

# 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).

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## RELIGIOUS "BOSSISM", A COMMON SIN OF BAPTIST HIERARCHY

Every Baptist Church is free, sovereign, and independent. From the days of Jesus each Baptist Church has been entirely independent of all others. This is a time-honored fact, which is dear to the hearts of all Bible-loving Baptists.

But today this is not so. We have a denominational hierarchy, and a Baptist hierarchy is no better than a Catholic hierarchy in fact it isn't as good, for Baptists have the truth and know better.

Through the years, we've made fun of the Methodists for their "presiding elders," and have boasted of the fact that we didn't have such. Now we have them, but under a different name: Field Workers. The Methodists are just a little more honest than Baptists in that they call them by the proper name, whereas Baptists camouflage them with a false name. Yet it all adds up to the same thing. Field workers are but "bosses" over the pastors and churches of the

association.

In addition to the Field workers, there is the Corresponding Secretary and all the other secretaries, (B. Y. P. U., S. S., W. M. U., etc), who likewise exert tremendous influence over the churches as bosses.

Take one example: Brother Knight who was the loved pastor at Harrodsburg for a great number of years, was asked to preach to the First Baptist Church of Ashland about fifteen years ago. It looked as though he might be called as pastor. C. M. Thompson, then secretary of missions wanted to put his son there as pastor. He came up himself in an effort to convince the church that they should call his son. A young people's convention was even held in Ashland First Church for the young people and C. M. Thompson's son was given the outstanding part on the program in an effort to "sell" him to this church. Then Lyman P. Hailey, B. Y. P. U. secretary wrote to a Baptist

preacher in Ashland saying, "We must keep Knight out of Ashland. He would put a quietus on the B. Y. P. U. work in that section." He wrote a second letter to a young man in Ashland First Church urging the same thing.

Now that's "bossism." This is not an isolated case, either. It is happening all over Kentucky every day. I could fill this paper with incidents like this, showing that the rights of free, independent churches are being tampered with.

Right here in Eastern Kentucky, at Catlettsburg, lives one of these field workers. His name is Benedict. I offer him as Exhibit A — a sample of Baptist Field Workers.

When he first came to this section, he went to Glenwood Baptist Church for an ordination one Sunday afternoon. He sent a report of this to the Western Recorder, in which he told of making this long, hazardous, tiresome, sacrificial trip back

into the hills. It appeared that he was doing pioneer mission work. One would have thought from reading the article that Glenwood was an isolated community. Now what is the truth of this? It is a country church about 30 miles from Ashland, with a concrete highway to within four miles of the church building, and a good hard surface road extending from the concrete highway to the church.

When I read this article written by "dear Bro. Benedict" I saw at once the deceptive, Devilish, delusiveness of it. I had held one revival and preached at Glenwood on numerous occasions and never thought anything about driving out there for the services. Yet this state worker had to make a big show of the sacrificial work he does! Such lying hypocrisy is enough to nauseate every Bible loving Baptist.

Yet that isn't all the record of dear Bro. Benedict. He held a revival at Mt. Olivet Baptist

Church assisted by a Nazarene singer, and even had "Shot-gun" Curry (Holy Roller to the extreme) and his choir assist in the service one night.

Dear Bro. Benedict went to Mt. Zion and observed open communion when preaching there.

Dear Bro. Benedict went to Wurtland and told how he and the Methodists observed the Lord's Supper together in Louisville, and thereby encouraged the Wurtland Church to practice open communion.

Dear Bro. Benedict preached at Catlettsburg recently and had the "sisters" testify publicly in the Sunday services.

And that isn't all: He came down to Russell and went to my home (I was in my study less than 200 yards away, yet he never came to see me) to make an appeal to my wife. Why the D. D. (Read Is. 56:10 if you want to know what these initials stand for) later said that he didn't see why somebody didn't go to Russell. (Continued on page four)

## If You Want To Know More About Catholicism, Read "Biscuit Worship"

The purpose of this article is to call attention to the idolatry of the Mass as practiced by the Roman Catholic Church. In the observance of the Mass by the Catholic Church the laws of God and man are disregarded and idolatry in its worst form is practiced. We are aware that the statement of these things being true is not sufficient to convince men and women, but proof must be submitted. In the following pages we shall seek to present proof of what we have said.

The Roman Catholic Church regards the teachings of the Bible each time she observes the Mass. The proof of this statement is to be found in the little booklet entitled "The Mass Book," published by the Pauline Press, 401 West Fifty-ninth St., New York. From page eight we quote the following in part: "The Holy Mass is the sacrifice of the body and blood of Jesus Christ, which is offered to the

Heavenly Father on our altars under the species or appearance of bread and wine."

According to the Catholic Church the Mass, as celebrated by her, is a repetition of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Each time the Mass is observed the people are taught to believe that Christ is offered again as a sacrifice for their sins. If this is true, then Christ has suffered many times since the foundation of the world, but it is not true. Heb. 9:24-26 says: "For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; for then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. So Christ was offered to bear

(Continued on page two)

## LENT

The Lenten season is here again. A great host of church members have adjusted their appetites to fish and fowl, declared a moratorium on a few questionable habits, and arranged their schedule for church attendance on Easter Sunday morning. Some of them are Baptists!

