

The Baptist Examiner

The Paper With a National Circulation

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

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1947

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After Salvation, - What?

First of all, make sure that you are genuinely saved! You must make absolutely sure of this:

1. Realizing that you are a sinner, and lost: "All have sinned" (Rom. 3:23).
2. Recognizing that your sins must be paid for with death: "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23).
3. Believing that Christ died in your place, thereby paying your sin-debt: "Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures" (I Cor. 15:3).
4. Believing that in Christ Jesus is complete provision for your salvation: "But of him (God) are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us righteousness" (I Cor. 1:30).
5. The moment you receive Christ by faith. He, with all that is and has, becomes your very own personal possession:

"As many as received him to them gave he the right to become the children of God, even to them that believed on his name" (John 1:12).

6. If you have believed on Him you can know that you are now saved, because God says you are:

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life" (John 3:36).

Now, if you are sure that you are really saved, please remember that this is not the stopping-place; it is merely the starting-place. The question which now arises is this: After Salvation—What?

First, **confession**. It becomes your privilege and duty to confess Christ before others, both personally and publicly. "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. 10:10). To "confess" something means "to tell about it"; and you are to

"tell" to others by "confession" what has happened in your own heart. The person who thinks he is saved, and yet will not confess Christ may leave the im-



R. F. HALLFORD
Port St. Joe, Florida

pression that he is ashamed of Christ, and our Saviour says, "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words

in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of Man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels" (Mark 8:38). Also, Jesus makes His confession of us as His, before the Father, conditional upon our confession of Him before men: "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father who is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father who is in heaven" (Matt. 10:32,33). I do not want Jesus to be ashamed of me in that day, do you? And yet, if you are saved and do not confess Him before others when the opportunity is presented, you are denying that you know Him! I still question very seriously the salvation of that person who will not confess the Lord Jesus.

Second, **baptism**. Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the Name of the Father,

and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, by a properly authorized person, for the purpose of showing that the one being baptized has died to sin and been made spiritually alive in Christ. The Bible is very clear about this; there is no room for argument; therefore do not let anyone convince you of anything different. "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in the newness of life" (Rom. 6:3,4). Bible baptism is simply a picture of salvation. The person who goes through it is saying by his action, "As Christ died for my sins was buried and rose again, even so I have died to sin, am being buried with Him, and when I rise from the watery grave it will be

(Continued on page two)

Another Honest, Bible Loving Preacher Speaks Concerning Our Hierarchy

ELD. W. B. CASEY
Burgin, Ky.

I am a Baptist. Baptist people are the dearest people on earth. They have been saved by grace, true Baptists have; they hold to the faith of the Lord. My loyalty to the principles of Baptists has never been questioned in my own mind and heart. I have no sympathy for any non-denominational group. I have no desire to forsake the Baptist faith in any way. Yet I am being rapidly led to the conviction that it is going to become impossible for a Bible-believing Baptist to continue affiliation with the Baptist denomination in anything save name only. Many evils are creeping into the Baptist ranks and there is no denominational organ through which loyal Baptists may express their disapproval of them. It is a well-known fact here in Kentucky that nothing can be printed in the Western Recorder which aims any criticism at the

State board. Some years ago the Executive Board of our Association passed a resolution condemning the appearing of modernistic, peder-baptist speakers on the program of the Seminary Conference. This resolution was sent to the Western Recorder for publication, but was returned with the statement that it would be "unwise at the present to print it." At a meeting of the General Association a matter of Christian Education was to come before the body. When the report was read, three men, all known to be favorable to the report were on the platform and were asked to speak. When the third man had finished and a dear brother arose in the congregation to ask some questions about the matter, he was informed by the moderator that there was no more time. A motion did prevail to extend the time, the brother asked his questions, and they were promptly ignored; there was no effort made to give an honest answer.

(Continued on page four)

LITTLE RUNTS

Eld. Raymond Smith
Knoxville, Tenn.

Well do I remember when I was a small boy, living on a farm, of seeing my neighbor trying to grow a big hog out of a "runt!" There didn't seem to be anything fed to this pig to make him grow to look like anything praiseworthy. I personally do not know why that was. I understand that is the rule with runts.

Well, I have met a lot of little runt Christians in my time. I think there is a difference in them than the hog, however. It isn't that the little runt pig did not get anything to eat that he did not grow like other pigs. I don't know the reason. In that respect, it is like the runt Christian. It isn't that he doesn't get anything to eat. BUT the trouble is he eats the wrong thing.

We are taught by Peter that (Continued on page four)

Mused Uncle Mose

Hit don' make no diffunce what things looks lak; hit's whut de Lawd say dey is dat counts.

If You Are Inclined To Be Pessimistic, Note Our Christian Duty To Rejoice

"Let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice (Ps. 68:3).

In the Word of God we may find many references which exhort those who love and serve the Lord to be joyful and to express their joy in no uncertain manner. The Psalmist calls upon the righteous to "be glad in the Lord, and rejoice . . . and shout for joy" (Ps. 32:11). The injunction to rejoice is often repeated in the same verse to emphasize the fact that God desires His people to be joyful. Thus in Psalm 5:11 we read, "Let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee."

The cultivation of a joyous spirit is enjoined also by our Lord and His apostles. He warned His disciples that the path before them would be hard and trying and that they would be

slandered and persecuted for His Name's sake. Men would think that by killing them they were doing God service (John 16:2). But on no account were they to be discouraged; they were to make their trials an occasion for rejoicing; they were to "leap for joy" (Luke 6:23).

It was from a prison cell, when his future was uncertain, that the Apostle Paul enjoined his converts to "rejoice in the Lord always," and then, as if he thought some would consider this a rash and impossible commandment, he convinced them he meant it by repeating it: "And again I say, Rejoice" (Phil 4:4).

It is our Christian duty to be joyful in heart and cheerful in countenance. God commands and expects His own to be grateful and joyful. Those believers who are always gloomy and despondent fail in their obligation both to God and to man. A believer who is always solemn and serious is a poor advertisement for the (Continued on page three)

A CHALLENGE

We have not much money, but we will borrow money and issue a cheque for \$100 to anyone who will give us a verse of Scripture that teaches any one of the following rites and ceremonies, doctrines and practices of the church.

1. Prayers to Mary.
2. Prayers to Joseph.
3. Prayers to other saints.
4. Crucifixes.
5. Images of the Virgin.
6. Images of other saints to be revered.
7. Relics of saints to be revered.
8. Holy water.
9. The celibacy of the priest.
10. Convents.
11. The rosary, etc.

—Gospel Witness

-- The First Baptist Pulpit --

"Why We Do Not Observe Easter"

"Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do that which is evil." Ex. 23:2.

The time was when Baptists would not observe Easter even if it cost them their lives to hold out against it. Some of you have heard me read a quotation from John T. Christian's History of the Baptists, in which he tells of how 1200 Baptists were put to death in England in the early centuries, because they refused to observe Easter. But Baptists have let down on a lot of things in recent years, and many

churches have carelessly thrown away things that our Baptist ancestors gave their lives to uphold. And many of our Baptist people think that we ought to do most anything, if it is being done by most of our churches. But our text says, "Thou shalt not run with a multitude to do evil." If you are going to run with the biggest crowd, you will get on the broad way that leads to destruction, for the Bible says, "Wide is the gate and broad is the road that leadeth to destruction, and many there be that find it."

Easter Sunday, as it is called, must be a day of mourning in heaven—if they ever mourn there. It is certainly a day to make the angels weep. Why? Because it is a day when the worship of a pagan goddess holds sway in most churches. It is a day when multitudes of children are raked into churches without any knowledge of conversion. It is a day when multitudes go to church to show off their clothes—to see and be seen, instead of to worship God. Easter Sunday is the only Sunday of the year (Continued on page two)

WANT TO KNOW?

