

Don't cast aside the faith of your mother for a faith your mother rejected.

PREMILLENNIAL -o- BAPTISTIC -o- CALVINISTIC -o- BIBLICAL

Devoted to Evangelism, Missions and Bible Doctrines.

The Baptist Examiner

The Paper With a National Circulation

"Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel"

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

Whole No. 475

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1947

Volume 16, No. 21

Father Abraham

By Dr. W. D. Lester

Gen. 15:6—"And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness."
Gen. 17:9—"And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations."
Gen. 18:19—"For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment, that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him."

Much has been said regarding the faith of Abraham, and indeed he exercised undaunted faith in the words of God, and God counted it to him for righteousness, as per the above quotation. But the faith which Father Abraham exercised was every command of God. See James 2:21-22. "Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect." James 2:24. "Ye shall see how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only." James 2:26,

"For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

Father Abraham was not entirely perfect, as a close study of his life as revealed in Gen. 11:26 to Gen. 25:8, will show. However, he always took God at His word, and obeyed God to the letter. His faith wrought obedience. And this is the only faith which is counted for righteousness.

Acts 16:31—"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

Mark 11:22—"Have faith in God."

James 2:19-20—"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well, the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know O vain man, that faith without works is dead?"

There are many kinds of faith; just as there are many kinds of churches. Let us here enumerate only a few of these different kinds of faith. For example, we have:

(a)—The devils also believe, and tremble. But have no change of heart, and therefore remain devils.

(b)—One says, "I believe." My mother was a devout Christian, she is in Heaven now, with her blessed Lord. And I

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Alien Immersion, A Gross Rebellion Against Almighty God And The Bible

C. W. Shafer
Poca, W. Va.

The establishment of a church by Jesus Christ on earth was a definite challenge to the powers of darkness. It is evident if he could keep his church until the end of time, it would prove conclusively the power of Christ over His enemies to all created beings, both seen and unseen, for time and eternity.

If Satan can destroy the church, he will prove his power over Christ. So it is easy to see and it is also easy to see how by our failure to obey our Lord to the letter, plays into the hand of the enemy.

It is the solemn duty of every blood-washed saint to contend for the faith once delivered to

the saints. It is not only a duty, but a blessed privilege, to be called upon by our Lord to be a soldier of the Cross.

We are glorifying our Lord by strict obedience to the whole truth, or we are assisting the enemy by slighting any part of the truth, whether through ignorance or otherwise.

With these facts in mind, let us consider the doctrine (ordinance) of baptism in relation to keeping the purity of the faith. Baptism is to be administered.

(Continued on page four)

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Prayer is asking. Again and again in the Bible the Spirit reminds us of this privilege: "Ask and it shall be given you" (Matt. 7:7). "For every one that asketh receiveth." Matt. 7:83. "Ask, and ye shall receive" (John 16:24). "How much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?" (Matt. 7:11). "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive" (Matt. 21:22). "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jer. 33:3).

God is in the giving business. If we lack, it is because we do not ask. "Ye have not, because ye ask not" (James 4:2). The context of this verse suggests all manner of striving in order to obtain.

Most of our prayers are selfish and are evidence of a natural concern for self and for self's interests: health, family, business. The great need in the Christian's life is intercession. Needed is a resolute resolve to pray less for selfish interests and more for others.

Our Position In Intercessory Prayer

The disciples asked Jesus to "teach" them to pray. In answering them He taught them the valuable lesson of praying for others, as recorded in Luke 11:5-8, which pictures two friends, one in need, and the other well able to supply that need. Literally, the latter becomes the man in the gap. If we who are the recipients of God's wonderful grace see men in need and are not moved with compassion on them, we make of none effect the grace of God.

(Continued on page two)

Mused Uncle Mose

Goin' to de pitcher shows jes' to see de good pitchers is jes' 'bout lak tryin' to pick de good food out ob de gabbage can.