Lent, you know, is such a beautiful idea. The wintry winds are sounding their death rattle in the trees; the buds are bursting at nature's resurrection call; all the birds are gathering home to sing their songs. It is good to be alive! And it doesn't do any harm to deny ourselves a few things out of respect to the Church. Forty days of religion is a tonic for anybody!

Lent slipped into the calendar of Christendom rather late. It missed the apostolic age as clean

## Mused Uncle Mose

Ouah chu'ch give de pahson a new cah fo' Chris'mus. Now dey can all ride to de sosashuns and cawnventions, an' de hawsptial free ob cha'ge.

## What Did Jesus Mean When He Spoke Of Hating Father And Mother And Life?

In Luke 14:26 we have a Scripture that has puzzled some people. The subject here is "THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP." Salvation is purchased for the believer by the Lord Jesus Christ who died for us, but discipleship—after we are saved—may cost a very great deal. Indeed, it will cost just about all that any of us will let is cost us.

## WHAT DID JESUS MEAN?

But did Jesus mean that we are to actually HATE relatives and life itself? Not in the sense that we usually speak of hate. HE WAS SPEAKING COMPARATIVELY — that is in comparison with our LOVE FOR HIM, all other love is to be so inferior as to be classed as hate. How do we know that he didn't mean for us to actually hate parents? We know it because of his OWN ATTITUDE TOWARD HIS MOTHER, and likewise the uniform teaching of Old and New Testaments concerning our attitude toward parents. (See John 19:26,27 and Ephes. 5:26-28 and that Old

Testament command which says: "Honor thy father and thy mother.")

But Jesus did not let his regard for mother and brethren keep him from his first duty to God the Father. (See Matt. 12:47-50).

Oriental people used striking expressions with which to express themselves. Jesus had that characteristic to a marked degree, and this is a good sample of it. The idea is—LOVE FOR FATHER AN MOTHER, KINFOLKS IN GENERAL, AND EVEN YOUR OWN LIFE, IS TO FALL FAR BELOW LOVE FOR ME.

## THE CONTEXT

To properly understand the words of Jesus read the parable that precedes His remark, for there we have a string of excuses offered. Jesus means to make it plain that NO EXCUSE to keep from following and serving

(Continued on page four)

## WITHOUT TIDINGS

It is interesting to read the account of the battle in which Absalom, the rebellious son of King David, was slain. There is much food for thought in the question Joab asked of Ahimaaz, the son of Zadok, who wanted to run to King David with the news: "Wherefore wilt thou run, my son, seeing that thou hast no tidings ready?" (II Samuel 18:22). It is a pitiable spectacle in our day to see so many zealous, and evidently well meaning, people so anxious to run about in religious service, but who "have no tidings ready." Many such fill pulpits in our land. They are ready to run, and perhaps make a great show of running, but when they have finished no message has been borne. Nothing is more pathetic than a waiting congregation before a preacher

(Continued on page four)

## -- The First Baptist Pulpit --

### "The Conversion of Nebuchadnezzar"

(Read Daniel 4).

I want to preach to you tonight, beloved, from this conversion of Nebuchadnezzar. This long chapter which I have read is but a proclamation which recites the events covered by eight years time. It was written by Nebuchadnezzar himself and was incorporated into the Word of God. It is Nebuchadnezzar's own story—his own account of his conversion, which he wants all the world to know about.

I rather imagine that if you were to ask the average indi-

vidual you meet from day to day who knows anything at all about the character of Nebuchadnezzar of ancient history, that everyone thus approached would be shocked and amazed with the thought that Nebuchadnezzar was a saved man, that he died a child of God, and that he is in Heaven now. Yet, beloved, God's Word is the final criterion in all things and the Word of God gives you this chapter which was written by Nebuchadnezzar personally and which was incorporated into God's Book thus telling the story of Nebuchadnezzar's own

conversion.

The chapter begins, as you probably noticed, with the story of Nebuchadnezzar's spiritual condition. It is rather interesting to observe that he had had several warnings previously from God. In the second chapter of Daniel he was warned by way of the vision of the times of the Gentiles. He had seen in that second chapter the great image with the head of gold, chest and arms of silver, belly and thighs of brass, legs and feet of iron

(Continued on page two)

## A CIGARETTE

None of the several high-pressure cigarette advertisers have yet laid claim to the cigarette that started the fire which caused the death of 120 people in Atlantic City recently. That Wincoff Hotel recently burned must have been just an ordinary cigarette which just happened. City Fire Marshall Harry Phillips placed the blame on the cigarette.

