

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).

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Volume 16, No. 13

A Statement Of Facts We Regretfully Make Concerning The Actions Of Our Former Missionary, C. W. Dickerson

In the Ashland Avenue Baptist of January 17, 1947, which is edited by Elder Clarence Walker of Lexington, Kentucky, appears the following:

FORMER MISSIONARY SENDS GIFTS FOR TRANSLATIONS

Bro. C. W. Dickerson, a former missionary to Brazil, sends a gift to help with the translation of "The Trail of Blood" in the Portuguese language for the people of Brazil. We have known Bro. Dickerson for many years and do appreciate his gift and kind words.

Dear Bro. Walker:

The amount of the enclosed order is to be used, unless needed worse in some other branch of "your work of love," in paying for the Portuguese translations.

The Brazilian Christians greatly need such truth. I hope to return there some time and have

a further part in the work.
C. W. Dickerson.

The so-called missionary referred to above was sent out as a missionary by the First Baptist Church of Russell, Kentucky. Many have been the requests for information as to what became of him. For many months I have carefully refrained from giving out information or saying anything concerning him.

However, as a matter of information and warning, I offer the following report which was presented to the First Baptist Church of Russell, Kentucky, on Wednesday evening, January 27, 1943.

I might add that after this report was read, with an unusually large attendance, the church unanimously acted in withdrawing the hand of fellowship. The report follows:

Although it has been the joy of this church for over three years to support, maintain, and pray for Brother Dickerson and his labors in Brazil, we are now

deeply grieved over his attitude toward the church which sent him out, supported him, and returned him to this country.

Although he has been in Russell and could have attended prayer meeting with us on the nights of January 13th and 20th, and could have worshipped with us on Sunday, January 17th and 24th, he and his family have been absent from all of these church services. The non-attendance of others might not be so conspicuously noticed, but in the case of a returned missionary, it is a most glaring inconsistency that he has not worshipped in the church which has sent him out, supported and maintained him for the past three years, especially when his membership is within that church.

In addition to his non-attendance at our services, he has been on Wednesday evenings conducting prayer meetings in the home of a man who was excluded from the fellowship of (Continued on page two)

Some Evils Of Semi-Nude, Licentious Public, Depraved Mixed Bathing

R. F. HALLFORD
Pastor, First Baptist Church
Port St. Joe, Florida

What good could possibly come from men and women, boys and girls, wallowing around together like alligators, in a semi-nude condition, on today's public bathing beaches? It is very obvious to anyone with an open mind and eye that no good at all comes of it, but on the contrary, much that is evil. Let us notice some of these evils:

First, it violates God's command in 1 Timothy 2:9, "That women adorn themselves in modest apparel." How on earth can you reconcile a modern, two-piece bathing suit with this passage of Scripture? It cannot be done!

Second, such a condition and practice dishonors the temple of the Holy Spirit. The question is raised in 1 Cor. 6:19, "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit Who is in you, Whom ye have of God?" The body of every born-

again person is the abode of a Heavenly Person, the Holy Spirit. Surely we have no right at all to take the temple of such a wonderful Person and expose it to the unholy gaze of the world. God showed us by clothing the naked parents of the human race with skins (Gen. 3:21) that He does not wish our bodies to be uncovered. One indisputable proof that the growing tendency of people to expose their bodies is inspired by Satan is its opposition to this act by God in clothing Adam and Eve.

Third, it stirs up fleshly lusts which lead to adultery. Jesus taught, "That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matt. 5:28). There are plenty of you who would draw back in horror from the thought of such an act, but had it occurred to you that your semi-nude condition on some public bathing beach has probably led some man to be an adulterer in his own heart?

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Waxing Fat And Kicking The God Who Has Made Baptists Prosperous

"But Jeshurun waxed fat, and kicked: thou art waxen fat, thou art grown thick, thou art covered with fatness; then he forsook God which made him, and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation." Deut. 32:15.

If any verse in the Bible describes our Baptist hierarchy completely, it is this one. Here is a picture of a weak, wobbly calf, so ill-nurtured that it can not stand alone, yet when properly fed, becomes fat and kicks the one who cares for it. An old adage speaks of "biting the hand that feeds it." This text describes those who "kick" the hand that feeds them.

Baptist people have been highly blessed. We have come far since Jesus founded us about 30 A. D. We were exceedingly weak then and surely despised of the world. Even down through the

dark ages, we could well be likened to the weak calf of Deut. 32. Yet today, this is not true. We have a tremendous membership (though doubtlessly less than 25 per cent are saved). We have great buildings. We have much money. We have prestige so far as the world is concerned. Why we even have a religious-political lobbyist in Washington.