You know the age-old saying, "If you want to know how to raise children, ask some old maid." If you want to know exactly how to carry on the work of the church, ask somebody who never attends. There are old moss-back bootleggers and ex-bootleggers that know more in a minute about how the church should be "run" than members with 40 years of experience. There are members that do not average giving a dollar a year to the work that can tell more about the financial affairs than deacons with 50 years of experience in church affairs. Smart! Boy those fellows know it.—Church Builder

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN-EDITOR

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AFTER SALVATION, WHAT?

(Continued from page one)
to walk in a new life." Precious experience and glorious privilege, isn't it? Be sure to use it!

Third, church fellowship. The manner in which God's people did things in New Testament days is the proper pattern for us to follow now. Concerning those people who heard the way of salvation on the Day of Pentecost the Word says, "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them (the church) about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41). A Scriptural church is composed of saved, obedient people. The proper place for a saved person is with other saved people, hence, one reason why we have churches. That person who says that he is saved and yet refuses to ask for fellowship in a local New Testament church would have great difficulty in convincing us that he is really saved.

Fourth, taking Christ's yoke and wearing it. To the burdened sinner who has come to Jesus and received the first rest, Jesus says now, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls" (Matt. 11:29). The second rest is offered to saved people who take Christ's yoke or willingly submit to His lordship. "Take my yoke" simply means that you are to yield completely to Christ and let Him take complete charge of you. It means that you do what He wants you to do, go where He wants you to go, say what He wants you to say, leave

off what is not pleasing to Him, and associate only with the kind of people whom He approves. Jesus says to you, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). Do you love the One Who saved you enough to do what He tells you to do? Then prove your love by your actions!

Ed. Note: Until very recently, Brother Hallford has been pastor of the First Baptist Church, of his city. He has now entered the field of evangelism. I trust the brethren will keep him busy. I do not know him personally, but after having published and read several of his messages, I have a personal conviction that he would be a blessing to any church fortunate enough to secure his services.

"WHY WE DO NOT OBSERVE EASTER."

(Continued from page one)
when many people go to church at all. Some of you may remember my telling recently of the man who was asked if his wife went to church regularly. He replied by saying, "She surely goes. Why, she hasn't missed going a single Easter Sunday since we have been married."

For years now I have been preaching an anti-Easter sermon every year. We of this church do not observe Easter, and I am always ready to tell people why. I don't hold out against Easter observance just in order to be queer, but because of deep conviction that it would be a wicked sin to engage in such observance. Let me give you some of the reasons as to why we don't observe Easter at this place:

1. We don't observe Easter, BECAUSE THERE IS NO BIBLE FOR SUCH OBSERVANCE. Easter is mentioned in the Bible only one time, and then it is a mistranslation. The one reference is over here in the 12th chapter of Acts. Let me read it (Acts 12:4):

"And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people."

There the term "Easter" is in the Greek "pascha" which always means "passover." Why was that word passover translated Easter? Because the translators of the King James Version of the Bible were Episcopal scholars, and they attempted to justify Easter observance by mis-translating a word. That shows to what wicked length men will go in order to justify a wrong prac-

tice. I am glad that the Revised Version corrected this wrong translation, and in the Revised Version you won't find the word Easter one single time. And that a thing is not in the Bible, ought to be enough reason for any Baptist church not observing it. We are supposed as Baptist people to make the New Testament our rule of faith and PRACTICE. We are supposed to be a people who have Scriptural authority for the things we do. But when Baptists observe Easter, they throw away their claim along this line. Why should I be blamed—why should this church be blamed for not observing Easter, when there is no Scripture for it? To ask us to observe Easter is to ask us to close the Bible and to resort to the traditions of men. The Jewish religious leaders were doing that very thing back in the days of Christ, and what did he say about such? Let's see (Mark 7:13):

"Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye."

Yes—Why Indeed?

2. We don't observe Easter because IT IS TO BRING IDOLATRY INTO A CHURCH TO DO SO. If it should be known that we had observed "Baal Day" here at our church—a day named after the old heathen god Baal, we would be criticized, and looked upon with horror. Yet that wouldn't be one bit different from observing "Easter day," for while Baal was the heathen god of a certain group of heathen people of ancient times, Easter was likewise the heathen goddess of another group of heathen people. Why should it be any more wrong to celebrate Baal Day than Easter Day?

3. We don't observe Easter because EASTER CAME FROM PAGANISM THROUGH THE CHANNEL OF ROMAN CATHOLICISM. Back in the centuries gone by Catholicism tried to thrust Easter down Baptist throats at the point of a sword, but Baptists died rather than swallow it. But that time has gone and the pressure of custom has been stronger than the pressure of the sword, and Baptists have come to follow the lead of the Catholics and the Protestant world. The pagans got Easter worship from the devil; the Catholics got it from the pagans; the Protestants got it from the Catholics, and the Baptists have gotten it from all of these! My Friends, I don't believe that we ought to symbolize with Rome in any way.

LET CHURCHES BE HONEST!

4. We don't observe Easter because EASTER IS A FALSEHOOD WHEN IT CLAIMS TO REPRESENT AND SYMBOLIZE THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST. Easter is NOT resurrection day—can't possibly be. Why? Because it comes on different days, with a variation of as much as 30 days on different years. Easter is determined by the full moon and not by the time of the resurrection. Easter comes on the first Sunday, following the first full moon, following the Spring equinox. What has equinox and full moon to do with Christ's resurrection? Not a thing in the world. The truth is, Easter was the old Teutonic goddess of Spring, and she was worshipped by the early Germanic tribes of northern Europe—worshipped in a big drunken orgy. And that is exactly how she is still worshipped by people who have all night Easter dances, and who go home "soused" on

Easter morning. Easter goes back beyond the Teutonic tribes—Easter goes back to "Ishtar" who was worshipped by the ancient Egyptians. I could bring to you the proof of all this, but I am not going to take the time to do it, for all you have to do is to go down to the public library and read about the origin of Easter in any good Encyclopedia. When people claim to celebrate the resurrection of Christ by Easter observance, when Easter has nothing to do with the resurrection, they de-



ELD. ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

clare a falsehood. And churches ought to be honest with the world.

WHAT HAVE RABBITS TO DO WITH THE RESURRECTION?

5. We don't observe Easter because IT IS INVOLVED WITH PAGAN SYMBOLS. Why is it that thinking people don't ever ask what eggs and rabbits have to do with the resurrection? They don't have ANYTHING to do with it of course. Those things were symbols of sex—symbols of fertility, among those heathen Easter worshippers of the past, and they have been dragged into Christianity. I don't have anything against rabbits, but I don't want them hopping around in my theology. I don't have anything against eggs either (except the price of them), but I don't want them scrambled in my religion. Yes, and little chickens don't have anything to do with the resurrection of Christ either. I like chickens too, but I don't want them scratching around in my religion. The truth is, the whole Easter business, from the name Easter on to the chickens, bunnies, eggs, etc., are from paganism and have no place in Christianity whatsoever.

