, Van Dyke, Mich.	7.01
Fenton Road Baptist Church, Flint, Mich.	27.22
Fenton Road Baptist Church, L. B. C., Flint, Mich.	5.00
Boys Hill Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.	50.00
First Baptist Church, Coal Grove, Ohio	50.00
First Baptist Church, Russell, Ky.	214.70
Westwood Baptist Church, Trilby, Ohio	10.00
Liberty Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio	10.25
Benton Baptist Church, Benton, Ky.	62.72
North Fork Baptist Church, Puryear, Tenn.	11.00
Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.	90.00
A Friend, Calvert City, Ky.	10.00
Mrs. Fred Mercer, Detroit, Mich.	2.00
Eugene Allen, Paducah, Ky.	20.00
John M. Holtzclaw, Corpus Christi, Texas	5.00
Pastor Owen Sedgwick, Tampa, Fla.	5.00
TOTAL	\$994.99

Z. E. CLARK, Treasurer

WITH THE CHURCHES

(Continued from preceding page)

Hopewell Baptist Church
Carlisle County

On Saturday, Nov. 23, we had the happy surprise to be with Pastor Hughey Burgess and the Hopewell Baptist Church in Carlisle County. It was not generally known, yet the house was about half filled and the attention was good. They request that the MISSION SHEETS be sent and promised to cooperate with us in the work. I had heard of the good work of Brother Burgess and was happy to be with him and his church. After the service a young man came up and said that he felt called to go to some mission field and wanted to know more about ours. We invited him to visit us where we could talk the work over calmly and he agreed to do so and we are looking for him tomorrow.

Dublin Baptist Church

Sunday, November 24, we were with Dublin Baptist Church and Pastor Tilton Garner for the morning service and such a meeting! The house was well filled and the attention the very best and the spirit of good will was even greater if possible. The Lord was with us and where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty. A real live, wide awake church and pastor.

Lowes Baptist Church

In the afternoon we went to the home of Pastor George who came for us and then later in the day we spoke to his church. A delightful body of people greeted us and we told them about our mission work and found a great interest and promise of generous cooperation for the future. The Lord has so endeared Himself to us as we visited these churches and we only hope that the brethren have been well served and the name of the Lord Jesus magnified in the hearts of His people. Again let us express our appreciation for all the kindness of the brethren, for the liberal contributions for our hap-

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church
North Kenova, Ohio
(Pastor T. P. Simmons,
Ashland, Ky.)

On Sunday morning September first, while we were preaching to Brother Gilpin's people, Brother Brandon was with Brother Simmons and his church near Chesapeake, Ohio. Brother Simmons organized Harmony Baptist Church in Detroit of which the editor is pastor. Brother Brandon had a good time with these people and they were interested in the mission work that he carries on in Brazil. We hope to hear more from this good church in the future. From here we returned to Detroit stopping in Toledo for the monthly meeting of the Detroit River Association which met with Pastor Stephens and Westwood Baptist Church.

Evangelist A. D. Muse

We went to Louisville Tuesday, August 27th, for the night in Brother A. D. Muse's home. Between us we got our dates mixed and he was looking for us a week sooner and when we arrived he was in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, in a meeting. But his wife and her mother and daughter and husband made us feel like we were in a fine Memphis, Tennessee, home although it was in Louisville. We certainly were royally entertained and then we laid the large map of the mission field on the floor and Brother Brandon told of his work that he has been doing for the past 23 years. Brother Muse was with us in a meeting in Detroit in May and we surely learned to love him and are happy that he is interested in this great mission work.

piness and for the progress of the work. Great and many be the blessings of God upon you all, dear brethren, and the peace of God encircle your lives and His protection be yours in every day of service.

SOME THINGS RELATIVE TO
MISSIONS IN PERU

(Continued on next page)
offset this attitude of some is a deep conviction of one's call to that field by the Holy Spirit. Without such conviction he will not care to stay on in the field.

A Right Attitude About
Praying And Obeying

In talking to the churches, I have tried to stress the urgent need of more workers for the mission fields, citing the words of the Lord to His disciples when He said, "the harvest indeed is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send forth laborers into his harvest." Mt. 9:38. Surely this ought to be the earnest prayer of every child of God; it is not a dangerous prayer as some unthoughtfully say it is, to pray that the Lord send laborers into His harvest, thinking He might send the one who prays, for if He did it would be the greatest privilege that one could have.