THE YOUNG PREACHER

A mother was present at the setting aside of her son to the ministry. Afterwards he preached to a large congregation; and his mother, pleased with her boy's faithful words, wrote this poem.

He held the lamp of Truth that day
So low that none could miss the way;
And yet so high, to bring in sight
That picture fair—the world's great Light—
That gazing up, the lamp between,
The hand that held it scarce was seen.

He held the pitcher, stooping low
To lips of little ones below;
Then raised it to the weary saint,
And bade him drink, when sick and faint:
They drank—the pitcher thus between,
The hand that held it scarce was seen.

He blew the trumpet soft and clear,
That trembling sinners need not fear;
And then, with louder note and bold
To raze the walls of Satan's hold:
The trumpet coming thus between,
The hand that held it scarce was seen.

But when the Captain says, "Well done,
Thou good and faithful servant—come!
Lay down the pitcher and the lamp;
Lay down the trumpet—leave the camp":
These weary hands will then be seen
Clasped in those pierced ones—naught between.

N. B. C. Again Slaps God In The Face By Rejecting New Testament As Authority

On May 21, 1947, Eld. Clyde Paul White, pastor of the First Baptist Church, San Pedro, Cal., on behalf of his church offered the following resolution:

Inasmuch as the Northern Baptist Convention assembled in Grand Rapids, Michigan reaffirmed its faith in the New Testament in the following language: "BE IT RESOLVED: That we reaffirm our faith in the New Testament as a divinely inspired record and therefore a trustworthy, authoritative and all-sufficient

rule of our faith and practice. We rededicate ourselves to Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and call our entire denomination to the common task of sharing the whole gospel with the whole world."

And since the First Baptist Church of San Pedro agrees with this affirmation and believes that the New Testament is very specific in its uninterpreted statements of faith about the Person and Work of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and since the New Testament urges all its readers to beware of false teachers and to refuse them position of leadership or refuge and support—

We present the following resolution to the Northern Baptist Convention and ask the

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-- The First Baptist Pulpit --

"Shields Of Brass"

dom read book of the Bible, very few ever hear of this incident.

It is the story of the days following King Solomon. Five years after his death, when his son Rehoboam was king in Jerusalem, Shishak the king of Egypt conquered the city of Jerusalem and carried away the treasures thereof. In Solomon's day he had placed in the temple shields made of gold. The Word of God does not tell us the exact number of these, yet doubtlessly they were numerous. All around inside the house of the Lord were these shields made of solid gold. Of course, they were of no particular value, yet they did offer beautiful ornamentation to God's house. When Rehoboam

awakened to realize these shields along with the balance of his treasures had been carried away by Shishak, he immediately ordered new ones made to replace the old. However, when they went to the treasury, they found it was very much like Mother Hubbard's cupboard—there was no gold there. This presented a problem to Rehoboam. His father had had these shields made and they did offer beautiful ornamentation to the temple. Without them the temple walls looked so bare. Hence, in order to keep up appearances, Rehoboam ordered shields of brass to be made for the temple. Of course, these cost very much less, yet

(Continued on page three)

AN APPRECIATED LETTER

Dear Brother Gilpin,

I have been receiving the Baptist Examiner for 6 months. I am ever so grateful to the one, whoever he is, for sending it. Please give him my sincere thanks.

Everyone living should receive the paper. It has so many inspiring comforting words; it is a sounding instrument for the conversion of sinners.

Thank you again, I am enclosing \$1.00 for the paper to continue coming my way.

The paper has been such a help to me.

A brother in Christ,

E. Gray Nolan
Farmville, La.

WE THANK YOU!

I enjoy reading THE BAPTIST EXAMINER very much. May the Lord's richest blessings rest upon you and the work you are doing.

Elder Q. A. Sullivan
Collins, Miss.

I receive THE BAPTIST EXAMINER regularly and I think it is the best Christian paper published. I read it all over as soon as I receive it and get a great blessing from it.