And like the calf of Deut. 32, the God who has blessed us is kicked at and forgotten. What does the average Baptist care about God's Word? Instead of listening to the still small voice of the Holy Spirit, the majority of Baptist preachers are listening like galley slaves to the voice of the corresponding secretary or the state board of missions. When the Word of God comes in conflict with the program sent down to the churches from headquarters, it is so convenient to go along with the multitude, thus ignoring the Bible, and thereby kicking at God.

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DID YOU KNOW?

That seventeen of the twenty-seven books of the New Testament can be carefully read in less than half an hour each? Five of them can be read in one hour's time (Romans, Corinthians, Revelation and Hebrews). Who is there among the Christians who does not have the "time" to read the Word? Try it.

That the land of Palestine that was promised to Abraham and his descendants by God is twenty times larger than the present dimensions of 50 miles wide and 150 miles long? Israel never did, as far as we know, fully possess the land at any one time. However the day is coming, when they shall! "Heaven and earth may pass away, but my word shall never pass away," said the Lord Jesus.

That no one could ever induce the great Stonewall Jackson to (Continued on page two)

Mused Uncle Mose

De Lawd ain' tryin' to so've yo problems; he tryin' to so've you.

Here Is The Way That Christ Put The Professional Priest Out Of Business

It is characteristic of heathen religions for them to have a priesthood. This priesthood is supposed to have some contact with deity (or deities) that is not possessed by the common man, and he wields a strong influence over people who think that their standing with their deity depends on what that priest does for them or against them. This leads to "PRIESTCRAFT," one of the greatest curses that mankind can know.

Back in the Old Testament times God authorized a priesthood. This priesthood was not designed to hold people in a form of slavery, but to be a blessing to them. The priests ministered about the Tabernacle or Temple, offering the sacrifices of the people, according to the rules and regulations laid down. However, the priesthood often was perverted. For instance in the days of Samuel, the people asked for a king because of the way some of the religious leaders were acting.

When Christ came and offered Himself as a Sacrifice for sin, that fulfilled the priestly types and marked the conclusion of the sacrificial system—both priest and offering. Hebrews 9:11-15 makes this clear. Likewise Hebrews 10:11-13 bears on the same question.

From the sacrifice of Christ henceforth, there is not the slightest need for a priest. Why? Some reasons:

BECAUSE THE PRIESTHOOD WAS TYPICAL AND WITH THE FULFILLMENT OF THE TYPE IN CHRIST, there is no need for its continuation.

BECAUSE WITH THE FINAL SACRIFICE FOR SIN MADE (Heb. 10:26) there is no place for a priest. A priest required a sacrifice. Christ destroyed the priest's job when he died.

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A TIMELY QUESTION

Does a man have a Scriptural right to continue preaching, serving as pastor, and administering the ordinances of a church after he has been duly excluded from a church?

No. Christ committed the sole authority to preach the gospel, and to administer the ordinances to His church (using the term institutionally, or generically); He also gave the authority to discipline to the church. A church is the highest ecclesiastical authority on earth, and there is and can be no appeal to any higher authority on earth. Hence when a member, even a preacher is excluded by a church he should bow to the authority of the church of Jesus Christ. When a church withdraws fellowship from a preacher his credentials are automatically revoked; he may not actually surrender the record to the church with withdrew from (Continued on page two)

-- The First Baptist Pulpit --

"How The Devil Deals With His Victims"

"That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."—2 Thes. 2:12.

Surely everyone will agree that we are living in perilous times. It is a strange world in which we live today. Scientifically it is round, yet spiritually it is flat.

Certainly in every phase of life it is true that these are perilous times. Educationally, socially, morally and governmentally this it true, and above all else, it is true in our churches. The attitude of most profes-

sing Christians is illustrated very accurately by one of the closing statements of Moses. Listen:

"But Jeshurun waxed fat, and kicked: thou art waxen fat, thou art grown thick, thou art covered with fatness; then he forsook God which made him, and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation."—Deut. 32:15.

This is a picture of a small, weak, practically helpless calf which is usable to stand alone, and thus is given special assistance and help until it grows and waxes fat and then kicks the hand that feeds it. Surely this

illustrates the attitude of the average professing Christian. We receive God's blessings—we eat His food and drink His water, enjoy His sunshine and live off His bounty. Through these innumerable blessings we prosper and wax fat. Instead of serving God faithfully, devotedly and sincerely as we should in view of these blessings, we fail to do so, that the truth of this text becomes a reality with us in that we kick the hand that feeds us. I say that this is undoubtedly true of the average (Continued on page two)

WAS JOHN BAPTIZED?