The safest place on earth is to be in the Lord's will, doing His will, where He wants you to be. Therefore, it is not dangerous to pray for the Lord's will to be done.

My experience has been that whether making a 25-day trip up the Amazon or working hard to get a working knowledge of a language or visiting the people to teach them the Gospel, regardless of the material or social surrounding, or preaching the Gospel publicly; I have felt perfectly safe and content, not feeling that I was making too great a sacrifice nor that I needed the sympathy of any because of the sacrifice I was making, if it could be called a sacrifice.

Great And Effectual Door And
Many Adversaries. I Cor. 16:9

There is a great door for the Gospel to be preached by those who have been working in Peru and have an established work and also for those who go to replace those that leave the field on furlough or permanently. But for the one who wishes to go there to start a new work the door is practically closed for the time being at least. A determined effort is being made by the enemies of the Gospel to shut out all workers of the Gospel from the U. S. This is something about which to pray.

Effectual Door

While the great majority of the people so far have rejected the Gospel, a number have believed it and are manifesting outwardly the grace of God wrought in their hearts through hearing the truth. Some of these are setting examples by separating themselves from things worldly, which many of our people do well to follow, such as abstaining from strong drink, going to the movies and the use of tobacco, etc.

Many Adversaries

Our adversaries are mostly religious adversaries of which the Roman Catholics are greatest. All know how and to what extent Romanism opposes the Gospel. There is no need for any to be deceived about that.

Then follows the Seventh Day Adventist with their mixture of law and grace doctrine. Then interdenominationalism and unionism who make it very difficult for a Scriptural church and Scriptural ordinances.

The great NEED is persistent prayer and sowing the Word of God.

MISSION SHEETS SENT
FREE TO ALL

Perhaps there are many churches that would like to receive the MISSION SHEETS that each family would have copy each month. We will send enough copies of this paper that each family can have a copy. Just send us the name of church and pastor and the address to which we shall send paper. Just mention the number of members and we will know about how many to send. If you want a missionary church, have them read about this Testament Mission work in the Amazon Valley of Brazil, Peru. The more a church gives for every other purpose, Brother pastor, if you want your church to be missionary, teach them to be and you lead the way. You cannot afford not to be missionary.

WHO SUPPORTS BAPTIST
FAITH MISSIONS

During the last five years Baptist churches have had a part in the support of this mission work. In addition to the churches many individuals have had a part by sending their offerings direct. Recently a Baptist preacher who has held 700 revival meetings said to that if the Baptist churches throughout the United States really knew about this work it would grow in leaps and bounds. Now please help us to make it known. There are lost souls in Brazil and Peru that we never heard of our Lord Jesus Christ and it is our responsibility as Baptist to take the Gospel to them. Missions is a debt to them. Baptists are admitted to owe no man anything.

WHY SUPPORT BAPTIST
FAITH MISSIONS

This mission work is the New Testament kind, like Paul did, like the Lord Jesus commissioned His churches to do until He comes again. We are not told to do social uplift work. We are told to teach the heathen and to raise better crops. We are told to lord it over churches and their pastors. We are not told to consider a church not a member just because she is a member of an association. We are not told to interfere with churches in anyway at all. Each every Baptist church is a local church with the Holy Spirit her guide and the Bible her book to go by and God rebuke every person or persons that interfere.

Notice

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.

DECEMBER 21, 1946

"EVERYTHING NEW"

(Continued from page one)
the words of our text—"Wilt thou be made whole" and when the man would parley with Jesus about the ways and means, the wherefores and the therefores, our Lord healed him so that he arose and walked away in the presence of them all—made whole, completely made well at the sound of the voice of the Lord Jesus Himself.

You will notice, beloved, that when the Lord Jesus was dealing with this man, He didn't ask him if he would like to be patched up, for Jesus Christ doesn't do a patch up ministry. The Lord Jesus Christ doesn't take you with what you are at present and patch you up with a little bit of Himself. Christianity isn't composed of nine parts of self and one part of Christ, but rather, Christianity makes a man whole entirely so that he is a completely changed and a completely renovated creature in Christ Jesus. Therefore, our Lord said to this man, "Wilt thou be made whole?"

This in turn calls to my mind the second text in that the Apostle Paul echoes the same thought when he says:

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." — Cor. 5:17.