Mrs. D. F. Blalack
Alexandria, La.

May the Lord continue to bless you in the fight you are making against sin.

J. J. Armstrong
Henderson, Texas

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN-EDITOR

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

Editorial Department, RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, where communications should be sent for publication.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Per Year in Advance.....50c
(Domestic and Foreign)

Send Remittances to Russell, Kentucky.

Entered as second-class matter May 31, 1941, in the post office at Russell, Kentucky, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Paid circulation in every State and many foreign countries.

Subscriptions are stopped at expiration unless renewed or special arrangements are made for their continuation.

FATHER ABRAHAM

(Continued from page one)
have faith enough to believe that her Lord will not send her wayward boy to hell; I believe I will go to Heaven when I die.

(c)—Another says, I was "christened" into my mother's church when I was a child, I am still a loyal member of that church, therefore I am a believer, and on my way to Heaven.

(d)—Another says, I believe in the Lord and I believe in His goodness. I know that I am better than many church members I know, and if they are going to Heaven then I know I will be there, too.

(e)—Another says, I was born again when I was baptized, and therefore I am saved, and on my way to Heaven.

(f)—Another says, If you believe a thing to be true, then it is true. So, I believe I am saved, and therefore am saved.

(g)—Another says, I am a true Master Mason, I heard my father's pastor say that "if one lives up to the teachings of Masonry he will not miss Heaven far." We keep an open Bible in our lodge, and pray to God for his blessings, so I believe I am all right.

(h)—Another says, when I was a boy I attended an old fashioned camp meeting in the country, the people were shouting, singing, and crying to the Lord. The altar call was given and I went down on the sawdust. I was under a very heavy load; they cried to God for me; the preacher shook my hand and said, "The Lord is ready to save and sanctify you boy, confess Him NOW." And I cried Lord, Lord! And instantly I felt so happy I wanted to shout myself. And though I have not lived as I should since that time, I have always believed that the Lord saved me that night, and that He will take me to Heaven when I die.

(i)—Another says, I was attending an evangelistic meeting some years ago. I asked to be prayed for, and the preacher talked with me and said, "Young man are you willing to quit all your meanness, turn the salvation of your soul over to the Lord, just as you turn a letter over to the postoffice for delivery, leave the salvation of

your soul to Him, go join the church of your choice, and remain loyal to that church?" I said, I am. Then he said "God bless you," gave me a card to sign, and went his way. So, I did all he told me to do, and I suppose I am all set for Heaven.

Now dear reader, I believe you will agree that the above named examples, and many other similar examples, were not exercising the exact faith which father Abraham had. So let us study the exact kind of faith father Abraham exercised.

First, God's very first call to Abram (this was his original name) was a call to separate himself permanently from his old way of life. Gen. 12:1, "Now the Lord said unto Abram, get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee." This represents what we now term "repentance."

When the Lord was to soon begin his earthly ministry, John the Baptist was sent of God before Him to preach "repentance." And it is so with the individual, God's call must needs be, first, a call to repentance.

So Abram took Sarah his wife, Lot, his brother's son, and all their substance—and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came. Please note that Abram obeyed to the letter God's first call, a call to repentance.

Second, "And the Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land; and there he builded an altar unto the Lord, who appeared unto him." And when he would remove to a new position he would build an altar and call upon the name of the Lord.

However, not for the above named faith and obedience alone did God tell Abram that his faith was counted unto him for righteousness. See Gen. 15: 6. But only after Abram had believed and obeyed God when told over and over again that he and his seed would be given the "promised land," and the more difficult promise to believe that he would be given a true son in his old age, through whom should come the Messiah.

Third, after Abram believed God's promise of the true son, through whom should come the future Messiah. "The Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect." Then God changed Abram's name to "Abraham." And God changed Sarai's name to "Sarah."