The charred hull of a hotel, the bedlam of screaming guests, the agony of death, the overcrowded morgues, the suffering of the bereaved and the sorrowing of the survivors stand in realistic contrast to the enticing advertisements and radiocasts of the cigarette. Marshall Phillips said it was a carelessly or casually discarded butt in the hotel corridor which caused the trouble. The habit of cigarette addicts is

(Continued on page four)



# THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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## BISCUIT WORSHIP

(Continued from page one)

the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

This passage of Scripture plainly teaches that Christ was: "Once offered to bear the sins of many." In the observance of the Mass the Catholic Church disregards this, the Bible teaching on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

The Roman Catholic Church violates the Second Commandment each time she observes the Mass. Exodus 20:4-5 says: "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in Heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them—", but according to the "Mass Book" page 22, we read as follows: "The solemn moment has arrived. The Priest takes in his hand the bread, and lifting his eyes to heaven to show that this great wonder is worked by the power of God, he says the very words of our Lord at the Last Supper: 'This is My Body.' The bread at that moment is changed into the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ. The Priest falls on his knees in deepest reverence and then holds up the Sacred Host for the people to adore.

## Worship A Biscuit

Where can you find more adulterated idolatry than in the observance of the Mass in the Catholic Church, where people as well as the priest worship a piece of bread! The Second Commandment is violated when the people take a piece of bread and worship it as Jesus Christ.

The Roman Catholic Church perverts the plain teachings of the New Testament concerning the Lord's Supper, which according to Matt. 26:26-28, are as follows: "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread and blessed it, and brake it, and gave to the disciples and said, Take, eat; this is my body, and he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it: for this is my body of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

By every law of interpretation this passage means that the bread and the wine represented or symbolized the body and the blood of Jesus Christ, for such is the accepted meaning of other passages where the same expressions are used. In John 10:7 Jesus says: "I am the door of the sheep." Would anyone at-

tempt to prove that Jesus was a literal door,—a door made of wood or stone? We understand that Jesus was using figurative language and He meant to teach that He was the way of approach to God. In another place He said: "No man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

In John 15:1 Jesus says: "I am the true vine—." No one understands Him to mean that He is a grape vine. We understand Him to mean that we are to get our life and strength from Him just as the branches get theirs from the vine. Jesus is the source of eternal life.

When Jesus said: "This is my body", He meant the bread represented His body. He was alive and in His body and the bread that He held in His hand was held by a member of His body. How then can anyone interpret the words: "This is my body and this is my blood" to mean the actual, literal, flesh and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ?

## Cannibalism Practiced

The Roman Catholic Church is guilty of cannibalism each time she observes the Mass, if her interpretation is correct. If the bread and wine is actually changed into the flesh and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ after the priest says the words: "This is my body," then she makes her god and then eats him! If we accept their own teachings, the Catholics make their own god, then worship him, and finally eat him!

The average Catholic believes that the bread and wine used in the sacrifice of the Mass actually becomes the flesh and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ only because he has listened to the priest and has not done any reading or thinking for himself. There are no people on earth that are in greater need of the Word of God than the Roman Catholics.

The Catholics are taught that when they receive a piece of the bread that the priest claims to have been changed into the flesh and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ, that they are receiving Jesus Christ into their lives. How anyone can believe that a man can change or create the Lord Jesus Christ out of a piece of bread is beyond human reason—it is preposterous!

## A Pitiable Sight

Some time ago we had an occasion to witness in a Catholic Church the service known as the "Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament." In this service we saw six men bowing before a golden vessel in which was claimed to be the flesh, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ; but in reality there was only a piece of bread!

As we witnessed the scene, our heart was deeply stirred with pity for them. We were reminded of the passage of Scripture found in II Corinthians 4:3-4 which says: "If our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

What a pity it is that the people are so blinded to the truth that they will bow down to a piece of bread and adore (worship) it. What is the difference in worshipping a piece of bread after a priest has said a few words over it and in worshipping a piece of wood or stone after some workman has carved it into the image of a man or an animal? There is no difference,

it is idolatry in its worst form.

The Roman Catholic Church practices idolatry each time she observes the Mass, and those who take part in its observance are guilty of idolatry. Catholics are lost and need to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour "who put away sin by the sacrifice of himself, and is coming again to them that look for him."

We have no ill will towards Catholics as individuals; our attack is against the system as taught and practiced by the Catholic Church.

The leaders of the Catholic Church have much for which they must answer to God. They have led millions to hell and they are still doing it! Oh that God might use this article to open the eyes of some of those who are in position to lead others from darkness to light and from the kingdom of Satan into the kingdom of His dear Son.—By W. B. Davidson, Olivette Baptist Church, Ocala, Fla.

## THE PRESIDENT'S DEGREE

President Truman was granted the honorary L. L. D. degree a few days ago by the Baylor University, the largest Baptist school in the world. The writer is a former student of Baylor, and read the news about this event with keen interest, and concern. We fully believe that no person who is not a good Baptist should be granted an honorary degree by a Baptist school. We deeply regret that Baylor trustees and faculty became so eager for national and international publicity that they granted an honorary degree to a man who drinks liquor, plays poker and served champagne during the recent social season at the White House. Anybody who does those things is not a good Baptist, by any sort of correct measurement. He should not be invited to speak to the Southern Baptist Convention, either.—The Faith.