No. John the Baptist was never baptized in water, as we think of baptism, the only thing now we can think of as being baptism. When the Lord was ready to start His church He had to have a starting place, just as He had the human race. When He was ready to start the human race He created a man, and took from his side the woman, then ordaining and perpetuating the race by natural means. So when He was ready to start the building of His church He raised up a Baptist in the person of John the Baptist. Jesus asked the Pharisees concerning John's baptism; He asked them if it were from heaven, or by man. God raised up John, a man filled from his mother's womb, and this man preached and baptized by God's authority; Jesus took the material thus prepared by John and (Continued on page two)

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JOHN R. GILPIN-EDITOR

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CHRIST AND THE PRIEST

(Continued from page one)

BECAUSE CHRIST MADE NO PREPARATION FOR THE CONTINUATION OF A PRIESTHOOD. There is no New Testament instructions for a priesthood, and no mention of its continuation.

BECAUSE NO NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH HAD A PRIEST OF ANY KIND, in the sense of an "official."

BECAUSE THE NEW TESTAMENT TEACHING IS TO THE EFFECT THAT EVERY BELIEVER IN CHRIST IS HIS OWN PRIEST. That is, he has the right to approach God direct through Christ without any human aid or help. ("There is one Mediator between God and man—the man Christ Jesus.") "Mediator" means "go between." That eliminates the human priest for that Scripture says "ONE." "No man cometh unto the Father but by me," said Jesus. That means that one certainly CAN come to God through Christ. If through Christ, then WHY A PRIEST?

ALL BELIEVERS IN CHRIST ARE INCLUDED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT PRIESTHOOD. (I Peter 2:9) That means that there is no priestly office or class, but that every Christian is to have dealings with God without the help of any man.

Note also Rev. 1:6; 5: 10; and 20:6. These passages show that in the age to come, Christians shall serve as "priests and kings." That means they shall be the Lord's representatives and rulers under Christ during the Millennial age. Read the connection for proof of this.

AN OBJECTION TO THE "ALTAR"

There is much present day calling people "to the altar to be prayed for." This has a tendency to make a priest out of the minister—a mediator who is supposed to pray people into a favorable state before God. There is great danger in such a misconception.

A PREACHER OF THE GOSPEL IS NOT A PRIEST

He is a preacher and teacher the Word of God—not a performer of rites and mystical ceremonies. Note that the ritualistic churches have men who serve as priests. They chant through their noses and go through hocus pocus (which must disgust God). No New Testament warrant for such

MISSIONARY DICKERSON

(Continued from page one) this church because he would not receive Scriptural baptism, he having been received into the fellowship of the church some twenty years before on Campbellite immersion. Now Brother Dickerson is fellowshiping in this particular home with others who are covenant breakers and with several who have been excluded from this church over the past several years, which, in itself, casts a reflection upon the authority of this church in that we have deemed it wise and Scriptural to withdraw the hand of fellowship from these in days gone by. We do not deem it a part of wisdom, policy, nor Scriptural for Brother Dickerson to thus despise the church of which he is a member and conduct prayer meetings in the home of one who is excluded from this church of which he is a member, and thus fellowshiping with many who have been excluded in days gone by.

The report which Brother Dickerson gave as to his work in Brazil on the only Sunday which he has spent with the church, was far from encouraging. While we realize that only God can give the increase, we feel that his report indicates a human reason that his results in Brazil were so meager and why that he had so little to speak of as to achievements while there. He continuously referred to the people with whom he had been laboring, as "dirty Brazilians, liars, and thieves." While we are not

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KICKING AGAINST GOD

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There is no doubt that the cooperative program method of doing mission work is anti-scriptural. Not only is it true much contained in the program is unscriptural (such as hospitals, Christian education falsely so-called, B. Y. P. U. activities, W. M. U. programs, etc), yet frankly the entire program is a make shift plan of man which ignores the work of the Holy Spirit. If you would see how God works through a local church in missionary endeavors, then read Acts 13:1-4.

For the past few seasons, we have boasted of a "Baptist hour" on the radio. I'm glad the announcer is always kind enough to say that it is such, as one would never know it pertained to Baptists otherwise. This year, one of the speakers is to be a woman. Talk about kicking at God. Read I Cor. 14:34-38; I Tim. 2:11-13. What a kick the Baptist hierarchy is giving God in this.

The Seminary and the majority of its graduates will unionize with every heretic who comes along. It would appear that the Seminary carefully selects heretics to address the student body, fearful that a real Baptist might appear before them. The result is that unionism is rampant and the truth of God is repudiated. Read Rom. 16:17; II Tim. 3:5; II Thes. 3:6, 14. What a kick God got when Modernist Butterick and others of his ilk have spoken at "The Beeches."

As long as Baptists continue pouring their tithes and offerings into the "program" — the hierarchy will get fatter and fatter, and will continue to kick and ignore God.