And God gave Abraham and his seed the covenant of circumcision, which looked forward to the time when God's people would receive "the circumcision made without hands, by Jesus Christ." Colossians 2:9-12, "For in him (Christ) dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ; buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead."

And God said, Gen. 18:19, "For I know him (Abraham) that he will command his children and his household after

him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him."

Thus you see that God depended upon Abraham to obey God.

Yes, even though Abraham was not acquainted with many of God's graces which are familiar to us today; because of God's revelations made to man since Abraham's day, he nevertheless believed and obeyed to the letter every command and every revelation God made to him, including one of the last which demanded "PERFECTION," to the best of his ability. And when his long and faithful life was finished, and he passed beyond the golden glow of life's setting sun, he found himself in the eternal residence of Him by whose grace we may all be made perfect and with whom we may live and reign forever, where there are no tears or disappointments, and there is no night there. Read Luke 13:23-29.

Now dear reader, if you would have God "count your

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

(Continued from page one)
Knowing men's need in the light of their experience and the Word constitutes our call to intercession.

This truth is emphasized in Isaiah 62:6-7, R. V.: "I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem; they shall never hold their peace day nor night; ye that are Jehovah's remembrances, take ye no rest, and give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth." Watchmen are usually placed on the walls of a city to give notice to the rulers of approaching danger. God appoints watchmen, prayer watchmen, not only to warn men but also to call Him to their aid whenever need or enemy is at hand. The outstanding mark of the intercessor is that he is not to hold his peace day or night, to take no rest, and to give no rest, until deliverance comes.

Intercessory Prayer Is Work

It is through prayer that we obtain. Thus prayer becomes the means at hand for accomplishment. There is a work that cannot be done in any other way, and unless men pray, that work will not be done. What a shame! What tragedy! Men are lost and souls are in hell because someone did not pray! Prayer is a cooperative work. Not alone are we to be united as believers in prayer (Matt. 18:19), but we work hand in hand with Him who "ever liveth to make intercession for His own" (Heb. 7:25).

This kind of prayer will take time, as any work takes time. It will require our energy. The Chinese translate James 5:16 thus: "The energy put forth by the prayer of a righteous man issues in mighty results." These "mighty results" in intercessory prayer will not be ours unless time and energy are expended in the ministry of intercession.

The one all-important lesson we need to learn, then, in the ministry of intercession is to take time for it. All work takes time, and in all the course of living, where is there more important work than pleading in the Name of Jesus for the salvation and rescue of eternity-bound souls? We set aside time for every duty

CHALLENGE

By Everett C. Lerch

Our neighbors, and our loved ones,
Townfolk and urban too,
The dowager, the tycoon
And folks like me and you.

Poor peons, beggars, halfbreeds,
Of yellow, brown and black,
Looked down upon by "smart folks,"
With "stiff and cultured" knack.

Black savages; stark naked,
With bone-pierced nose and lips,
Starving Greeks; ten million waifs,
With bony, shivering hips.

Poor prostitutes, adulterers,
And drunken whiskey sots,
Bathing beauties, movie queens,
And "nice folks" like-as-not.

These are the kind that Jesus saw
As He hung on Calvary's cross,
This is the reason that He died
For sinners vile and lost.

Tell them of Him; their only hope,
From Hell's eternal fire,
How shall they hear, except you go
And win them for His hire?

of life. Are we burdened with this responsibility of intercession? Then we will find time each day to perform that task.

Dr. Andrew Murray in his book *The Prayer Life* says regarding the subject of time: "If a friend comes to visit them, they have time: they make time, even at the cost of sacrifice, for the sake of enjoying converse with him. Yes, they have time for everything that really interests them, but no time to practice fellowship with God and delight themselves in Him. They find time for a creature who can be of no service to them; but day after day, month after month passes, and there is no time to spend one hour with God."