## THE CONVERSION OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR

(Continued from page one)

and mirey clay—he had seen this and he knew the interpretation because the man of God had told it to him. He knew that that head of gold represented Babylon. He knew that the chest and arms of silver represented the combined kingdom of Media-Persia which was to follow him. He knew the belly and thighs of brass represented Greece under Alexander the Great. He knew the legs and feet of iron and mirey clay represented Rome in its divided state—the Western and Eastern Roman Empire. He had had this vision which Daniel had interpreted to him—the vision which covered the entire period of Gentile history from the time of Nebuchadnezzar down to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Then again in the third chapter of Daniel, he had a second vision. He ordered three Jews—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to be cast into a burning fire furnace. The Word of God tells us it was heated so hot that when these three Jews were cast therein, while the Jews themselves were not harmed, the flames were so intense that they killed the men that cast them into the furnace. Presently the king looked down into that furnace and saw a fourth one walking around and said "Did not I command you to cast three men into the furnace, but now I see four, and the form of the fourth is like unto the Son of God." Thus, beloved, he had a second warning.

Here then were two warnings

that had come to Nebuchadnezzar—that great warning of the vision in Daniel 2, and then this second warning whereby he saw the Son of God walking in a fire furnace. Beloved, these should have been enough to have convinced him of the error and the folly of his ways.

I'm wondering tonight if it isn't true that within this audience there are those who have likewise had warnings to flee the wrath to come. The Bible itself should be sufficient warning. Listen to the Word of God:

"The soul that sinneth, it shall die."—Exek. 18:4.

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

"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 rather imagine tonight that in this audience are those like unto Nebuchadnezzar who have had warnings—who have been warned maybe once, twice, or even more to flee from the wrath to come.

In noticing the condition of Nebuchadnezzar spiritually, it is rather interesting to notice that while these warnings had come to him, that his conception of God had grown. We notice that he recognized God—the true God—as greater than all the tribal gods. Listen:

"The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret."—Dan. 2:47.

Notice then he recognized the God of Daniel as a God that was greater than the tribal gods of other nations. Then in the third chapter his conception of God changed again as he declares that the God of Daniel was a God who responded to faith. Listen:

"Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God."—Dan. 3:28.

You will notice, then beloved, originally Nebuchadnezzar thought of Jehovah on the same plain as all the other tribal gods of the various nations. Then he saw that He was greater than the tribal gods of these nations. Later it was revealed to him that Jehovah God was a God that responded to the faith of His own who believed in Him, so that his conception of God had grown little by little unto the time of this vision.

I imagine that in this audience tonight there are those like Nebuchadnezzar who have from

time to time been warned of God to escape with their lives—to flee from the wrath to come, which would say tonight that their conception of God has grown a little time has gone by. Listen to me, an unsaved man, is it not true that once upon a time you thought of God as an angry tyrant who was just waiting to damn your soul? And now, little by little, haven't you seen that He is a God of love who gave Himself in the person of His Son to die for your sins? I ask you tonight if it is true that as Nebuchadnezzar's conception of God and was enlarged and grew—as his conception of God grew—hasn't your conception of God changed and been enlarged and grown as the days have passed by?

In observing his condition, it is well to notice that Nebuchadnezzar was at peace, for we find that he says:

"I Nebuchadnezzar was at rest in mine house, and flourishing in my palace."—Dan. 4:4.

When the vision, which came to Nebuchadnezzar, he was at rest—he was at peace, perfectly at peace—everything with him was completely complacent. Think of it tonight, beloved, at rest and still a stranger to God, and still in his sins. Yet, as such, beloved, he is like thousands—multitudes of thousands of people today. There are men within this house tonight who have had a growth in their vision of God, who have had warning after warning from the Lord, and yet they are still at rest, still at peace, still satisfied, still complacent in their sin, even to this hour. Can you imagine a man with the experience that Nebuchadnezzar had, had being at rest and completely enjoying himself? We can neither can I imagine a man of your common ordinary intelligence knowing that there is Hell to shun and a Heaven to gain, and at best only a few years of life—can't imagine you going on day by day, week by week, and year by year living your life forgetful of God and ruling over out of place—at rest, at peace, yet without God. Listen to the Scripture, which tells of your condition:

"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are to ways of death."—Prov. 14:12.

Many a man is just like Nebuchadnezzar—at rest and at peace, yet it is the peace of Hell. At rest, but it is the rest that precedes the torment of Hell. There is, beloved, a deceitful peace which lulls a man into a false security thinking that they are all right. This false peace is the same kind of peace that a man has, who is asleep in a burning building. It is the same peace a man has who is at sea in an unseaworthy vessel yet doesn't realize the condition thereof. There are men and women in this house right now who go about their work day by day just like Nebuchadnezzar that have been warned of God. You know you are a sinner; you know you are lost; you know you are on the road to Hell, yet you go on. It is true your conception of God has grown. It is true the Word of God and know more about God than you used to know, and yet tonight you have a false peace, a false security, you are at rest; but it is the rest and the peace that comes by deceit—the deceit of Satan.