Every contribution you make, stuff! It is man-made, and not worth in value one single copper cent.

allowing the heretical leaders of our denomination to squander and waste, helps them to kick at the God you claim to love. My brethren, if you love His Word, how can you make another offering apart from designation?

There is a remedy. Let that fat calf starve awhile and see how docile it becomes. In other words cut off your gifts to the cooperative program; designate how your money is to be spent. Let each church make its own missionary program instead of adopting the one sent down from headquarters and God will bless. I challenge you to do it!

A TIMELY QUESTION

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him, but his credentials are invalid when he is excluded. If a preacher, or any one else, thinks he has been unjustly excluded he has the privilege of asking for a council to meet with the church excluding him, and if, by that means, a reconciliation can be effected the preacher may be restored to membership and his privileges and rights as a minister may also be restored completely. But while a preacher stands excluded from a church, no church should call him as pastor, because all his work as such is invalidated on the ground of his exclusion. Any person baptized by such a person would be unscripturally baptized, in fact, any work done by such a preacher would be unscriptural, therefore invalid.

WAS JOHN THE BAPTIST BAPTIZED?

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established, or organized, or built His church, and during His personal ministry every thing was under His direct supervision; after He went back to His Father and until the apostles died, the Holy Spirit, for the most part, directed the affairs of the church, using the apostles as His agents, or instruments. But when Jesus went to His Father He gave the commission to the church, and in this commission He committed the authority to evangelize the world, and to administer the laws and ordinances to the church.

The Holy Spirit is now the Leader in directing the affairs of a church, using the written Word as His instrument of direction.

—Temple Trumpet

DID YOU KNOW

(Continued from page one)

taste an alcoholic beverage? He said he was more afraid of it than of Yankee bullets.

That in the October-November-December number of "Power," a "devotional" book for youth, gotten out by the Methodist Church, there is a defense of the dance as augmenting "private worship." What a laugh went up from the gates of hell when that number was issued! The "prayer" that follows this "devotional" meditation is that our Heavenly Father will "keep us mindful that people need to have fun." According to a California pastor, writing to Bob Shuler, here are some of the dances that augment "private worship:" Sicilian Circle, Spanish Waltz, Seven Steps, Ace of Diamond, Heel and Toe Polka, etc."

That only real vital, living faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, sinless, crucified and risen, is essential for salvation. There is nothing in nature, philosophy, history, industry or education that can save you. It is Christ or damnation! Acts 4:12—Harold Smith

"HOW THE DEVIL DEALS WITH HIS VICTIMS"

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Thus, we are living in perilous times so far as our churches are concerned. The average church member is "asleep in Zion" and acts as though he had a one-way ticket straight through to Glory and that he had left orders with the conductor not to awaken him until he headed into the new Jerusalem. Surely it is an unappreciative task that the preacher has in the eleven o'clock service on Sunday morning when he attempts to awaken those who are spiritually asleep. No pullman conductor at six o'clock in the morning has a more laborous nor unappreciative task than that of the preacher on Sunday morning.

Of course, the real reason for all the difficulties in home, society, education, government and church is the Devil. He is the unseen agent controlling and dominating the events of life. Our text tells us very definitely how he deals with his victims.

FIRST OF ALL, OUR TEXT SHOWS US EMPHATICALLY THE DEPRAVITY OF THE HUMAN FAMILY. If there were no other text in all the Bible which presented human depravity except this one, this one in itself would be sufficient. Paul says that the unbelieving has "pleasure in unrighteousness." Nothing could express our depravity more emphatically than this statement. Surely man must be depraved to find pleasure in unrighteousness rather than in the righteous service of God.

All through God's Word we find statement after statement presenting the same truth—namely, that man in his unsaved state finds more pleasure in unrighteousness than in the service of God. Listen:

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness."—Rom. 1:18.

In the original, this verse declares that the unsaved "hold down the truth by unrighteous living." This was true in Paul's day, and it is surely true today. The world stands guilty before God of thus holding down the truth by unrighteousness and ungodly living. Paul declares the same truth when he says:

"Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."—Rom. 1:32.

When our Lord was here in the days of His flesh, He too declared man's depravity in practically the same words:

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."—John 3:19.

Here is a remarkable statement. If you will put good and evil or holiness and sin before the unsaved man in his unrenewed estate, that individual will choose sin and evil every time. Man naturally loves to do wrong. These texts in Romans and John's Gospel certainly corroborate the truth of my text when Paul says the unsaved have "pleasure in unrighteousness."