One engaged in intercession is a soldier of the Cross, a prayer warrior. As prayer warriors we are one battle ground. Paul says in Ephesians 6:12: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." We wrestle, struggle and fight as in actual combat, since ours is a conflict with the despots, the empires and the forces which control and govern the world's system. These spiritual hosts of the evil world are arrayed in warfare against the child of God. The only way to combat and break down these forces of darkness is by the power of God through intercessory prayer. The battle is not easy. Consequently, many people fail in the struggle or they never enter it. The cost is too great, they retract rather than enter into combat against the powers of sin, darkness and hell. It is not always easy for a fireman to rescue people trapped in a burning building — but he does it. It is not always easy for a lifeguard to plunge into the boiling waves of the ocean and pull the floundering, drowning man to shore and safety — but he does it. It is not easy for rescuers to dig hurriedly into the depth of a caved-in mine to bring men out to air and life — but they do it. Christian friend, perhaps you ought to rush into the gap between eternity and hell-bound

souls, and pray as never before unto almighty God for their rescue and salvation.

Intercessory Prayer Is Soul Travail

The apostle spoke of Jesus when he said, "Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplication with strong crying and tears . . . was heard in that he feared" (Heb. 5:7). Isaiah, the prophet, expressed the truth thus: "When thou shalt make his soul as a seed . . . he shall see of the vail of his soul . . . (will) divide him a portion with the great . . . because he hath poured out his soul unto death."

When a sinner comes to Christ accepting Him as Saviour, there is an experience of birth. The words of Jesus become real experience to the sinner who believes that "except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." One must be born into the kingdom of our God and His Christ, and without that birth there is no spiritual life. Every individual birth is the result of travail of soul on the part of someone who has felt the responsibility of that individual salvation. Thus we read in Isaiah 66:8: "As soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children." Nothing — absolutely nothing — short of soul travail will bring forth spiritual children.

We find it easy to travail for a drowning child, but not for a perishing soul. It is not hard to agonize when we see the coffee containing all that we love being borne out of the home. Tears and agony of soul are natural to such a scene. Yet we can know that precious never-dying souls, are perishing all around us. They are going out into the blackness of darkness and despair, eternally lost, and yet we feel no anguish, shed no tears, know no travail. How cold and hard our hearts can become!

"He . . . made intercession for the transgressors." May we be willing to enter into this fellowship and unite our hearts in intercession for the salvation of the transgressor! — *The Standard*.

MISSIONARIES IN BRAZIL

J. F. Brandon
Miguel Ibernion
Cicero Bicipo
Ebenzer Guimaraes
Maio Dutro
Eufrazo Soraes
(Portuguese Language)

BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

In Peru Since 1935

In Brazil Since 1923

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

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

MISSIONARIES

IN PERU

R. P. Hallum

* Mrs. R. P. Hallum

Miss Marguerite Hallum

(Spanish Language)

MISSION SHEETS

OF THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

VOLUME 3

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, JUNE 1947

NUMBER 6

28 CONVERSIONS IN PAGAN BRAZIL

Missionary Hallum Writes Of Work In Iquitos, Peru

Iquitos, Peru
May 9, 1947

The plane did not come today as expected so I will get this off rather than wait. The Sunday School and preaching services have increased both in numbers and interest during the last month to a degree very gratifying to us. We had 51 in the Bible School last Sunday. There were six of the older people, seven young people and the rest children, boys and girls. At the night service I think we had almost as many in all. Several children came awhile and left before the services were over. I was made happy to see two women there for whom I have prayed often. They are the daughters of one of the women members, Dona Petronela. They have never seemed interested much before but gave good attention Sunday night.

People Come For The First Time

There were others who came who had never come to our services before. One of the women about whom I speak says that she is a believer. Help us pray that she may be sure that she knows her heart and and follow Jesus. There are many that seem to be interested but do not have the will to follow Him. One interesting thing about this is that many of the people nearest the church—house who formerly were antagonistic to us, seem to have changed their attitude. One, a woman, a servant living across the street on the corner from the church, never seemed interested before, but since we returned, professed faith and never misses a service.