CUNNING OLD DEVIL

6. We don't observe Easter because, EASTER IS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE RESURRECTION DAY WHICH THE LORD HAS GIVEN US. What did he give us to commemorate the resurrection of our Saviour? The answer that ought to be shouted forth to this world is this: he gave us the first day of the week—the Lord's Day, which comes—not once a year, but once each week. What consummate cunning the devil has used to cancel—to mark out, 51 resurrection days a year, substituting therefor one day, with a heathen name! And when we fall into his Easter scheme, we just fall into the devil's "bobby trap" that's all! Every Lord's Day ought to be to us a reminder that we have a Lord who has risen from the dead and who has conquered the grave. The reason—at least one reason, as to why the Lord's Day is desecrated as it is today, is the fact that people have lost sight of its meaning. Many people indeed have never heard what the Lord's Day is for or what it means. And why is this? It is largely because of Easter. People get the notion that that memorializes the resurrection, so when Easter is over, they pay no further attention to the fact of the resurrec-

tion, when in truth they ought to be reminded of the resurrection every week. Listen: when any of us fail to publicly worship God on Sunday (unless hindered providentially), we ought to realize that we are withholding our testimony as to the resurrection of Christ, from the world. The resurrection is the foundation truth of Christianity. Paul says, "If Christ be not risen our faith is vain, ye are yet in your sins." If Christ didn't rise, then nothing matters! If Christ didn't rise, then there is no resurrection—there is no heaven for us—there is no anything worth while for us! Do you believe that he arose? If you do—let us declare it to the world by our observance of every first day of the week as resurrection day.

TO HELL—IN DROVES

The devil is doing his best to drive out of the minds of the people of this world, the truth that Christ arose. He tries through Modernism, for the Modernists would have us believe that Jesus did not in bodily form come out of the grave. He tries through Easter, by getting people to cancel 51 resurrection days in favor of one. Then he takes that one of one, and fills it so full of clothes, rabbits, eggs, and pomp and display, that the thought of resurrection is squeezed almost entirely out. He tries through pleasure to drown out the truth that Christ arose. Thus you can go out most anywhere and you will find crowds of people pleasure bent, with no thought in their mind of God or resurrection or anything of that kind. Beaches are full, fishing places are full, movies are full, drinking places are full, and all sorts of places of amusement run over, as people hurry in droves to judgment and to hell. It is enough to break one's heart to see the droves of people hurrying toward torment with never a thought as to their danger. The other day I was reading a book by Mr. Lochner, Associated Press correspondent, to Germany up to the time of our entrance into war. He told of the heartbreaking sight of crowds of refugees that moved along the highways as Germany invaded France. There they were, tens of thousands of people, going they knew not where. That must have been horrible, but not as much so as to see the droves of people who today are hurrying on to judgment and to hell. I want to ask you, "Are you in the drove?" If you are without Christ the Saviour, you certainly are. Hell must inevitably be the destination of every human being without Christ. And if Christ had never come out of the grave, that would be the destination of every human being without one single exception. I feel like just stopping and exclaiming, "Thank God for the resurrection!" Because His tomb was empty that first Lord's Day morning, hope is life and salvation and him, for every one who trusts in him. Therefore we ought to magnify and make use of this day—every Lord's Day—as heralding to the world the glorious truth that we have a living Christ. Ever since I became a Christian I have been scrupulously observing Sunday as the Lord's Day. I have never been able to take this day and use it just any old way. When I have had to travel on Sunday, I have stopped and attended a place of worship. I utterly refused to hold it open on Sunday. I tell you, when we become careless about Lord's Day observance it means moral and spiritual decline always. Oh since so much

(Continued on page three)



MISSIONARIES IN BRAZIL

J. F. Brandon
Miguel Ibernion
Cicero Bicipo
Ebenzer Guimaraes
Maio Dutro
Eufrazio 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

OF THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

Volume 3

Detroit, Mich., April, 1947

Number 4

The Hallum Family Reach Their Destination In Peru At Last

As this is sent to the printer we are in receipt of news that the Hallums arrived in Iquitos, Peru, their place of labor on March 25, 1947. They left New Orleans, La., on January 12, 1947 and two months and thirteen days later arrived at their field of labor.—Editor.

LETTERS ALONG THE WAY

Buenaventur, Columbia
February 18, 1947

Dear Brethren:

Three weeks ago we entered port. The ship was anchored in the harbor thirteen days then entered the docks and has been unloading her cargo ever since. She had 3 thousand tons for this port. We have been impatient because of the long delays and poor accommodations on the ship (it is a freighter). We are the first passengers she has carried. But I am convinced that it is all the working of the Lord. I have not been entirely unoccupied since we have been here. As far as I am able to see I think the Lord is preparing to open up a Baptist work here. I have some news which I believe will be interesting but will wait until we get to Iquitos and have time to prepare it.

Lima, Peru
March 21, 1947

Dear Brethren:

We arrived in Lima about a week ago. We have passage by plane for Iquitos on March 25. At this time the roads are closed and we will have to send our baggage by a Peruvian ship that is leaving for Iquitos within the next few days. The Grace Line sent our baggage by freight rail rather than excess baggage and failed to send the papers on to the office here. Therefore we were going through red tape trying to get things straightened out. Yesterday we had to go down and find the refrigerator for which cargo from another ship.

(Continued on next page)

BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

Missions? What are the advantages in such a mission work? First, it is the kind of mission work that the Lord commissioned His churches to do, and all the money is used for the mission work. There are no paid secretaries, no office rent, no modernistic or so called social gospel missionaries, no interference with churches or pastors, no assessments, no unionism with the Federal Council of Churches or man-made organizations, and no support this work see pictures of the work and read letters of the work and know where their money is spent. May the Lord lead you to help.

"OUTGIVING GOD?" H. H. OVERBEY

Give till it hurts? No. Give until it feels good. You cannot out-give God. When we were called by the church we serve, to be her pastor, we wanted to do the Lord's will and we prayed that He would make His will known and that we would try to do it. We were earning \$40.00 a week more at that time than the church paid at that time. But this did not enter into the decision. We only wanted to know the Lord's will and prayed to that end. God assured us that it was His will for us to accept the call and we quit our job and moved 300 miles away to the new field of labor. One day after quitting the job, we were working on the house to get it ready to sell and said, "Lord, we want to be able to continue to give \$50.00 each month for missions as we have for the past three years," and

(Continued on next page)

Missionary J. F. Brandon Now On Final Leg Of Journey To His Station

Manaos, Amazonas, Brazil
March 6, 1947

Dear Brethren:

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be multiplied unto you all. I arrived yesterday after a 14 day journey up the Amazon River from Belem. This being one of the best boats on the river the time was abbreviated and then the blessings of the Lord went before and although nature protested it was a good journey. There was but little testimony given, less than usual; there must be a reason yet unknown. I am amazed at the cost of everything, for example I pay twice as much to live in a hotel now as I did for my family of six in 1941 on our way home in the States. When we were in Belem for the entire family we paid 35 milreis which then had a value of \$1.75 and now with less accommodations I paid 60 cruzeiros which is \$3.50 a day.

Communists Along The Way

Traveling expenses have gone up the same way. To take 10 pieces of baggage off the boat and put it in a warehouse 100 yards away cost \$25.00. Dr. Hardy said that he had not seen anything like it in his life and I assure you that I have not. A very large per cent of the people are outspoken Communists, defying the government and no one does anything about it. I try to avoid talking on such subjects with them. The first engineer and clerk of the boat worked at the job all the way spreading propaganda and keeping things in an uproar. Many seem to think that the wealth of North America should be distributed among the Brazilians and perhaps some others who are less fortunate than the Americans. Will write more later.

(Continued on next page)

IGNOR GORDON NELSON

Ignor Gordon Nelson was the son of Missionary and Mrs. Eric A. Nelson who were missionaries in the Amazon Valley for about 48 years. He was 51 years old and a World War I veteran. He was born in Belem, Para, Brazil, at the mouth of the Amazon River and died on February 24, 1947, in a veterans hospital at Little Rock, Arkansas. He had been in ill health for sometime. His mother, Mrs. Ida L. Nelson, lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma. His father, known as "The Apostle of the Amazon" died several years ago on the mission field and is buried at Manaos. Both Missionary Brandon and Missionary Hallum knew Missionary Nelson and Brother Brandon and family lived in the house with the Nelsons for a time. May the Lord's richest blessings rest upon Mrs. Nelson in these days of sorrow.