I remember an interesting experience taking place here within this auditorium some ten or

twelve years ago. A good and spiritually-minded woman who was then a member of this church, came to me at the close of a service and said, "Isn't it strange that my boy doesn't like spiritual things?" She said furthermore that it was almost impossible to get her son to attend a service. Of course, I knew that she and her husband rarely ever missed a service unless providentially hindered. I presume it did seem strange to her that since she and her husband came regularly and enjoyed worshipping in God's house—it did seem strange to her that her son had no desire to do likewise. When she asked me as to my opinion concerning the matter, I asked her if he were saved and she said that he wasn't. Then it was that I said, "Why sister, that isn't strange at all that he doesn't like to come to our services. He just doesn't have the nature for the things of God."

That which was true of this particular lad is true of every one else who has never been saved. No unsaved person has a taste for spiritual verities. He doesn't have a nature which will permit him to enjoy them.

What a terrible effect the sin of Adam has had upon the human race. Suppose we journey back into the Garden of Eden prior to the fall of man. That is Adam and his wife enjoying the unbroken fellowship one with the other and with God. Morally, physically, spiritually, emotionally and mentally they stood perfect. In that state of perfection they were living in a garden which was naturally as perfect as they themselves. Nothing could have been more wonderful than the physical surroundings in which they lived, and the environment in which they breathed from day to day. Why even to worship God was no problem since God came down in the cool of the day and talked with them face to face. Suppose we journey back to Eden after the entrance of sin into the human family. There is a sword at the entrance of Eden to bar and prevent our entrance. Even Adam and Eve are excluded therefrom. Outside the garden in a briar patch is Adam at work. His clothes are tattered from the thorns and briars. He himself is laboring—he is doing that which he had never done sweat of Eden, and now even sweat stands out over all his face. This he had never experienced previously when living in Eden. He ask Adam as to the cause of the change in his life and living. He tells me that it can be all summed up in one three letter word—SIN. He takes me out on a little hillside and shows me a buried mound where Abel was buried. He tells me how that Cain slew his own brother Abel—each of them being the sons of Adam. When he finishes this recital of this tale of woe, he declares that it has all come about through the entrance of sin.

Listen, beloved, from that hour on sin has been rampant within the human family. All of Adam's posterity have been depraved. The text even declares that the unsaved have "pleasure in unrighteousness." From the days of Adam this has been true. Certainly all of us are a depraved vicious lot at best.

THIS TEXT DESTROYS THE HOPE OF UNIVERSALISM. There are those who contend for the universalism—that is, that the whole universe shall be saved. They believe that God is too good to damn anyone and that he

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PAGE THREE

"HOW THE DEVIL DEALS WITH HIS VICTIMS"

(Continued from page two)

Accordingly all will ultimately be saved. It is rather interesting to notice that my text says, "that they all might be damned."

Here then is the fact that all who have not believed the truth shall be damned. Though men do not like to think that they will be eternally lost and damned, still this fact is taught most clearly within God's Word. Listen:

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."—Mark 16:16.

"And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power."—2 Thess. 1:7-9.

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

I am ready to grant that it is a horrible thing to think of any individual being damned in hell. Yet, beloved, every one who has not believed the truth, shall have this eternal experience.

Over in New York City there is a group of atheists who have banded together in what they call the "damned soul society." I do not know a great deal about this organization, yet I do know that Hell will be just one great damned soul society. All those who have not received the truth shall be damned. That unsaved one who may be sitting beside you this morning, if he should slump in the seat, before the coroner might pronounce him dead, his soul would be in Hell.

Off the coast of France there is a notorious French prison known as "Devil's Island." It is there that the incorrigible prisoners of France are incarcerated. Hell will be just one big "devil's island" where all moral sinners and immoral sinners who have failed to believe the truth shall be damned. God even declares that this is true of unsaved religious professors, for He says:

"But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."—Matt. 8:12.

May I impress this upon you this morning; especially would I do so if you have an unsaved loved one in your home. It may be that you have a child, or perhaps a wife or a husband that has never yet received the truth. I hold up no hope in behalf of that individual this morning. Instead, I would remind you that if that one were to sicken and die without receiving the truth which is found in Christ Jesus, then that one must spend his eternity in a Devil's Hell. All the hope of universalism fades in Scripture as there is no hope at all for that individual who has failed to receive the truth.

THIS TEXT LIKEWISE ABOLISHES ALL HOPE THAT SINCERITY WILL SAVE. There

are those—in fact many—who believe that regardless of what one's philosophy may be that if he is sincere in it, he will be saved eventually. The hope which many have seems all right both to them and to their friends, and accordingly they have a false peace and false hope. Of such false peace Solomon writes:

"There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."—Prov. 16:25.

Paul likewise speaks of those who are trusting in their sincerity, when he says:

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God."—Rom. 10:1-3.