House To House Visiting

I have been doing some house to house visiting recently, leaving literature with the people.
(Continued on next page)

WE WANT TO KNOW

We, as Baptists, want to know where our mission money is going and what it is being used for. Out of the millions given for missions, most all of those who give it do not have the least idea where the money is used and what it is used for. Much of it is used for purposes that if the givers knew about, they would really rise up in protest and give elsewhere. We believe that the people who give for missions should be
(Continued on next page)



Mission Home and Headquarters in Cruzeiro do Sul where the native missionaries and

other believers met with Brandon for prayer when he arrived back on the mission field.

Ordination Of Aaron A. Boeker Cancelled And He Is Excluded From The Church

Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan, in her regular monthly business meeting on Wednesday night, April 9, 1947, took following actions: First She voted unanimously to cancel the letters granted to Aaron A. Boeker and his wife to unite with the Baptist Church in Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre, Brazil. Second, She voted unanimously to cancel the authority granted to Aaron A. Boeker to do mission work in Brazil. Third, She voted unanimously to cancel the ordination of Aaron Boeker and to publish notice of same in the MISSION SHEETS. Fourth, She voted unanimously to exclude both Aaron Boeker and his wife from her membership. Now, some questions and answers for information and warning. (1) Were the Bookers given an opportunity to make amends and apologize and to be heard before the action was taken? Yes. The Clerk of this Church advised them by letter of the charges against them about six weeks before action was taken, giving them an opportunity to make amends and apologize. They made no answer. (2) What were the charges against them? Heresy, denying statements made to the church, and taking property of Baptist Faith Missions and refusing to return it. (3) What were the charges of heresy and do you have proof of same? Mr. Boeker wrote: "To me it seems more and more that Missionary Baptists are just a sect for whose existence there is no use." Proof. He wrote this from Brazil to a young Baptist preacher in a letter dated December 30, 1945. We now have this letter in our files. He also wrote about those who were supporting him, saying: "They are certainly far more ignorant and narrow minded group than I ever dreamed existed." (We presume he meant "narrow minded" instead of "minded.") This letter is dated June 13, 1945, when he had been in Brazil less than two weeks. So he

was a traitor to those who were supporting him from the very first. Proof. We have this letter also in our files. (4) What were the statements that he denied saying and do you have proof? At his ordination he answered all questions affirming he was sound in faith and doctrine. Also before this church at a farewell service he restated his beliefs and in his testimony, of his own accord, said that he was going to Brazil to work with Brother Brandon and would preach and teach the Book just as Brother Brandon had been doing for the past 22 years, even enumerating several of the doctrines and also said that he was going to Brazil and would do, as he had said he would do, even if the Lord should take his wife and children in death. He made these statements before a church full of people, yet in a letter dated October 21, 1945, he wrote in capital letters: "THAT IS NOT TRUE." Proof that he did say these things. A church full of witnesses with several churches represented. We have this letter in our files also.

(5) What are the charges of taking property of Baptist Faith Missions and do you have proof? He took an organ and a camera that cost about \$250.00. We have two letters in our files in which he admitted taking Mission equipment. He had been in Brazil about six months before we found out that he was playing traitor to those who were supporting him. After we caught up with him we wrote and confronted him with the facts and he refused to answer. Then he began to write, threatening in capital letters, that this Mission would never be able to send out any more missionaries nor be able to get any more passports, etc. All this when he had severed his connections with this Mission by his own actions. We suspected that he was trying to get in with another Mission and tried to find
(Continued on next page)