Missionary R. P. Hallum,
Iquitos, Peru.



Missionary J. F. Brandon,
Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre, Brazil.

Our First Journey To Peru

R. P. HALLUM

(Continued from last issue)

It should be kept in mind that those people have no background so far as the knowledge of the truth is concerned. They all have to learn. Surely it takes the grace of God to enable them to resist the pull of the world and the opposition of Romanism and unionism.

WORK ON THE RIVERS

I had made some trips on some of the rivers near Iquitos before our first furlough. This work I enjoyed very much, because it was needed and also because of the friendliness of the people on the rivers and the open doors to the gospel. While there has been little visible results to me, I feel that something has been accomplished. We enlarged upon this work during our last period of work and I think we will still enlarge the work and believe definite results shall be seen. Of course these people in learning the truth have to unlearn all that they have been taught religiously.

WORKERS NEEDED IN THE LORD'S WORK

The Lord's will is that every creature hear the gospel in all the world in every generation. To say not is saying that the Lord spoke words that He did not mean, which would be foolish for us to say. Moreover the Lord is well able to provide all the means necessary for His great commission to be carried out, Matt. 28:18-20. He has all the power and all the means necessary. Yet it is a fact that thousands of souls go into eternity without hearing the gospel. Who is responsible for this? Is God responsible? I say no. If the people upon whom God placed the responsibility of giving the gospel to every creature, were submissive to God's will and

obedient to His command using God's method in carrying out His commands, the great commission would be very practical.

A GREAT HARVEST BUT FEW LABORERS

While our Lord was on the

WRITE TO THE MISSIONARIES

Air mail postage to South America has been reduced again recently. You can now send an air mail letter, less than one half ounce, to either Missionary Brandon or Missionary Hallum for 10c, or less than one ounce for 20c. Every pastor of a supporting church should write these men of God and encourage them. Address your letters like this:

Missionary J. F. Brandon
Caixa Postal 10
Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre
Brazil, South America

Missionary R. P. Hallum
Apartado 139
Iquitos, Peru, South America

A letter to Brother Hallum will go by air mail all the way to Iquitos and should reach them within a week after it is mailed. A letter to Brother Brandon should reach him in two or three months. His mail will go by air to the mouth of the Amazon River at Belem, Brazil then by air up the Amazon 1000 miles to Manaos and then by boat the rest of the way which usually takes about 40 days more and of course it may be several days before a boat leaves for Cruzeiro do Sul. Sometimes there is plane service from Manaos to Cruzeiro do Sul when the fields are not too wet and muddy. By air Brother Brandon and Brother Hallum are less than 400 miles apart, but there is no airline between their places and the distance by water is thousands of miles and many many days.

earth in a body of flesh, He called twelve Disciples to be with Him and to preach. Later He called other seventy that they might go before His face and preach the gospel only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Remember that Palestine is a small country, but the Lord had already called twelve and seventy when He said the harvest is great and the laborers are few, pray ye the Lord of the harvest that would send forth laborers into his harvest. If the need were great for more laborers in little country of Palestine after He had called 82 men, how much greater is the need for workers in the great fields of destitution in the world today.

We should keep in mind that the great commission was given to men, and that men are limited in service by distance, by time, and by physical force. The Lord Jesus was so limited as a man while He was in the flesh, so that He could only walk so far, He could only endure so much and His ministry was limited to a few years. So is every man, therefore the Lord knew far better than we, the need for many laborers.

COMPARISONS

Take for example the country of Peru, it is a small country with an area of 337 thousand square miles and a population of 7 million people. How many workers would be required to preach the gospel to every person in Peru in the next five years? Let us make a little comparison. Peru has about the same area as the four states of Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas and Oklahoma. These have about 12 million people against Peru's 7 million. These four states have all kinds of modern communication such as railroads, highways, etc. Now if the gospel had never been preached in these four states, with all the means of com-

(Continued on next page)

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.

MISSIONARY BRANDON ON FINAL LEG OF JOURNEY

(Continued from preceding page)
March 11, 1947

Dear Brethren:

I received the films yesterday and am now able to send the pictures. You will recognize that they were taken on the steamer enroute and shortly afterwards in Belem. I had no opportunity to take any pictures on the journey up river as it was raining when something of interest was in view.

Leaving For Cruzeiro Do Sul

The Lord willing I will embark tomorrow for up the Jurua River to Cruzeiro do Sul. It will be a forty day journey unless the Lord should abbreviate it. The boat is the best on the river, but will carry at least one very large barge and of course that will delay the arrival. I have encountered a number of people from Cruzeiro do Sul and they say that all is well. One friend said yesterday that the brethren had been working on the job and so far as he knew all was well.

Three Saved In One Service

I had the joy of preaching twice Sunday. In the morning at the Second Baptist Church in Manaus. We enjoyed a fine service. The Lord was there and was glorified and left a blessing. In the evening service I preached at the church in Ediconas, a suburb of Manaus, and there were three converted. We had a fine service and there must have been 200 people there. I have met many friends and brethren and then too there are quite a number of brethren here of our faith. A preacher who worked with me a number of years ago said to me the other day that we have enough here now to have a church. And somehow I would like to have a church of the Lord Jesus here that would recognize the order of the Bible. One of the brethren said that the believers in Cruzeiro do Sul are much happier than these, because here the women take charge of the services and the men sit and endure, and many do not go for that very reason.

The climate here in Manaus is so oppressive that somehow I wonder if I could work here now or not. There is such a difference here and at Cruzeiro do Sul. However the Lord can do something about it. Maybe we can later have a church here with a native pastor. Remember me to the brethren and churches. May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all.—J. F. Brandon.

THE HALLUMS REACH IQUITOS, PERU

(Continued from preceding page)

LONG DELAYS

We were delayed in Buena-venture, Columbia 3 weeks, 3 days and 3 hours. Then for 8 days in Puna, Ecuador. On the night of March the third the agent advised that we could transfer to another boat and save time. We had one hour to transfer. We transferred to the Santa Eliana, but found it had three more stops before reaching Calleo (Lima). This was to the ship lines advantage because they did not have to stop with

the other ship at Calleo to let us off and saved money thereby. We stopped 5 days at Talara, Peru and 2 days in Chimbote, Peru, finally arriving here on March 13, 1947. We will be glad to finally arrive in Iquitos and get settled. After arriving here we learned that the government makes exceptions occasionally and lets new missionaries in, so we are praying that the Lord will send someone to Iquitos to help us there. Continue to pray for us.

Lima, Peru
March 24, 1947

Dear Brethren:

We are to fly to Iquitos in the morning on the Faucett Line. It is a four motored plane and should arrive in Iquitos in about 3 hours. We have just finished arrangements to send our stuff on a Peruvian ship around to Iquitos. Lots of red tape and plenty of costs. This city of Lima, Peru is one of the principle cities in South America with a population of several hundred thousand, yet there is not a Baptist Church in the city, nor a Baptist missionary working as such. There are Methodists, Presbyterians, Adventists, Nazarenes and others, but no Baptists. And we say that the great commission was given to Baptists and that they are the only ones who can carry it out fully. There are missionaries for these people and for the unionistic Baptists but none for the true blue Baptists. This is something to pray about. All these people are formed into a union and cooperate to some extent and their leaders oppose any work that does not cooperate with them, I am told. What South America needs, and what Baptists need to do is to put true, sure enough Baptists that are true soldiers with their fighting clothes on and enter the fields and fight for their Lord.

OUR FIRST JOURNEY TO PERU

(Continued from preceding page) munication, how many missionaries would be required to preach the gospel to everyone of them in the next five years? Could a dozen or two dozen missionaries and other workers do it? Yet we think if we send a dozen or two dozen missionaries to a pagan country we have filled our obligation.