You will notice that in describing these Jews that Paul declares they had a zeal of God. How interesting this is. Here are religious people who are very zealous for God and yet their zeal is not according to knowledge. This is sincerity. Surely there are but few to be found who are as sincere as these Jews. In spite of this fact, though they were righteous in themselves, they had not accepted the righteousness of God which is to be found only in Christ Jesus, and therefore Paul declares that they are lost. In spite of their sincerity, they needed to be saved.

Surely this is true of every individual today, for regardless of how sincere one may be, no man will ever be saved apart from a belief of the truth. My text is most emphatic in this.

Likewise, look at this from the standpoint of logic. Within just a little while I'm going to cross the river to Coalgrove, Ohio, to preach. Ordinarily I go to Ashland and cross the bridge and in just a few minutes am in Coalgrove. Now suppose this morning that when I start, instead of going east to Ashland, I go west toward Cincinnati. Regardless of how sincere I may be and irrespective of how certain I am that I am going in the right direction, I will never get to Coalgrove since I'm going definitely in the opposite direction. It doesn't make any difference as to how sincere I am, I'm just on the wrong road. Many a man is just as sincere as this in his religion, yet he is on the wrong road and will come as near Heaven travelling in the wrong direction as I would to Coalgrove going in the opposite direction therefrom.

Suppose a man puts out to sea in an unseaworthy boat, he is sure to come to trouble. That boat and he himself will sooner or later go down to "Davey Jones' Locker." He may be sincere in thinking the boat was sea worthy and yet because it was not, his sincerity will not save him.

Every individual of normal sane intelligence desires to go to Heaven when he dies. Yet if a man sets sail for eternity contrary to the teachings of God's Word, regardless of his sincerity, he will never be with the Lord Jesus. No text could make this truth plainer than my text of this hour, in that it declares that all those who have not believed the truth shall be damned. I insist, beloved, that there is no hope for any man in sincerity.

LIKEWISE, MY TEXT SHOWS THAT THE HEATHEN ARE LOST WITHOUT THE GOSPEL. Many have in mind that the heathen will somehow be saved if they have not heard the gospel. Yet, my text specifically shows the fallacy of this.

One must believe the truth or else be damned. Since the heathen have never heard the truth, then only one logical conclusion remains, must be damned.

This is nothing new, however, for all the Word of God teaches this same fact that no one can be saved apart from the hearing of the Word of God. Listen:

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."—Rom. 10:17.

Again and again we are told that the only way that one can be saved is by and through the Lord Jesus. Listen:

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."—John 14:6.

"This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."—Acts 4:11,12.

How any man with an open Bible could believe that the heathen who have not heard the gospel shall be saved, is beyond me. Listen to this Scripture:

"For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law."—Rom. 2:12.

The heathen have sinned—they have sinned without the law, having never heard it, and God declares that such shall also perish without the law.

Likewise, look at this from the standpoint of logic. Suppose the heathen who have not heard the gospel are not lost. If that be true, then we do them an injustice whenever we make an attempt to send the gospel to them. If they are not lost without the gospel, then we should never send out a missionary, for when the missionaries go and the heathen hear the Word of God, many of them will reject the gospel which is presented and thus die and go to Hell. I say, beloved, that we do them an injustice by sending the gospel to them if they are not lost without it. In fact, if the heathen are not lost without the gospel, we ought to tear down every church building, burn every Bible, kill off all Christians and make America heathen just as fast as possible.

However, beloved, my text shows that a man must believe the truth or else be damned. Therefore, since the heathen have not heard the truth—much less believed it—they are lost and shall be damned throughout eternity. This is why we ought to do everything we can by way of personal work. This is why we ought to do everything we can in behalf of our missionaries. Men are lost who have not received the truth, and we need to send the truth to them that God thereby shall save His elect.

V
FINALLY, MY TEXT SHOWS US HOW THAT ONE CAN BE SAVED. Since it declares that all those who have not received the truth shall be damned, then logically we are brought to believe that those who have received the truth shall be saved. Therefore, for one to be saved, he must accept the truth as revealed in God's Word. Hear the Lord Jesus:

"I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me."—John 14:6.

What is the truth of the plan of salvation? Long ago when Jesus, as a babe, was presented in the temple by His parents, Simeon took him in his arms and said:

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation."—Luke 2:29,30.

You will notice that Simeon referred to Jesus as "thy salvation". Salvation then is not a creed but a person. It isn't a religion, nor reformation, nor morality, but a person—that person of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

Would you like to know how to be saved this morning? Then listen: Jesus died for our sins.

"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures."—I Cor. 15:3.

"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."—I Pet. 2:24.

"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit."—I Pet. 3:18.

It is a fact that his death was sufficient for all of our sins.

"And the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."—I John 1:7.

"Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."—Titus 2:14.

"And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses."—Col. 2:13.