Now, beloved, when the Lord Jesus Christ makes a man whole—when he becomes a new creature in Christ Jesus—when everything is new, then a question logically follows: What is new? I say everything is new and in this message I want to show you what is included in "everything."

FIRST OF ALL, A SAVED MAN HAS EXPERIENCED A NEW BIRTH. Listen:

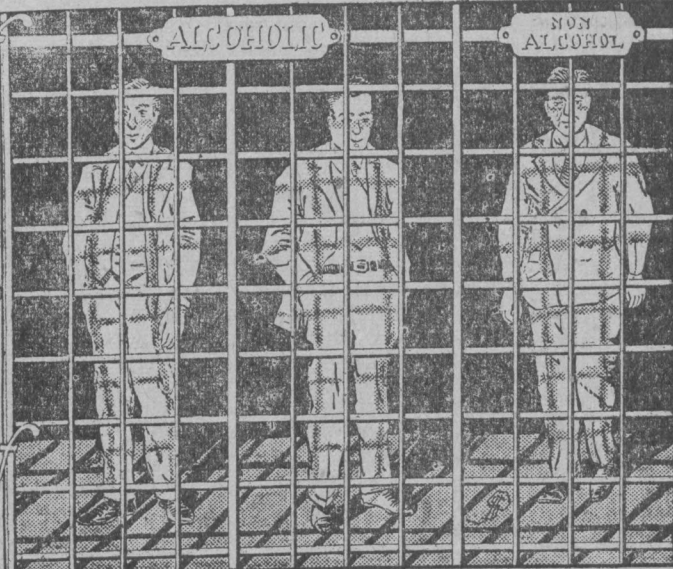
"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." — John 3:3,5,7.

I insist then this morning, my beloved friends, that when one is saved, he has experienced a new birth. I don't tell men today that they need a change of environment, but I tell them that they need the new birth. Men don't need a new BERTH, but they do desperately need a new BIRTH.

Every once in awhile someone has in mind that if he would just change his location and get into a new environment—if he would just get away from his old croonies and pals that he has known through the years, that he might be able to make a new start in life and live differently to that which he has been living. Many an individual makes such an effort and such an attempt, only to find that his effort is fruitless and his attempt is valueless.

I can remember a man who came here to Russell a few years ago from St. Albans, W. Va. He came here on the advice of some officials of the railroad. He was a well liked individual, but he had gotten into difficulty because of bad company and a bad environment in St. Albans, and the charge him, had in mind that if he would get into a new environment and start over again, he would find himself and be able to make a success in life after all his failure. However, beloved, I can truly say, after eighteen years as pastor in this town, Russell isn't any reform school, and

out of
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ARRESTED
and in
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are there
BECAUSE
Alcohol



when a man comes here from someplace else, he isn't coming to a reform school by any manner or means, and accordingly, it wasn't three weeks after this man came to town until he had a new group of the same kind of cronies he had known in the days gone by, and was in just as many difficulties here as he was back yonder in West Virginia.

I say this morning, beloved, men don't need a change of environment; men don't need to get away from their old location; men don't need to get away from their old associates and from their friends of days gone by; my brother, every unsaved man this morning needs to experience a new birth—he needs to be born from above, and only God Himself can effect such within the life of the individual.

II
IN THE SECOND PLACE, WHEN A MAN IS SAVED, HE HAS A NEW HEART. If you will turn to the Word of God you will find that every unsaved man has an exceedingly corrupt heart. Listen:

"For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man." — Mark 7:21-23.

You can't read those verses without realizing that the unsaved man has an exceedingly bad heart spiritually. I'm sure that you have heard men say of other individuals, "Oh, he's all right, he isn't saved, but he is a good hearted man." Now haven't you heard it said of individuals that they were "good hearted" men? But, beloved, the Word of God declares that the very thing that's wrong with a man is his heart. Listen:

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked." — Jer. 17:9.

"Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." — Rom. 1:21.

"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.

You can't read these verses, beloved, without realizing that the unsaved man's heart is in a bad condition. No man reads these Scriptures without realizing that the unsaved man's heart is desperately wicked. It is foolish. It is darkened. It is filled with all manner of filthy things that ought not to be therein.