WE TRAVEL BY WATER

Peru has no other way of travel than by water to reach all these people east of the Andes Mountains. We must go by water and on foot in order to preach the gospel to every person. To do this in a few years would take literally hundreds of workers, and that is just what the great commission provides for—many laborers for a great harvest—a few can't do it because of the limitations of man. God's requirements of each of his children is complete consecration and submission, Romans 12:1-2.

The Lord's command to His churches made up of these consecrated children is "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that He will send more laborers into the harvest", Luke 10:1-2. Only the man or woman who is willing to go themselves can pray this prayer and get an answer.

CHURCHES NEED TO PRAY

Until the churches of Jesus Christ meet these requirements and carry out His commands accordingly will this world be evangelized. When they meet these requirements and obey His command will there be sufficient workers to give the gospel to every living creature. As it is

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MARCH, 1947		
★		
Tabernacle Baptist Church, Lewisburg, Ky.	\$	70.00
Richland Baptist Church Livermore, Ky.		15.32
First Baptist Church, White Plains, Ky.		12.00
Ahava Baptist Church, Plant City, Fla.		10.00
South Side Baptist Church, Winter Haven, Fla.		55.00
Bellview Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky.		29.84
Suwanee Furnace Baptist Church, Kuttawa, Ky.		22.25
Raiford Baptist Church, Raiford, Fla.		5.00
South Union Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.		45.00
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Hickory, Ky.		22.12
Mt. Tabor Baptist Church Allegra, Ky.		40.00
Fenton Road Baptist Church, Flint, Mich.		15.50
Fenton Road Baptist Church, L. B. C., Flint, Mich.		5.00
South Side Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky.		75.00
Grace Baptist Church Baseline, Mich.		71.36
Grace Baptist Church, B. Y. P. U., Baseline, Mich.		8.53
Second Baptist Church, Marion, Ky.		9.32
Zoar Baptist Church Girl's Prayer Band, Hickory, Ky.		5.00
Seven Spring Baptist Church, Dycusburg, Ky.		17.20
Scotts Grove Baptist Church, Murray, Ky.		60.00
Boyd's Hill Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.		50.00
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.		35.00
Benton Baptist Church, Benton, Ky.		130.62
First Baptist Church, Coal Grove, Ohio		34.00
First Baptist Church, Russell, Ky.		158.63
Bethel Baptist Church, Roseville, Mich.		19.25
Hopewell Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio		5.00
New Hope Baptist Church, Dearborn, Mich.		31.39
Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.		65.00
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Larsen, Seffner, Fla.		20.00
Mrs. George M. DeHaven, Calvert City, Ky.		10.00
James E. Black, Salinas, Cal.		20.00
Mrs. E. H. Purdom, Elmhurst, Ill.		20.00
John M. Holtzclaw, Whitesburg, Ky.		10.00
Roger Maslin, Wheaton, Ill.		8.00
Charles Holsinger, Wheaton, Ill.		5.00
L. M. Williams, Baltimore, Md.		10.00
Total	\$	1225.33
Z. E. CLARK, Treasurer		

As the Lord leads you, send all offerings for this mission work to the treasurer of the mission. It is best to send by check or money order. It is not safe to send cash. Address your envelope to:

Elder Z. E. Clark
5216 Concord, Ave.
Detroit 11, Mich.

WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

Many who read the MISSION SHEETS have relatives and friends who have moved to Detroit, Michigan, or its suburbs or to Toledo, Ohio, or to Flint, Michigan and would like for them to have a sound Baptist church to go to. Well, there are three in Toledo and suburbs and one seven miles away at Harbor View. There is one at Flint, Michigan, and there are seven in and around Detroit. If you will send us their names and addresses we will give them to the pastors in their vicinity and they will be visited and invited to church. There are thousands of Baptists from the southland alone who have moved to Detroit and do not attend church. They need to be fed and the pastors of these churches would like to feed them. Send their names to the Editor of the Mission Sheets, H. H. Overbey, 1210 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit 11, Michigan.

there are many great regions of destitution, thousands are dying without hearing the good tidings and their blood is on our hands. Let us never forget that God is well able and has all the means necessary to make the great commission perfectly practical, but the failure is on our part. The Lord wants men and women who first give themselves to the Lord, II Cor. 8:5; I Cor. 6:20. Material things are needed in the preaching of the gospel but material things are secondary with God. He wants men to first give themselves to Him. How few and far between are those who say with Isaiah, "Here am I; send me." Isa. 6:8.

ADDING MACHINE

That adding machine is still needed. Brother Z. E. Clark, the treasurer of Baptist Faith Missions, needs an adding machine very much. It will make accuracy in his work easier and save a lot of time. It is greatly needed and only one offering has been given towards it. The other request made at the same time in a former issue will not be repeated. You can read the February issue and find out what it was.

A BETTER WAY

Mary Stark Kerr

Judges and traffic men implore
That motorists should drink no more

When driving they would go,
For numbers of the wrecks will soar,
And, multiplying more and more,
Will bring much grief and woe.

So officers will stand before
Each cocktail bar and liquor store,

The drunks away to bear,
However they may weep and wail,

To safely lock them up in jail,
And let them sober there.

That may be good, and yet I see
A better way, it seems to me:
And don't you all agree
That we would wiser be, by far,
To lock up every liquor bar,
And let the men go free?

The "pessimist" spends all his time worrying about how he can keep the wolf from the door.

The "optimist" refuses to see the wolf until he seizes the seat of his pants.

Th "opportunist" invites the wolf in and appears the next day in a new fur coat.

BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

We are more and more convinced each day that this is the way that the Lord commissioned His churches to do mission work. Each church is local and independent and gives as she decides of her own accord. There are no bosses nor paid secretaries to try to boss. There is nothing to join and there are no obligations in giving or not giving. We ask the Lord to lead the people to give and He hears and answers prayer. Every week we have new inquiries about the work and then later some of these send their offerings. And there are those who would do the work harm if they could, but God is a jealous God and He cares for His own. We pray for these and trust that they too will see the error as some others have and quit fighting the Lord's work. Also the people want to know what their missionaries are doing and where they labor, etc. All who support Baptist Faith Missions have this information each month. This paper tells about the work of Missionary Brandon and Missionary Hallum and the native missionaries under their leadership. It tells where they labor and the results of their labors. It tells of souls being saved and then baptized and organized into churches. If you want your church to be a missionary church, read the letters from the missionaries to them in your prayer meetings and other services. Women, read them in your meetings and study classes. Young people, read them in your meetings.

Mission Sheets Sent Free

Month after month we get requests for MISSION SHEETS to be sent in quantities for distribution to the churches. We will send any pastor enough free each month so that each family of his church may have a copy. Most churches get 15 to 25 with some larger ones getting more. Let us know how many you want and we will send them to you. Editor John R. Gilpin prints the MISSION SHEETS as a part of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER once each month, so that each reader of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER gets the MISSION SHEETS free also. THE BAPTIST EXAMINER is a weekly Baptist paper that has no equal and the subscription price is only 50c a year. Send Editor John R. Gilpin, Russell, Ky., one dollar and get the paper for two years.

YOU CANNOT OUTGIVE GOD

(Continued from preceding page) He said just give it then and we said alright, Lord, we will give it. The mail came and a check for \$100 from a fine Baptist layman came made out to our church. We left for Detroit on Saturday night and when nearing the depot in Chicago we were walking and thinking how we could give the \$50.00 for missions when that was all we would get for the week and we hardly had enough for a round trip train fare. A man stepped out from the dark in front of us and asked if I were going to Detroit. He said that he would broke and had a ticket he would sell for \$5.00, so we bought it and had enough for train fare both ways. Sunday night when the church treasurer gave us \$50.00 we gave it back to him and told him it was for Baptist Faith Missions. We returned home happy with only a few cents in money. Tuesday night a man drove up to our house and called for us out and gave us a check for \$132.60. Yes, we had money for eats and for a round trip train ticket for the next week end and until we moved on the field. The Lord has enabled us to give \$50.00 each month for missions now without a miss for over six years. You can't outgive God.