Nebuchadnezzar continued to be saved. In spite of this, God gave him another warning. Listen to me: If you are one of those elect, God isn't going to let you (Continued on page three)



MAY 3, 1947

# "THE CONVERSION OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR"

(Continued from page two)

until you are saved. Nebuchadnezzar kept on trying to forget God, ruling God out of his own life to the best of his ability. Vision after vision had come to him yet he responded not unto these visions, but God kept on, and the chapter that I have read to you tonight, tells us that a new vision came to him. He saw a vision of a great tree that had grown so great that its height reached to the Heavens and its boughs spread abroad through all the earth and the fowls of the air came to lodge in those boughs. He saw that tree not knowing, not understanding what it stood for, yet he beheld it in his vision until a watcher or an holy one came down from Heaven and cut the tree but left the stump and it sprouted and grew again.

II  
We will notice the interpretation of the vision presently, but for the time being, let me say that this was a new warning unto Nebuchadnezzar. God isn't finished with you yet, sinner friend, if you are one of His elect. God knocks at your heart today—he warns you. He comes tomorrow with a new warning. He will come to you again next week with another warning. Beloved, God will keep warning you with warning after warning until you are saved. Listen:

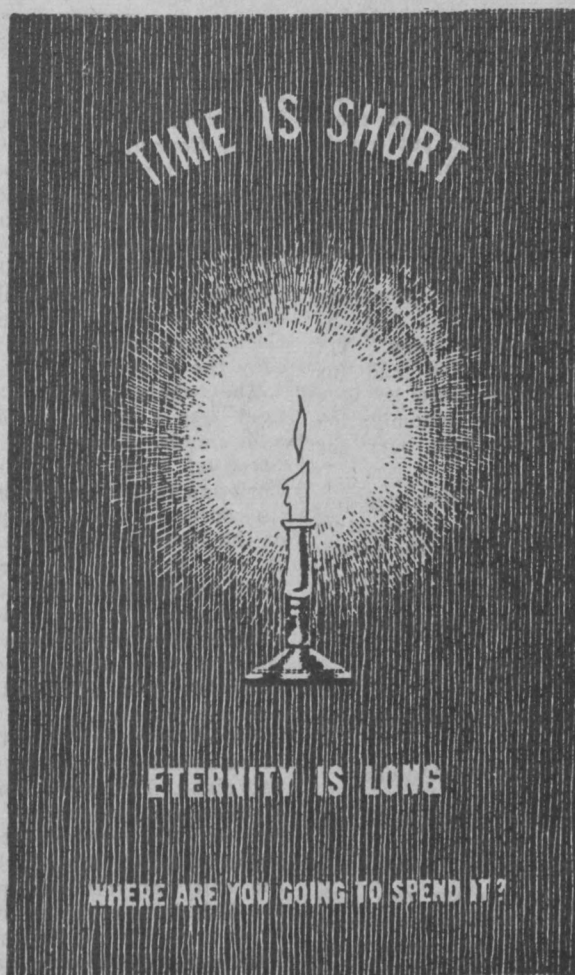
"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."—John 6:37.

God will never be defeated. Every one of His elect shall be saved and shall come to know Jesus Christ as Saviour. Thus God warns to Nebuchadnezzar this new warning.

It is rather interesting that Nebuchadnezzar did not call for Daniel at first. He would much rather have gotten along without Daniel. He called in his heathen counsellors to interpret his dream for him, but those heathen counsellors failed. Of course, they failed. The Devil's children can't read God's writing and make sense out of it. The unlearned can't understand the dealings of the Lord. Listen:

"Which things also we speak not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Spirit teacheth; comparing but the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."—I Cor. 2:13,14.

Nebuchadnezzar didn't call for Daniel—he called for his heathen counsellors but they failed. They could not read the writing of God—they could not tell the king the interpretation of his dream. They failed to give him any comfort concerning this vision. Finally, he called for his man. He would rather have gotten along without God's man if he could. There isn't an unsaved man in this house but what would rather get along without men and women of God if they could. However when they lay you down on an operating table and get ready to put a mask over our face, just before the doctor starts to take a look at your abdomen, a preacher looks mighty good to talk to, about the Lord. Not much time around, but when the going gets tough and when things look dark both physically and materially, the preacher looks mighty good to have around. It's almost then for him to read to



you a portion of God's Word and hold your hand and bow his head in prayer. Old Nebuchadnezzar didn't want Daniel at first, but when his heathen counsellors failed, he sent for this man of God and said to him:

"Now thou, O Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation thereof, for as much as all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known unto me the interpretation: but thou art able; for the spirit of the holy gods is in thee."—Dan. 4:18.

It is a great thing for a man to get to the place where he will say, "Give me God's Word and let me know His will no matter how it hurts." That was the position of Nebuchadnezzar. When his wise men failed and he called for the man of God, he said: "Tell me the interpretation. It doesn't make any difference—I want to know what God has to say." Beloved, it's a great thing for a sinner, when he comes to the place that he is willing to say, "Just give me the Word of God. It doesn't make any difference how it hurts—just give me God's Word."