However, my brother, the best part of it all is, that when the Lord Jesus Christ saves a man,

He takes that individual who has a foolish, wicked, corrupt, darkened heart—a heart that is filled with all manner of things that ought not to be there—a heart, beloved, that is desperately wicked—the Lord Jesus takes such a heart and makes it all new. God's Word tells us that this is true. Listen:

"A new heart also will I give you." — Ezek. 36:26.

God definitely promises that He will put a new heart inside a man the day that He saves him. He will take away from him that old heart of stone and will put in a heart of flesh. He will take away that old heart filled with wickedness and which the Word of God describes as foolish, utterly corrupt and undone—God will take that kind of heart away and He will put into the man a new heart—a heart of flesh.

III
AGAIN, BELOVED, WHEN A MAN IS SAVED, HE NOT ONLY HAS A NEW BIRTH AND A NEW HEART BUT THE WORD OF GOD TELLS US HE HAS NOW A NEW NATURE. Listen:

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." — 2 Peter 1:4.

This would tell us that when a man is saved he has a new nature on the inside of him. He has the nature of God. To be sure, he has had that same nature of God all the time from the hour of his birth, but that nature was dead and was lying dormant; it was absolutely dead before God; but now when he is saved, that new nature—that nature has been made new, it has been regenerated,—it has been made alive, so that now a man can be said to have a new nature when he is saved.

It is quite in contrast with the old nature that a man possesses before he is saved and which still clings to him after he is saved.

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

Thus you see from these verses what kind of nature the man has outside of Jesus Christ,—a nature of which it is said that they that do those things "shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

I thank Him and praise Him this morning that whenever a man is saved, God puts a new na-

ture on the inside of him, the nature of God Himself so that we can truly and literally say that every man who is saved has something of God on the inside of him. That's why it is that I contend that we ought to walk a little bit like God, act a little bit like God, talk a little bit like God, and that the world ought to be able to see something of God in us for we have a new nature—the nature of God inside us whenever we are saved.

IV
AGAIN, WHENEVER A PERSON IS SAVED, HE ALSO HAS A NEW SPIRIT ON THE INSIDE. Listen:

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you." — Ezek. 36:26.

Notice: "A new spirit." What kind of spirit does a man have before he is saved? Certainly he does not have alive the spirit of God. No, no, the Spirit of God is dead to that man before salvation. When he is saved, he has a new spirit on the inside. Listen to a description of it:

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness temperance: against such there is no law." — Gal. 5:22,23.

Here are nine things that Paul says are the fruit of the Spirit, so that if a man is saved and has a new Spirit on the inside of him, you ought to be able to see some of these nine fruits of the spirit within that individual's life. I often say that to me the greatest test of a man's Christianity is not the works that I see on the outside of his life, but the fruit of the Spirit that manifests itself from the inside of his life. I say to you this morning, beloved, if there is one question in your mind as to whether you are saved, analyze your life,—scrutinize your spirit, especially in the light of these two verses and see if these nine fruit of the Spirit are to be found within

your life. If you don't find some or all of these fruit of the Spirit in your life, it is an evident fact that you have never yet experienced the new Spirit that God puts in you the day that He saves you.

V
AGAIN, BELOVED, WHEN A MAN IS SAVED, HE NOT ONLY HAS A NEW BIRTH, A NEW HEART, A NEW NATURE AND A NEW SPIRIT, BUT MORE THAN THAT, HE HAS A NEW SONG. Listen:

"And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and he shall trust in the Lord." — Psa. 40:3.

"What's the new song that God puts in a man's mouth the day He saves him? It's the song of praise unto our Lord. An unsaved man doesn't praise our God for what He does. He will take the blessings of God like a hog without one moment's thought of returning thanks to God for the blessings he has received. What will he do when adversity comes his way? He will accuse God of unfair dealings. However, when a man is saved, God puts a new song within that man's experience, a song of praise, so that regardless of what comes in his life and irrespective of what happens in his experience, he can thank the Lord and praise God for all things, for then he can say, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord, to them who are the called according to his purpose." It is then that he can read this verse with assurance:

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." — I Thess. 5:18.

He can read that verse then and know and understand the meaning of it in his own life. He knows then that regardless of what comes, he can thank God for it, for God is back of it all. He knows then that God has truly put a new song—a song of praise within his heart.