These texts therefore indicate

that His death was sufficient for the sins of yesterday, the sins of today, and the sins of tomorrow. In other words, all of our sin debt was laid on Jesus the day He died on Calvary's cross.

This then is a marvelous text in that it not only presents to us a picture of our human depravity and thereby destroys all hope of salvation through universalism, sincerity and ignorance,—at the same time, it shows us that we can be saved by believing the truth.

A preacher friend of mine had some gospel tracts of a unique nature printed a short while ago. On the tract were these words: "If I should die tonight, I would go to — — —." When he handed one of these tracts to a sailor boy, the lad received it, took out his pencil and started to write the word "Hell" in the blank space left for that purpose. As he reflected upon this truth that if he were to die he would go to Hell, it brought such a sobering effect upon him that he asked this friend immediately how to be saved. Would to God today that you might face the fact of your eternity as honestly and frankly as this lad. If so, since you have never received the truth, then you must realize that if you were to die, you would go immediately to Hell. Therefore, may you now receive the truth, accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour and be ready for Heaven. Without the truth there is no salvation, yet by receiving it, you have the assurance now that you possess both present and eternal salvation.

May God bless you!

THE JEW

Scattered by God's avenging hand,
Afflicted and forlorn,
Sad wanderers from their pleasant Land,
Do Judah's children mourn;
And e'en in Christian countries, few
Breathe thoughts of pity for the Jew.

Yet listen, Gentile, do you love
The Bible's precious page?
Then let your heart with kindness move
To Israel's heritage;
Who traced those lines of love for you?
Each sacred writer was a Jew.

And then as years and ages passed,
And Nations rose and fell,
Though clouds and darkness oft were cast
O'er captive Israel
The oracles of God for you
Were kept in safety by the Jew.

And when the great Redeemer came
For guilty man to bleed.
He did not take an angel's name,
No, born of Abraham's seed,
Jesus, who gave His life for you—
The gentle Saviour—was a Jew.

And though His own received Him not,
And turned in pride away,
Whence is the Gentile's happier lot?
Are you more just than they?
No! God in pity turned to you—
Have you no pity for the Jew?

Go, then, and bend your knee to pray
For Israel's ancient race;
Ask the dear Saviour every day
To call them by His grace.
Go, for a debt of love it due
From Christian Gentiles to the Jew.

—Author Unknown.

SOME EVILS OF SEMI-NUDE, PUBLIC, MIXED BATHING

(Continued from page one)

Fourth, semi-nude, public mixed bathing has led to loss of character and virtue, to the birth of illegitimate children, and is still doing so! You remember the case of David and Bathsheba, don't you? "And from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon . . . And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her . . . And the woman conceived and told David and said, I am with child" (2 Sam. 11:2,4,5). Many times since then has this same kind of thing happened because a man saw a woman bathing in too scanty attire.

Fifth, it disregards God's injunction in Rom. 13:14, "But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof." The flesh, i.e., the carnal nature, chafes under restraint and wants

to assert and parade itself. Yielding to such temptations is not only detrimental to spiritual growth, but it also actually tears down much of the growth which has already been accomplished.

Please do not misunderstand the writer. He has no objection to a person taking a bath, but why should it be done in public, and that in the presence of members of the opposite sex? Neither does he object to the wholesome exercise and recreation afforded by swimming. The objection is to the practice of making it a disrespectful, shameful, public display of the sacredness of one's body, which practice leads to other sins. What we are pleading for is that, instead of a saved person using his body for inconsistency and sin, "he bear in his body the marks of the Lord Jesus" (Gal. 6:17).

MISSIONARY DICKERSON

(Continued from page two) disputing that this may be true, his attitude was such as to indicate that there was absolutely no love on his part for them. It is, therefore, no wonder to us that though we have maintained his ministry in Brazil for over three years, that the report of his work is so startlingly meager. With such an attitude toward the natives as is manifested by him, it would appear that it would be well nigh impossible that he could have accomplished anything of permanent or lasting value. Those who have supported him of our church, were cut to the quick in his two messages to the church on Sunday, December 27th. By this self-aparant and obvious hostile attitude, devoid of love toward the people with whom he had been laboring how could he accomplish a great deal!

Immediately on returning home to Russell, he began seeking the fellowship of those who have

gone out from this church, including those who have been excluded from this church for heresy, immorality, and non-attendance through the past several years. In addition to this aforesaid group, there is another group who demanded the resignation of our pastor about the first of September, but who were defeated in their purposes, and who have not returned regularly to the church services since. It is now with deep regret that we report that Brother Dickerson has been fellowshiping with this entire group of excluded and disgruntled church members practically since his return to this country. Even while staying in the home of our pastor from December 22nd through December 30th, he was constantly seeking their fellowship and company. Much to the utter surprise and astonishment of the membership of our church, he preached for this group of disgruntled members on Sunday, December 27th, in the afternoon, although he spoke for us in the morning and evening services of the same day. During the past fifteen days or better, he has been back in Russell and has been conducting services for this group who are reprobate to our church, preaching for them on Sunday afternoons. We do not know that they have organized a church, nor whether he has been called as the pastor, other than that the paper refers to him as "Pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Russell."