APRIL 19, 1947

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE THREE

WHY WE DO NOT OBSERVE EASTER.

Continued from page two)

is involved in our remembering what this day means, let us have a conscience about it, and unless we just have to do it, let us not use the day for the ordinary routine of life, but for the worship and service of our risen Lord.

"HOLY WEEK"—UNHOLY LIVES

My friends, this Easter business is just the climax of a calendar that has been handed down to us—that is one of the biggest falsehoods ever devised by Satan. For Easter is just the climax of so-called "holy week," and the whole series of days—a whole holy week business—is a tissue of falsehoods. Let us notice it for a moment. Last Sunday, according to the Catholic holy week calendar, was Palm Sunday. It was the day on which Christ was supposed to have made his so-called "Triumphal entry into Jerusalem." The truth is, he didn't do anything of the kind. For it was on the previous day, the Jewish Sabbath or Saturday that Jesus entered Jerusalem. Mark 11:11 tells us that Jesus went into the temple and looked around and went on. Why didn't he cleanse the temple of its money changers then, as he did the next day? The answer is, because it being the Sabbath, there was no buying and selling going on in the temple that day.

TAKES MATHEMATICAL JUGGLER

Last Friday, according to this Catholic calendar, was "Good Friday"—the day of the crucifixion. The truth is, it was not crucified on good Friday or any other Friday. About eleven times, as I recall, it is stated in the Scriptures that Christ would be in the grave three days and three nights. If Christ was crucified on Friday and arose Sunday as commonly taught, then he could not have fulfilled the Scriptures, for you have indeed to figure out three days and nights from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning. The holy week calendar with its "good Friday" breaks the type of Jonah, for it is written that as Jonah was three days and three nights in the stomach of the sea monster, so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The holy week calendar makes the eleven times repeated statement of the Scriptures that Jesus was three days and three nights in the grave a falsity. The holy week calendar makes Jesus to have falsified when he said plainly that he would be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. I say away with a calendar of events that is so wicked as all that! Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter belong on the junk pile of worn out falsehoods.

JESUS DIDN'T EAT PASSOVER

And one more thing is involved in so-called "Holy Week" with "Good Friday." That thing is the question as to whether or not Jesus ate the PASSOVER. It is being taught everywhere—by preachers, that Jesus ate the passover and was then crucified the next day. But that too is a falsehood that breaks the passover type, and that does violence to the Scriptures. To read the New Testament carefully, one might conclude that Jesus did

actually eat the passover, but when you go into a careful study you will see otherwise. Let me take time to give you one Scripture on this (John 18:28).

"Then led they Jesus from Caiaphas unto the hall of judgment: and it was early; and they themselves went not into the judgment hall, lest they should be defiled; but that they might eat the passover."

This says that the Jewish ecclesiastics who hurried Jesus before Pilate, would not themselves go into that Gentile judgment hall, "lest they defile themselves, and so not be able to eat the passover." Let me remind you that the supper that Jesus ate was the evening before this happened. It could not have been the passover, for it plainly shows here that the Jewish leaders had not eaten the passover. They had not eaten it because the time for the eating of it had not arrived.

HE WAS THE PASSOVER

"But what does it matter?" someone says, "as to whether Jesus ate the passover or not?" Here is why it matters—JESUS WAS THE PASSOVER. He had through all the centuries been typified by every passover lamb that was slain. That was what John the Baptist meant when at the river Jordan he pointed to Jesus and cried out, "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." And Paul makes it clear when he says in I Cor. 5:7, "for even Christ our Passover, hath been sacrificed for us." God would not have instituted a type, and at great trouble have preserved that type through hundreds of years, only to let it break down at the last moment. No—he didn't do that, for Jesus was the Passover, and he was crucified at the same hour that the passover lamb was accustomed to be slain.

But let us think of this passover event for a few minutes as I close. You recall that fateful night back there in Egypt. God was going to bring Israel out of bondage. He had to do it, for he had pledged his word centuries before. Pharaoh had held out against every plea, so God sent one last plague that was so awful that Pharaoh was

glad to let the people go. God told Moses that at mid-night the death angel would pass over the land and would smite with death the first born in every home. He told him that he would provide a means of safety for the Israelites if they would take it. He told Moses to have the people—each family—to take a lamb—to kill it, to place the blood upon the door posts, and said he, "When I see the blood I will pass over you." Solemnly those Israelites did that, and at mid-night an awful wail arose that welled to the skies, as it was discovered that there was someone dead in every home in Egypt. Every home, I mean, save those protected by the blood.

ARE YOU UNDER THE BLOOD?

That lamb, my friends, typified the Lord Jesus Christ, the true Lamb of God. No matter how morally clean or decent any man was there in Egypt, that furnished no immunity from the death angel, if the blood was not there. And no matter how morally clean you are, that furnishes you no immunity from judgment and hell, if you are not under the blood. If the blood was not there on the door post, nothing else mattered, the death angel struck. It was blood or no blood. Oh don't you see—if that type, the passover lamb means anything; has any lesson—it teaches that apart from the blood of Christ there is no safety; no salvation? And what do I mean by a person "being under the blood?" I mean this: Christ shed his blood, which means, he gave his life, to pay the sin debt of sinners, and when you by faith accept what he did for you, then you accept the merits of that blood as paying for your sins. That is what it means to be under the blood. Are you under the blood? Can you say today, "Christ Jesus the Lord is my Passover?" If not, then you had better get busy applying the blood.

DEATH MAY BE NEAR TO YOU!

I read a story once something about a Jewish family that had sickness in the home on that fateful passover night, and in their



anxiety and confusion the blood of the lamb that had been slain, was not applied to the door posts of the home. The girl that was sick had heard people talking about what was going to happen and about God's provision, and along late in the evening the thing got to preying on her mind. Rallying from a semi-conscious state, she said to her father, "Daddy is the blood on the door posts? Are we alright?" "Yes, daughter." "But are you sure, Daddy?" And the girl was so insistent that finally her father picked her up in his arms and carried her outside, but when he looked to his surprise and horror he saw that the sprinkling of the blood had been neglected. Just a few minutes remained before the hour of midnight, and with what frenzy of haste that father rushed back into the house, found that basin of blood and hurried to sprinkle it upon the doorway. Had he not done so, within the next few minutes a death would have occurred in that home. God meant that thing when he told those people to put the blood there. Listen: It is true at any time that it might be only a few moments until death strikes. You don't know—death may be standing behind you at any time, ready to mow you down. Are you under the blood? Have you trusted in Christ, the Lamb of God?

ARE YOU READY?

Not far from here, a man collapsed—fell on the floor crying, "God have mercy" and never regained consciousness. I preached his funeral. A man whom I knew well—a member of another Baptist church in this city, was on his way to take his boy to the train, when without warning his heart gave way and he died. Down the street, lived a man who was on his way to the shipyard one morning, when his heart failed and they found him in his car dead. I preached his funeral. A young woman whom I baptized here some years ago, married a man. He came in one day from his work, laid down to rest, and never awoke from his sleep. I preached his funeral. Some while ago a deacon of this church—the man who supervised the building of this church house, had a heart attack and died in a few moments. I preached his funeral. Do I need to give you any further illustrations to prove that the death angel often strikes suddenly? Oh, are you ready? Are you ready? Only as you can claim Christ as your Passover are you ready. Will you by faith apply His shed blood to the cleansing of your heart and

THE CHRISTIAN DUTY OF REJOICING

(Continued from page one)

Christian faith. The Gospel we are to proclaim is a message of good tidings of great joy (Luke 2:10), and men will never heed it unless we give evidence that the good news of God's love in Christ has turned our sadness into gladness. We owe it to the unconverted to be joyful for if we show to the world sad faces we turn men from Christ.