The greatest illustration of this truth to be found in all the Bible is in the early chapters of Genesis when old Jacob, after having lied to his father, having deceived his brother and having stolen from his family, starts to leave his old home to journey toward Padan-aram. When he came to Bethel, he encamped for the night, with his spirit bowed down, and he himself feeling that he was a rebel to his own family and a rebel in the sight of God. In the night's time, he saw that vision of the ladder set up between earth and heaven, with the angels of God ascending and descending upon it. To be sure, that ladder signified earth and heaven

(Continued on page four)

Perfect Trusting

I cannot understand
The why and wherefore of a thousand things;
The crosses, the annoyances, the daily stings,
I cannot understand;
But I can trust,
For perfect trusting, perfect comfort brings,
I cannot see the end,
The hidden meaning of each trial sent,
The pattern into which each tangled thread is bent,
I cannot see the end;
But I can trust,
And in Gods changeless love I am content.

—Selected

"EVERYTHING NEW"

(Continued From Page Three) which were separated by sin in the Garden of Eden, joined together by the cross of Calvary. Jacob in his dream realized the importance of that ladder, so that when he awakened, he made numerous promises to God, indicating that he himself had been saved in that night's experience. Then, beloved, read the following verse telling us of the experience, the change that had come into his experience. Listen:

"Then Jacob went on his journey, and came into the land of the people of the east." — Genesis 29:1.

That is as it reads in the King James version. Read it in the original language and you have an expression like this: "Then Jacob lifted up his feet." Why did he lift up his feet? Because the burden of sin was gone. He could afford to lift up his feet. No longer did they drag when he walked. No longer did the feet of sin hold him down. Sin was gone. He lifted up his feet and went on his way rejoicing. God had saved him and put a new song — a song of praise unto His Lord within his heart and upon his lips.

VI

AGAIN, BELOVED, WHEN GOD SAVES A MAN HE HAS NOT ONLY A NEW BIRTH, A NEW HEART, A NEW NATURE, A NEW SPIRIT, AND A NEW SONG, BUT HE HAS A NEW MASTER. Listen:

"Ye call me Master and Lord; and ye say well; for so I am." — John 13:13.

My brother, when a man is saved, he has a new Master, — one that he has never known before, and that's the Lord Jesus Christ. When a man is living in sin, before he is saved, he has a master, — a hard, cruel taskmaster, the Devil himself, and he will do exactly what his taskmaster wants him to do. Listen:

"Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." — Eph. 2:2.

Everyone who has studied the Bible knows that the prince of the power of the air is the Devil, and the unsaved man walks according to the Devil, he does what his master, Satan, tells him to do. There isn't any deviation from it, — there is no turning from it; the man who is lost, does what the Devil wants him to do, for the Devil is his master. However, beloved, the day that that man is redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ, he gets a new master, even Jesus Himself. While he previously did what the Devil wanted him to do, after he is saved, he does with gladness what the Lord Jesus Christ wants him to do. He has a new Master. There is a change in his allegiance. He has transferred his allegiance from a powerful Devil to a sovereign God, and now it is a new Master whom he serves.

That's why it is that when a man is saved, he is willing to be baptized; he is willing to join the right church; he is willing to try to do the things of this Bible; he is willing to live for the Lord in the light of what He has done for him. Whenever you find a man who claims to be saved, who won't be baptized, won't try to live for Him, who bucks against every teaching of the Bible, and particularly when it comes to tithing, I don't waste my time talking to that man about what he ought to do as a Christian, I go back and tell him he needs to be born from above. When a man is saved, he has a new Master

and he wants to serve Him out of love.

VII

AGAIN, THERE IS A NEW COMMANDMENT THAT BECOMES OBLIGATORY UPON THE INDIVIDUAL. Listen:

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." — John 13:34.

"We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." — I John 3:14.

I say to you this morning, beloved, the man who doesn't have love in his heart for other like brethren and sisters in Christ Jesus, manifests thereby that the Son of God has never become his Saviour. That doesn't mean that we are to sit idly back and compromise with evil and wink at sin and allow heresy to walk or stride rampant over you. The Word of God tells us that we are to contend for the faith, and concerning those that sin, it says: "Them that sin, rebuke before all, that others also may fear" (I Tim. 5:19). It does mean though that if a man is saved, he is going to love the man or the woman who loves this Word of God and loves our Lord and walks in the light of the teachings of this Bible from day to day. Why? He has a new commandment. I don't mean to say that the Ten Commandments are taken away as far as we are concerned. To be sure, we are not in any wise at all saved by them, but after we are saved, we should live in the light of the teachings of the law of God. But there's another law, and that's the law of love so there whereas we were under the law of the Old Testament which was hard and cruel and cold, we are now under a new law — the law of love, which demands that we love our Lord and one another.