The interesting thing of it all is that the man of God, though he was astonished and though it was hard for him to present the message unto the king, yet faithfully that man of God gave the king the sad tidings of the vision. He said to him: "This vision isn't for you—it's for your enemies. They will rejoice over it, for you are that tree who has grown so high you cover the whole world." That was true, for Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom was a world wide kingdom. However, he said, "Just like you saw in that vision, that tree hewn down to the roots with only the stump left standing,—that's to tell you that God is going to cut you off. You will be turned into a beast, and at the end of seven years your understanding will come back to you and then you will be a normal being." Daniel didn't want to preach that kind of sermon, but a man of God will be faithful to the folk to whom he preaches, regardless of how much it hurts them or hurts him. The man who soft-soaps his audience—the man who compromises his message—pro-

es thereby he is not a man of God, for a man of God delivers God's message regardless of who it hurts.

III  
Now you would think that a man would change his ways with a revelation like that coming to him, but notice old Nebuchadnezzar's reaction. He went right on unsaved. Here was another vision that had come to him and the man of God said, "You are going to be cut off and given the heart of a beast for seven years." You would think that would have been enough to cause Nebuchadnezzar to change his ways right then. However, he went right on.

I stand here tonight and plead with you and beg you from the very depths of my soul to turn to the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved. Some of you have had experience after experience with the Lord. Some have had one vision after another whereby your experience with him has grown and your conception of God has grown. God has laid you flat of your back and given you one experience after another, yet you have gone on and on and on, just like Nebuchadnezzar, paying no attention to God Almighty's revelation to you.

There isn't any record in this chapter that this dream had any effect whatever upon him. The fact of the matter is, there is one indication that he even forgot his own heathen gods, for the 30th verse, says:

"The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?"—Dan. 4:30.

He even forgot about his own heathen gods, to say nothing of the fact that though this warning had come to him, though he had been thus warned and should have turned to the Lord, the God of Heaven—he not only forgot about Jehovah, he even forgot about his own heathen gods. All he could see was just himself, so that he said: "See this great Babylon that I have built," thinking only in terms of himself.

What are you doing tonight? Do you have anybody in mind other than yourself and your

family? Thinking of self—forgetful of God—God ruled out. What an insight this is into the heart of man. Nebuchadnezzar's pride and his selfishness grew. He talks about the might of "my" power. He was proud and selfish, which reminds me of the man of whom our Lord spoke when He said:

"And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?"—Luke 12:16-20.

That's Nebuchadnezzar for you. God forgotten about—thinking in terms of self. Pride filled his soul and God was ruled out.

IV  
What did God do? Beloved, He did just exactly what He is going to do with some of you folk some day. He had warned him once, twice, three times, then what happened? Old King Nebuchadnezzar "blew up" to use a common expression—he just blew up mentally, and for seven years Nebuchadnezzar was a maniac. God gave him the experience of a beast. In these days there were no sanitariums for those of mental disorder and when a man was stricken with a mental disease, it was thought that he was demon-possessed, and therefore he was driven off from civilized people. Thus they drove Nebuchadnezzar off his throne and for seven years, though he was the king of Babylon, nobody had ought to do with him. His hair grew out like feathers and his nails like bird's claws. The Bible says that he became a beast. Listen: He already had the heart of a beast, for he had forgotten God. Beloved, forgetting God shows a man has the heart of a beast, for beasts don't think of God. I see old Nebuchadnezzar eating grass like an ox for seven years' time. I see him down on all fours crawling around like an ox seven long years. His finger nails grew out like bird's claws and his hair grew out like eagle's feathers. He was a beast at heart for he had forgotten God, and God turned him into a beast.

You say, "Do you believe this literally?" Yes, indeed! Exactly just like I believe all the rest of the Bible—literally. Notice: God had to pretty nearly kill this man in order to save him. It even took God seven years to bring old Nebuchadnezzar to the place where he realized what a sinner he was. Come back with me to my statement of a while ago: When God elects a man unto salvation, God never lets up until he is saved. You may go on in your sins, and God may give you warning after warning. He may lay you down flat of our back, but if you are one of God's elect, He will never, never, never let up until you are saved. That, to my mind, is one of the most precious truths in all the Bible—that if God has chosen a man unto salvation, He won't quit working with you, until you trust Him. As I have often said, a hog's face is so made that he can't see up unless you "flop" him over on his back, and then he can look out beside his nose

into Heaven. Sometimes God has to lay us flat of our backs and then we can see Heaven mighty plain. A lot of people can't see God when they are up walking around, but when God lays them down, it is surprising how much more religion they have. When a man has a hot water bottle to his feet and an ice cap on his head, it is surprising how religious he becomes. That was the experience of Nebuchadnezzar.

V  
Now notice how this story ends. The Word of God tells us that just at the moment that Nebuchadnezzar looked up toward the Heavens, his understanding returned. Listen:

"And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes into heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation."—Dan. 4:34.