Possibly we have never regarded it as a duty to be "glad in the Lord, and rejoice." We have thought of this as a purely personal matter, we have viewed our joy or sadness as a personal concern. Many consider joyousness of spirit to be the result of temperament or of circumstance. Some, many think, are born with happy dispositions and radiant countenances; others are born with sad dispositions and are rarely seen to smile. Our joy, some say, is conditioned by circumstances. When things are favorable we are joyful; when otherwise, we are doleful. There is an element of truth in this position. Our natural dispositions and our circumstances do determine to a large extent our joy or sadness. A Christian worker said to me, "I am of a melancholy nature and am easily upset, but my wife is bright and happy at all times. She doesn't worry over anything."

Yet we have known some whose outlook on life was gloomy who have become completely transformed, and their faces revealed their inward happiness. The joy of the Lord possessed their hearts and all things became new. Have we not known people who were born with happy dispositions but who, for various reasons, have become morose, pessimistic, hard and cynical? We have also found joy in unexpected places in the slums, in homes where loved ones have suffered for years. On the other hand, there are those whose circumstances are most favorable but who are almost strangers to happiness. Joy is not determined (Continued on page four)

life, and will you do it right now? Then come and confess Him as your Saviour.

Ed. Note: In this great sermon, Brother Mason expresses exactly the sentiments of the editor. It is because I appreciate this message so much that I am reproducing it in full instead of my own sermon, which I ordinarily publish here. Now that you have read it, be sure to thank God for both the message and the messenger.

God's Saving Grace

On CHRIST, the solid Rock I stand
Safe at last in Jehovah's hand!
O! I thank Thee for thy Love so kind
To reach down for me, a sinner, blind.

And, as I read thy WORD to see
How Thou wouldst have me live for Thee,
I learn more and more of thy LOVE divine
And how Thou gave thy SON for all mankind.

"For I am not my own" Thou has said,
But for me was the BLOOD of JESUS shed;
More of its cleansing power I would know
That washes my sins as white as snow.

But what God has done for me
His saving Grace can do for thee;
For HE has said, "I will in no wise cast out"
To all who come without doubt.

For I walk not in my own strength you see
But my faith in Him who died for me;
And, as the days pass by, one by one,
I serve patiently 'till my Lord shall come.

—Written by Dr. Lueg, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida,
five months after his conversion in 1940.

OUR HIERARCHY

(Continued from page one)

All these things are simply the suppression of free speech in our Baptist assemblies and publication. It is a direct violation of the very principles for which Baptists have stood, fought, and died through the centuries. Baptists have become afraid of open discussion; every attempt is made to avoid controversy; great Bible truths are ignored because they are "controversial matters." As long as Baptists stick to the plain simple truth of the New Testament and do everything openly and above board there is no need to fear discussion and controversy! A man's loyalty as a Baptist is no longer measured by what he believes and preaches, nor by how missionary he is, but only whether he swallows without any protest everything put out by the denominational machine.

I have always tried to lead my people in giving to missions; the record of any church that I have ever pastored and the increase of their gifts to missions is open for anyone who wishes to investigate, and yet recently I was approached by a worker for the State Board who implied my disloyalty to Baptists because I had strenuously objected to something which the State Board had wanted to do. A preacher of this section was recently recommended for a position among the Baptists of a certain place. A worker for the State Board found out that he was being considered and informed some of the brethren that they did not need a man of that type because he "believed in the doctrine of election." Such actions I am unalterably opposed to. If being opposed to those things brands me as an unorthodox Baptist then that is what I am. Moreover I am opposed to the great movements now on foot to raise the prestige of Baptists in the eyes of the world. God's people have always been strangers and pilgrims in this world; they had to fight the world all the way through; the world has hated them, and they have never courted favor with the world but to their own sorrow and loss. Yet today the great hue and cry is to make the Baptist denomination a force that can be felt throughout the world. We have raised sand about the Catholic emissary to the Pope sent from this country, yet now we are maintaining headquarters in the nation's capital to keep our finger in every pie that comes along. The Southern Baptist Convention has invited President Truman to make a "Mother's Day address" at St. Louis. Now there can be only one reason for that. It is not that Mr. Truman, good man though he may be, is such a great spiritual character that he will lift Baptists closer to God with his message, for there are many godly men who could do far better than he along that line. His talents and thinking lie along other lines. It is only that it will be a great boost to Baptist prestige to have him speak. I am opposed to that, and also to the great emphasis to be laid on Mother's Day in the event. At the meeting of the General Association in Louisville in 1945 the moderator invited Gov. Willis (not a Baptist), to address the Association. When the Governor could not come and sent his regrets, the moderator had that great body of people to stand and sing "The Old Time Religion," and dedicate it to the Governor. I can imagine Paul and the Roman Christians singing and dedicating their hymn to Nero or some other Roman ruler. When Baptists were a despised and down-trodden people because of their steadfastness

to the faith, God blessed them, but now have become so big, we are "rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing," the world takes off its hat to us, we have more money than ever, our buildings are the finest in the world, we are trying to make our impression on the governments of the world and shape the destinies of nations; we are getting more concerned with making the world a wonderful place than in saving people out of the world. And in it all like Sampson we "wist not that the Lord is departed from us." Yes, I am a Baptist, but many things that Baptists do make me hang my head in shame, and I verily believe that many good sound men are being forced out of the denomination by just such things as I have mentioned above. I do not like to be pessimistic, but I believe that denominationalism has gone to such an extreme that there is no hope for it to be brought within Bible limits.

The organization is supreme; there is no place for those who would try to bring things into conformity with Scriptural teaching. But as long as God permits me to live, I do want my voice to be lifted against those things, and I pray that many more will come out with a firm stand for truth and right.—W. B. Casey



AN APPRECIATED LETTER

Rosedale, W. Va.

Dear Brother In Christ:

Our mail carrier carried Mr. Brook Bennett's BAPTIST EXAMINER past his home and left it in my mail box. I read it and it is such a good paper and so much food in it for the soul, that I want to subscribe for a year, one for myself and one for my next door neighbor. There isn't any of the family Christians but I hope they will read this paper and maybe it will be the cause of some of them giving their heart to God.

—Mrs. Everett Barker

THANK THE LORD

We are in receipt of a fine letter containing 22 new subscriptions, sent in by Mr. and Mrs. G. Van Sluys, of Grand Rapids, Mich. We thank God for this letter, and wish to remind you that such a letter from you would be just as highly appreciated.



LITTLE RUNT CHRISTIANS

(Continued from page one)

We are to "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." 2 Pet. 3: 18. Growth is seen in that we are likened to a vine's branches and other plants; like a temple in the process of building and like a human body in its growth. BUT THE FACT REMAINS THAT WE DO NOT GROW . . . THAT SOME ARE RUNTS THOUGH MANY YEARS OLD.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE EVIDENCES OF A RUNT-LIKE CHRISTIAN. He doesn't go to church very much. We have found in our community three times as many people who say they are saved and who belong to church THAT NEVER GO (unless to a funeral) AS WE HAVE THAT ATTEND ANY CHURCH! To say the least, that is a poor brand of professed Christians! Yes, we have runts by the carload around here and I suspect that that is not any different than in most communities.