Ed. Note: Since then, this group scattered fulfilling God's Word. Read Acts 5:38.

We want to insist that this group, in the main, with which Brother Dickerson is now finding his fellowship, are worldlings, heretics, and are very much like Brother Diotrephes, "who loveth to have the preeminence." (3 John 1:9) We do not say that all of this group are that type, for there are a few who have been led away through friendship. Yet, in the main, this group with which Brother Dickerson is now affiliated, have been, and are now, the enemies of our church. It is rather interesting further to notice that while Brother Dickerson was in Brazil that this entire group with whom he is now associated, contributed the sum of only \$136.53 to maintain Brother Dickerson during his three years and three months in Brazil, which is an average of only a little better than \$45 per year. Yet the church which sent him out, supported, maintained, and prayed for him during his stay in Brazil, contributed a little better than seventy per cent of the approximately nine thousand dollars that was contributed to him.

It is also self-evident from Brother Dickerson's actions and from his conversation that he has acted in duplicity and hypocrisy of the highest order in that he has asked, received, and accepted money from this church who sent him out, supported and maintained him in Brazil, even though he knew and anticipated taking the stand he has before he left Brazil. From his conversation and from his actions, it is apparent that he had been informed by these enemies as to conditions in the church, and that when he left Brazil to return to America, there was latent in his mind this plan of associating with these covenant breakers of our church. Actually, for him to ask, receive, and accept both money and hospitality from the church which he has now stabbed in the back, puts his attitude in the class of the hypocrisy and the betrayal of Judas Iscariot.

Furthermore, his attitude to-

ward our pastor is enough to bring deep grief to each of us. While it is true that Brother Dickerson went as a faith missionary of our church, it is also true that the human agent whereby he has been dependent for support, has been our pastor. During the three years, three months, and three days of Brother Dickerson's stay in Brazil, approximately nine thousand dollars (\$9,000) was raised to send him to Brazil, bring him home, and provide for his livelihood and work. All this, humbly speaking, has come through the agency of our pastor. Only God knows the countless letters that he has written both asking for money and acknowledging the gifts in behalf of Brother Dickerson to return home and after these kindnesses have been shown him by our pastor, for him to become pastor of a group who have fought our pastor continuously, appears to this committee as the grossest of insults, which calls to mind the words of Solomon when he said, "Whoso ever rewardeth evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house." (Prov. 17:13).

Regardless of what might have been written Brother Dickerson by these known enemies of the church, he certainly should have taken a far different attitude toward the church on his return. Even if every member of the church and our pastor were the grossest of sinners, Brother Dickerson certainly owes it to the church who had supported him, to help and aid that church, that had sent him out, maintained, and prayed for him for over three years' time. Instead, his attitude has been one of absolute refusal to even listen to any of the members of our church who have attempted to talk to him. Though he may have listened to them briefly, he has done so with a pre-conceived notion and has absolutely refused to heed the pleas of some of the most spiritual members of this church when they have requested him to repudiate these whom he is now associated with, thus stand firm with the church who has loved him, supported him, and prayed for him during his stay in Brazil.

In short, Brother Dickerson does not appear to be the same man whom this church sent to Brazil. The people of our church are not only astonished, but actually dumb-founded at his present spiritual status.

Believing that discipline ought to be maintained in the church and feeling that fellowship cannot be fully had within our church until such discipline is maintained, and further, believing that the Lord's Supper cannot be Scripturally observed in our church as long as broken fellowship exists, we, your committee, therefore recommend that this church, here and now, withdraw the hand of fellowship from Mr. and Mrs. Dickerson.

We also request that Brother Dickerson's name be removed from our records at his own request in that he states he is unsaved. This request was made to our pastor over a year ago.

Finally, let it be said that this committee brings this report most regretfully and that we earnestly request each member of our church to remember to separate ourselves from, and that we pray for them that the Lord may show them the error of their way and bring them back again into our church as saved and consecrated workers that there may be one fold and one fellowship.

Mrs. Grace Livingston Hill**BRIGHT ARROWS**

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Mrs. Grace Livingston Hill fell asleep in the Lord February 23rd at her home in Philadelphia at the age of 81.

Her 80th story of Christian fiction was partially completed. Only last month her 79th volume, "Where Two Ways Meet" was published. Over three million volumes of Mrs. Hill's books have been sold since the advent of her first story.

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