Just as soon as he lifted his eyes unto Heaven, his understanding returned. When did he have his right mind? When he took his eyes off the world and looked toward Heaven. You will never have good sense until you take your eyes off the things of this world and turn them toward the God of Heaven. I mean this literally, for everyone of you who are unsaved, are spiritual maniacs. Listen:

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

If you are unsaved, your understanding is darkened—you are a spiritual maniac. Notice what happens the day a man is saved:

"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."—2 Tim. 1:7.

You don't even have a good mind if you are unsaved. You will never be in your right mind until you take your eyes off this earth and look to God. Nebuchadnezzar lifted his eyes toward the heavens and his understanding returned, and the very first thing he did with his new understanding was to bless the most High. That's how I know Nebuchadnezzar was saved—the first thing he did when he got his mind back was to look up into the skies and bless and honor and magnify the God who had dealt with him.

I have a conviction today that every man who is saved will come out on God's side and say so, just like Nebuchadnezzar. That's one reason why I don't do what is falsely called "personal work." The Holy Spirit will work and when He works, you will be glad to come out on God's side and say so.

I wonder tonight if you have seen yourself in this Scripture. I wonder if you have seen yourself rebelling against the God of Heaven. God will subdue you just like God subdued Nebuchadnezzar. I repeat, tonight; if you are one of God's elect, God will subdue you—He will bring you to your knees—He will bring you down to the place that you will be glad to look up to Him. It may be a hard road you have to pass over if you are one of God's elect tonight.

May it please the God of Heaven tonight to touch some heart here and save some soul. If the Lord is dealing with you, may you tonight receive Him.

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."—John 6:37.



## HATING FATHER

(Continued from page one)  
ing Him is valid. All are WICK-ED subterfuges. How people do need this teaching — and they need it as forcefully as Jesus put it. The commonest things to hear are excuses by church members. Never a single Lord's Day since the pastor has been at Buffalo Avenue but that several dozen members have had excuses, for never have all members been present at one time.

## EASY GOING CHRISTIANITY

We are in a day of easy going Christianity, when the average church virtually agrees that members may hang on to their cards, mixed bathing, dancing, beer drinking, cursing, gambling, etc., and then they are promised feeds and amusements if they will only deign to favor with their membership. Far different is this from what Christ said in Luke 14:27. In the past, millions of people died rather than renounce Christ. How does this seem in comparison with the modern "professor" who says, "I won't join that church—they expect me to give up my bridge." There isn't as much of heroism in the hide of such a person as a gnat possesses!

## CHRIST NOT LOOKING FOR WEAKLINGS

There were too many people trailing after Christ—too many who didn't know what it was all about, (Luke 14:25) so He thought He would thin them out a bit. That's why he said what

he did. He asked followers to consider the cost before they pretend to follow Him. (Read what He said as given in Luke 14:28-33). Some self-indulgent souls will say, "Why you ask me to give up everything." Every thing of the devil—that's true. And everything else if necessary for Christ's sake.

## BUT THERE ARE COMPENSATIONS

WHAT? Well, for one thing, RULERSHIP WITH CHRIST IN THE AGE TO COME, and FOREVER AND EVER. We won't anymore think of the few things we gave up or suffered for Christ's sake in the age to come, than if they had been mosquito bites. Longafter the self-indulgent worldling who thought he was a Christian and wasn't, is dead and suffering in the Lake of Fire, the loyal follower of Christ will be enjoying the glories of the life that God has in store out yonder. "If we suffer with him, we shall also reign with him." Tremendous are the rewards at stake. Namby-pamby, milk and water religion is a burlesque. Christ's words in this lesson ought to put some iron in our blood.—Mason

## RELIGIOUS BOSSISM

(Continued from page three)  
sell and start a Baptist Church there. Well for his benefit, let it be said that there is a Baptists Church in Russell that doesn't hob-nob with Holy Rollers and Nazarenes, that doesn't

observe open communion with the Methodists, and that doesn't have the "sisters" testify in public preaching services. Furthermore, there's not enough room about that church to put a pair of shoes that Benedict or any of his ilk might stand in.

Now, as I say this is Exhibit A of Field Workers. I may tell you of some more later. I'm not telling anything the preachers of Greenup Association and the state board doesn't know. Yet Benedict is supported and his heresies tolerated since he is a good tool of the denomination and an excellent boss over the churches.

Remember, every time you put a penny into the Cooperative program you help pay the salary of dear Bro. Benedict. There is only one remedy—**independent churches and designation of finances.**

## RUNNING WITHOUT TIDINGS

(Continued from page one)  
who has no message. Every man whom God has called and sent forth has a message. He may not be eloquent in telling the message, but he has one. His language may not be the purest English, but he can make himself understood. "He whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God" (John 3:34). The best test in the world as to whether or not one is called of God to preach is to question him concerning his message. "Wherefore wilt thou run, my son, seeing thou hast no tidings ready?"

## LENT

(Continued from page one)  
as a whistle. The Lenten fast is mentioned in one of the canons of the Council of Nicaea (325 A. D.), but it seems to have had a difficult time in commanding the respectful recognition of those early Christian centuries. Not until about the year 519 did a Church Council command its solemn observance by decree. Even then, some were very slow to obey the Council.