Then another evidence is that they neglect the Bible. A runt is rather ignorant of the truth of God's Book—even when he has a head knowledge that he learned

earlier in experience. Few runts, if any, can say, "Thy Words were found and I did eat them . . . thy Word is the joy and rejoicing of my heart," as Jeremiah said.

Yet another mark of a runt is a fault finder, critic and one who sulks; gets his feelings hurt easily and nothing goes to suit him in the church. Even when God is blessing, and people in general are working hard, this sort of a runt has a devilish way of throwing a "wet blanket" over everything and their squealing (like a real runt hog) can be heard from the house tops!

THE CURE FOR BEING A RUNT IS SIMPLE. Here is the remedy and if you have been in this class of Christians that brings disgrace to Christ and dishonor to His Church, take the medicine and see if joy and happiness and usefulness doesn't come your way.

First, get the right kind of food. "As newborn babes desire the milk of the word that they may grow thereby." 1 Pet. 2:2. Peter, who was commissioned to "feed my sheep" (John 21) knew the diet that was good for them. Thus the Word of God stands as absolutely necessary to a balanced spiritual diet to grow out of that runt stage. Read it daily, prayerfully, thoughtfully and with a holy expectation that the Psalmist's prayer will be answered as you pray it. "Open thou mine eyes



THE POWER OF WORDS

*A careless word may kindle strife;
A cruel word may wreck a life.
A bitter word may hate instill;
A brutal word may smite and kill.
A gracious word may smooth the way;
A joyous word may light the day.
A timely word may lessen stress;
A loving word may heal and bless.*

The Bible Friend



that I may behold wondrous things out of thy Law." Ps. 119: 18.

In the second place, get the proper and healthful air to breathe. You can't grow healthy, physically, by breathing air that is filled with contaminating germs and diseases. Neither in a dance hall, a theatre and a booze joint, can you expect to breathe the atmosphere that will minister to your spiritual growth. Too many are runts and then when trouble comes they wonder why God doesn't hear them and why the heavens seem to be shut up! Stop to think a little and you will not need an angel to explain it!

Then, thirdly, get the proper exercise. This is necessary in the physical sense for health. Good exercise for a Christian to grow by would be witnessing to the lost. This is indeed a healthful exercise and one that is needed by those who know what the Lord has done for his soul. (Psa. 66: 16). Then PRAYER is a necessary exercise. Sometimes it takes on the form of agonizing exercise of the soul but it is absolutely indispensable for growth. What a privilege to talk to God! What a privilege to ask God for something and get it! Of course attending the worship services and evangelistic services of the church are forms of spiritual exercise necessary to growth. VERY FEW PEOPLE EVER GROW IF THEY

DON'T GO TO CHURCH AND

NONE EVER GROW WHO DELIBERATELY STAY AWAY!

Are you a "runt" in a spiritual sense? Admit it and then do something about it. You should not stay a runt for your own sake; nor for the sake of others and especially for the sake of Christ. You have the provision for full growth in the ministry provided. (Eph. 4:11-13). Avail yourself of such and grow as God wants you to.



DUTY TO REJOICE

(Continued from page three)

by temperament or circumstance. It should be unnecessary to exhort us to be joyful. Should we not overflow with joy? True, there are many occasions when there is cause for grief, but when we stand still and recount our blessings we find much cause for joy. Our blessings far outnumber our trials, and we often see that these are blessings in disguise. The Psalmist said of God's mercies: "If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand" (Psa. 139:18). The thought of God's wondrous love and goodness in saving our souls and in daily loading us with benefits should fill our souls with joy and songs. With the Psalmist we should say, "My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto thee; and my soul, which thou hast redeemed" (Ps. 71:23). If we meditate more on God's love in Christ and more on what He has done for us and is yet going to do for us, we shall deem it a privilege and a pleasure to obey the scriptural injunction to be glad in the Lord and rejoice.

The early Christians hardly needed to be exhorted to rejoice. Joy was predominant in their lives and in their worship and fellowship. We read they did "eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart" (Acts 2:46). Circumstances did not quench their joy, for when passing thru manifold temptations, they rejoiced "with joy unspeakable and full of glory" (1 Peter 1:8). Dr. Rendel Harris discovered a manuscript written by Aristides, an Athenian philosopher who lived in the early part of the second century, in which he described the manner in which Christians of his day lived. "They observe scrupulously the commandment of their Messiah; they live honestly and soberly as the Lord their God commanded them; every morning and all hours and on account of the goodness of God toward them they praise and laud Him, and over their food and their drink they render Him thanks. And if any righteous person of their number passes away from the world they rejoice and give thanks to God, and they follow his body as though he were moving from one place to another. And when a child is born to any of them, they praise God, and if again it chance to die in its infancy they praise God mightily, as for one who has passed through this world without sins." What a remarkable tribute this is to the consistent joyousness of the early Christians.

We cannot, however, command joy when we will; it is a fruit of the Spirit which appears in the life as we fulfill the divine conditions. We cannot rejoice if we are living in sin. David found it impossible to fulfill his own injunction regarding joy when he himself was unrighteous. After committing the double sin of adultery and murder, he said, "My bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. For day and night thy hand was heavy upon

me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer" (Ps. 38: 3-4). God is the source of all true and pure joy, and sin effectively prevents the flowing of His joy into our hearts. Only as we walk in the path of love and obedience can we maintain the spirit of gladness. He who has much love to God and man will possess much joy. Loveless Christians are joyless. When we become critical of everyone we become cynical and miserable. Where love is and there God is (1 John 4:16), and where God is, there joy is. Our Saviour experienced perfect joy because He lived a life of perfect love and obedience. Because of this He enjoyed unbroken fellowship with His Heavenly Father, and because He dwelt continually in His presence, our Lord's joy was full and uninterrupted. As we follow our Saviour we will not find it difficult to obey the divine injunction to rejoice. If we dwell in the love of God and are conscious of His presence and friendship, His joy will flow freely into our souls.

Those who think much of the goodness of God do not find it difficult to rejoice; their cup of joy is full to overflowing. The remembrance of God's mercies increases gratitude, and where gratitude is found, joy is never far away. Mark the grateful man and you will find him a happy man. Gratitude produces joy.

The ungrateful soul cannot rejoice; it is too full of self, of murmurings, to see cause for joy. Many are unhappy because they dwell on their so-called misfortunes rather than on God's mercies. They never stand still to think of their indebtedness to God, of the wonder of His forgiveness and of His continued mercy in spite of all their selfishness and faithlessness.

The late Alexander Whyte once visited an old woman who was full of murmurings. During a stay of twenty minutes he uttered not a word but patiently listened to her long tale of woe. Then, rising, he picked up his hat and gloves, and, shaking her hand, said in farewell, "And mind you forget not all His benefits."

The more time we spend thinking on God's mercies the less time we shall spend bemoaning our troubles, real or imaginary, and in criticizing the failings of others. If we dwell in the love of God we shall not need to be exhorted to rejoice in the Lord. To rejoice will be almost as natural as breathing. In response to the call, "Be glad in the Lord and rejoice," the heart will promptly reply, "I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most high" (Ps. 9:2). Then we shall not have to seek joy as does the worldling; it will come to us unsought. A deep abiding joy is God's gift to all who love Him and walk in the way of His commandments.

The calendar of the sinner has only a few days in the year marked as festival days, but every day of the Christian's calendar is marked by the hand of God as a day of rejoicing.

As someone wrote years ago, "Upon working days rejoice in the Lord, who giveth thee strength to labor and feedeth thee with the labor of thy hands. On holidays rejoice in the Lord, who feasteth thee with the marrow and fatness of His house. In want rejoice, because the Lord taketh away, and as it pleaseth the Lord, so come things to pass. In plenty rejoice again and again, because the Lord giveth, and evermore Crown and Capstone of all our joy." — Revelation