VIII

AGAIN, IF A MAN IS SAVED HE HAS A NEW BIRTH, A NEW HEART, A NEW NATURE, A NEW SPIRIT, A NEW SONG, A NEW MASTER, A NEW COMMANDMENT, BUT MORE THAN THAT, HE HAS A NEW COVENANT. God makes a new covenant with a man the day He saves him.

Now what is that new covenant? Listen:

"For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people. And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more." — Heb. 8:10-12.

That's our new covenant. Thank God if you are saved you are in covenant relationship with God to the extent that God says of your sins and your iniquities that He will remember them against you no more. When we are saved, our iniquities are put on Him, and all our transgressions are laid on the Son of God. He now makes a covenant with us whereby He says that our sins and our iniquities will He remember no more. Why? Because they are laid on Jesus Christ.

This is quite on contrast to the man that is lost, for God remembers his sins. Every sin of your life is written in the book of God; everything is recorded within His book. Those sins will never be blotted out nor ever be

removed until you realize that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from all sin. The day you receive Him, God will blot out all those sins, and in the future He will remember them against you no more forever. Thank God for such a wonderful covenant that is made known to us by our Lord.

IX

ONCE AGAIN, IF A MAN IS SAVED, HE HAS NOT ONLY A NEW BIRTH, A NEW HEART, A NEW NATURE, A NEW SPIRIT, A NEW SONG, A NEW MASTER, A NEW COMMANDMENT, A NEW COVENANT, BUT HE HAS SOMETHING EVEN GREATER THAN ALL THESE — HE HAS A NEW HOME AWAITING HIM IN THE SWEET BY AND BY. Jesus said:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also." — John 14:1-3.

Thank God, beloved, He went away and He said, "If I go . . . I will come again." His coming again then is sure — it is certain. He is coming back to take us to that new home that He is preparing in the skies.

I wonder this morning if it isn't true of you the same as it is with me — I wonder today, beloved, does this old world satisfy you? I'm wondering if you are satisfied with what this world has to offer. I wonder today if this town that you live in is just what you want it to be. I wonder if your home is just what you want it to be. I wonder if the people you work with and walk with every day are just what you want them to be. I wonder if the church of which you are a member is what you want it to be. I wonder if you yourself are just what you want to be. I thank God that some day all this which is so imperfect is going to give way to that which is gloriously perfect when our Lord comes to receive us unto Himself in a new home which fadeth not away reserved in Heaven for you.

Are you ready for it? Thank God if you are; and if not, trust Him this morning and be saved. May God bless you!

**THE BRONX "MIRACLE"**

(Continued from page one)

in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not . . . done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity" (Matt. 7:22-23).

**XMAS**

(Continued from page one)

time." But why do this under the cloak of honoring the Saviour's birth? Why is it necessary to drag in His holy name in connection with what takes place at that season of carnal jollification? Is this taking the little ones with you out of Egypt (Ex. 10:9,10) a type of the world, or is it not plainly a mingling with the present-day Egyptians in their "pleasures of sin for a season" (Heb. 11:25)? Scripture says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6). Scripture does command God's people to bring up their children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4), but where does it stipulate that it is our duty to give the little ones a "good time?" Do we ever give

the children a "a good time" when we engage in anything upon which we cannot fittingly ask the Lord's blessing?

There are those who do abstain from some of the grosser carnalities of the "festive season," yet are they nevertheless in cruel bondage to the prevailing custom of "Christmas," namely that of exchanging "gifts." We say "exchanging" for that is what it really amounts to in many cases. A list is kept, either on paper or in memory, of those from whom gifts were received last year, and that for the purpose of returning the compliment this year. Nor is this all: great care has to be taken that the "gift" made to the friend is worth as much in dollars and cents as the one they expect to receive from him or her. Thus, with many who can ill afford it, a considerable sum has to be set aside each year with which to purchase things simply to send them out in return for others which are likely to be received. Thus a burden has been bound on them which not a few find it hard to bear.