The whole trouble was this: Lent was a pagan custom pure and simple. Some were not in favor of admitting it into the Christian fold of festivals. It had its source in the worship of one of the Babylonian goddesses, and is still observed by the pagan Devil-worshippers of Koordistan. It had found its way into Egypt, adapted itself to the new paganism and made itself at home. Its reception into Christian circles was not so easy.

Christ and the apostles had lifted devotion to God to a spiritual plane. The mere observance of times and seasons not only did not meet His requirements of allegiance, but it actually hindered the spiritual relationship. When the Galatians began to look with favor upon the old Hebrew ways, Paul said, "Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain" (Gal. 4:11-11). In forsaking the reality for form, they had "fallen from grace" (Gal. 5:4) as the only principle of relationship between God and man.

History testifies that the form-

al observance of days and seasons grow in proportion to the decline of spirituality among professing Christians. The more surface profession there is in the churches, the less heart devotion there is among church members. The bigger the crowds on Easter Sunday morning, the smaller the average of weekly church attendance!

We view with alarm the attractiveness Lent is gaining for some Baptists. The more entering this season becomes to us, the less Baptist we become. Let us not forget that Lent is a leftover of paganism, surreptitiously baptized into the Roman apostasy and passed on to those who are entirely satisfied with the appearance and care little for the reality. — Russell Bradley Jones, in Southwide Baptist Digest.

## A CIGARETTE IN THE CORRIDOR

(Continued from page one)  
to carelessly dispose of their half-used coffin nails. Look about the sidewalks and ground of the church any Sunday for proof of this. We have actually seen a woman mash the fire out of one on the carpet inside the door of an Alabama church auditorium. — Chas. F. Leek, in Alabama Baptist.

# Baptists and Bees

Have you ever thought of how much bees and Baptist are alike? In musing over the matter I note the following points of similarity.

1. Each hive of bees is altogether independent of every other hive. When an old hive sends out a new swarm, the new swarm is instantly and forever independent of the old one.
2. Bees do not make laws, but they conform with rigid regularity to the law already made for them. They have been doing as they now do since the first bee was created.
3. Bees adjust themselves to their environment with wonderful ease, yet without changing their nature or their laws. They can work in a hollow tree or in the latest patent hive, and be satisfied in one as well as the other. They work faithfully wherever their lot is cast.
4. While bees are very much alike, yet there are several different varieties, and some are more useful than others.
5. There are working bees and there are drones who do not work, as with Baptists. But the bees have sense enough to kill the drone and drag them to the edge of the hive and push them out.
6. Bees will fight for their rights, and anything else that is any account will do the same thing. A true Baptist will fight every time there is a reason for it.
7. Put a strange queen into a hive of bees and they will instantly kill her, while at the same time they obey, without hesitation, their own queen. Even so Baptists have only one Master, and a stranger they will not follow.
8. A bee hive is just as much a bee hive if there were not another on the earth, and also as much as if there were a million on earth. So with a Baptist Church;

it is a Baptist Church, whether alone or associated with a thousand others.

9. It does not take all the bee hives in the world to make the BEE HIVE and it does not take all the churches in the world to make a BAPTIST CHURCH. There is no such thing as THE Baptist Church.

10. There never has been a day since the first bee hive was created that there has not been a bee hive on earth. The earth has never been without bee hives since the first was created. There has never been a day since Christ organized the first Baptist Church that there has



been no Baptist Church on earth. The earth has never been without Baptists since God created the first Baptist.

11. Since a bee that won't work is of no account, and is put out of the bee hive and killed, let Baptists learn to treat such members the same way.

12. It is the nature of bees to live together in hives, and there is something wrong with Baptists who get out of the hive and stays out. It is just as much nonsense to talk of there being a long period in the world's history when there were bees but no hives as to talk about

there being a time when there were Baptists in principle, but no churches.

Isn't it glorious to BEE a BAPTIST? If a man is a Baptist, let him BEE a Baptist.

Let us work like bees and eat of the sweets of pure religion.—Orthodox Baptist Searchlight.

**Editorial Comment:** Brother Bogard has left little for this writer to say. However, I might add the following words, which might serve as a good purpose.

1. Bees propagate their species by maintaining their status as an OLD HIVE, and by sending out swarms to form NEW hives. In this way they are truly MISSIONARY BEES.
  2. Bees attend to their ONE BUSINESS, that of making honey—and incidentally STINGING the fellow who would attempt to interrupt them. Baptists would do well to emulate their example, and heeding the words of Paul, who said: "THIS ONE THING I do."
  3. If bees do not make honey, there will be no honey made. If Baptists do not give to the world the pure, unadulterated gospel, the world will have no gospel, neither will they be blessed by such a ministry.
- All that bees accomplish they do so by following their God-appointed leader, the QUEEN. Baptists accomplish their God-appointed mission by following with the same degree of consistency their God appointed leader, the PASTOR. Most of the failures of Baptists can be traced to any digression manifest at this point. Denominational PRESIDENTS and SECRETARIES and dictatorial church BOSSES do not constitute the God-appointed leadership of a real Baptist Church.

—Light and Shield