But what are we to do? If we fail to send out "gifts" our friends will think hard of us, probably deem us stingy and miserly. The honest course is to go to the trouble of notifying them — by letter if at a distance — that from now on you do not propose to send out any more "Christmas gifts" as such. Give your reasons. State plainly that you have been brought to see that "Christmas merry-making" is entirely a thing of the world, devoid of any Scriptural warrant; that it is a Romish institution, and that now you see this, you dare no longer have any fellowship with it (Eph. 5:11); that you are the Lord's "free man" (I Cor. 7:22), and therefore you refuse to be in bondage to a costly custom imposed by the world.

What about sending out "Christmas cards" with a text of Scripture on them? That also is an abomination in the sight of God. Why? Because His Word expressly forbids all unholy mixtures; Deut. 22:10,11 typified this. What do we mean by an "unholy mixture?" This: the linking together of the pure Word of God with the Romish "Christ-mass." By all means send cards (preferably at some other time of the year) to your ungodly friends and Christians, too, with a verse of Scripture, but not with "Christmas" on it. What would you think of a printed program of a vaudeville having Isa. 53:5 at the foot of it? Why, that it was altogether out of place, highly incongruous. But in the sight of God the circus and the theatre are far less obnoxious than the "Christmas celebration" of Romish and Protestant "churches." Why? Because the latter are done under cover of the holy name of Christ; the former are not.

"But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day" (Prov. 4:18). Where there is a heart that really desires to please the Lord, He graciously grants increasing knowledge of His will. If He is pleased to use these lines in opening the eyes of some of His dear people to recognize what is a going evil and to show them that they have been dishonoring Christ by linking the name of the Man of Sorrows (and such He was, when on earth) with a "Merry Christmas," then join with the writer in a repentant confessing of this sin to God, seeking His grace for complete deliverance from it, and praise Him for the light which He has granted you concerning it.

Beloved fellow-Christian, "The coming of the Lord draweth nigh"

(Jas. 5:8). Do we really believe this? Believe it not because Mussolini was dictator of Italy, because the Papacy is regaining its lost temporal power, but because God says so — "for ye shall walk by faith, and not by sight" (2 Cor. 5:7). If so, what effect does such believing have upon our walk? This may be your last Christmas on earth. During it the Lord Himself may descend with a shout to gather His own unto Himself. Would you like to be summoned from a "Christmas party" to meet Him in the air? The call for the moment is, "Ye are out to meet Him" (Matt. 24:6): out from a Godless Christendom, out from the Christ-deserted "churches," out from the horrible burlesque of "religion" which masquerades under His name.

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in the body, according to that he hath done, whether good or bad" (2 Cor. 5:10). How solemn and searching! The Lord Jesus declared that "every word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment" (Matt. 12:36). If every "idle word" is going to be taken note of, then most assuredly will be every wasted energy, every wasted dollar, every wasted hour! Should we still be on earth when the closing day of this year arrive, let writer and reader earnestly seek grace to live and act with the judgment seat of Christ before us. "Well done" will be ample compensation for the sneers and taunts which we may now receive from Christless souls.

Does any Christian leader imagine for a moment that when he or she shall stand before the holy Lord, that they will regret having lived "too strictly on earth? Is there the slightest danger of Him reproving any of His own because they were extreme" in "abstaining from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul" (I Pet. 2:11)? We may gain the good will and good words of 'worldly religionists' today by our compromises on "little points," but shall we receive a smile of approval on that Day? Oh to be more concerned about what He thinks, and less concerned about what perishing mortals think.

"Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil" (Ex. 23:2). It is an easy thing to float with the tide of popular opinion; but it takes much grace, diligence, and strength to swim against the current, to stand firm when heaven is called on to do: to be not conformed to this world (Rom. 12:2), to deny self, take up the cross, and follow a rejected Christ. How sorely need both writer and reader heed that word of the Saviour: "Behold, I come quickly: hold fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown" (Rev. 3:11). That each of us may be able truthfully say, "I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep Thy Word" (Ps. 110:101).

Our final word is to the pastors. To you the Word of the Lord is, "Be thou an example of believers in word, in deportment, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (I Tim. 4:12). Is it not true that the most corrupt "churches" you know of where almost every fundamental of the faith is denied, will have their "Christmas celebrations?" Will you imitate them? Are you consistent to protest against unscriptural methods of raising money, and then to sanction unscriptural "Christmas services?" Seek grace to firmly but lovingly set God's Truth before your people.

—A. W. Pink