Missionary Brandon Arrives Safely In Brazil After Almost Three Months Travel

PROMISES

Dr. B. H. Carroll who raised over a million dollars for Southern Baptist work said: "For many years, ever since I was a young man (I have raised over a million dollars in that time) many of the brethren have been exceedingly 'promising' but that is all. I could call the names of some preachers that at every Association and every convention make conspicuous big pledges, and never under any circumstances even write me a letter in reply to the notices when I write them. So just as soon as I get pledges from these people, I turn them over and write on the back of them 'Nix'; that is a German word meaning 'nothing,' or the Latin phrase translated 'a voice and nothing else.'" What Brother Carroll said reminds us of some experiences when the missionaries visit here and there when home on furlough. Some volunteer and make promises of what they are going to do, etc., and never do it. We have even had unsolicited telephone calls promising thus and so and then they never do it. Thank God for those who love missions and support missions year after year without big promises. Eccl. 5:5 says, "Better is that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay."

DESIGNATIONS

Many wonder how they can give to Baptist Faith Missions and still give through their churches. That is easy. Just designate your mission offerings and have the church treasurer to send it as you direct. For years we were members of Baptist churches within the Northern Baptist Convention but we could not support the modernistic machine nor its modernistic missionaries so we designated our mission offerings and saw to it that the church treasurer sent the offerings as we instructed. All offerings sent to Baptist Faith Missions are acknowledged and also listed in the Mission Sheets each month so that all who send may know that it has been received. If the church will not send designated offerings, then send them direct. Month after month we are getting more and more inquiries about this New Testament Baptist Faith Mission work in Brazil and Peru. May the Lord lead you to join with us in its support. Will you join with us in prayer for new missionaries to go and help? If you
(Continued on next page)

Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre
April 24, 1947

I have written at intervals while enroute and may have repeated, if so, excuse. I hope I have not overlooked anything that will be of profit to the work. We arrived at Cruzeiro do Sul Saturday night (April 19, 1947). About as trying a journey as I have ever made, it was the best in some respects and truly under the personal direction of the Angel of the Lord. Church had just dismissed when the boat arrived and the brethren came aboard to meet me and we went to the home and had prayer, conversing over the things that had happened since we last met. We were all happy and the Lord was with us. We have met together each day for prayer. The brethren workers (native preachers) are all here. I had requested them to be here to meet me. They have worked while I was away, I'm convinced of that, and the worker is worthy of his hire.

Meets With Native Preachers

After talking with the brethren I find that there were 28 conversions with some others up river to be baptized yet, but do not know how many. Yesterday we met and talked things over. I impressed them that the churches there are not rich but are sustaining this work with much sacrifice and are praying for them, that you brethren want to sustain them but you want them to use every economy possible and to work devotedly at the job. To this they all agreed and I feel they are sincere. The bank in Manaus had not sent them the money as we had arranged so I brought it with me and yesterday I paid each of the native missionaries the part that fell to him. They are dear brethren in the Lord and are trying to do right. They are living on much less than any brother that I know in the States and to me they seem to be worthy workers of the Lord.

New Doors Open

The door is open to send a worker up the Teja River (this river empties into the Jurua River) to a place we have prayed for years to enter. A man whose wife is a Baptist and the son of one of the members here are in charge of the place and have invited us to send a worker there. I feel that Cicero will go there and another take his place in Amonha. The equipment is here and I have opened most of the stuff. The DDT is alright, and I have given the ants a run for their lives and hope to give them another soon. The brethren are
(Continued on next page)

MISSION SHEETS

Published Monthly By
Baptist Faith Missions, Inc.
Subscription—Free
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1210 E. Grand Blvd.
Detroit 11, Mich.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MAY 1947

28 CONVERSIONS IN BRAZIL

(Continued from preceding page) happy in my return and Sunday was a mighty day with us. I have never been so well received on the part of the brethren. A number of them from the interior were here to meet me and others who could not remain so long were forced to return home before I arrived. These I will visit as soon as possible.

To Open Another Field

Another field that will soon be open will be in the headwaters of the Jurua Miri River. They will be making a colony of it as they are now on the Teja. They have 30 soldiers at each place and there are already a large number of people. I know most of the people on the Miri River they attend the services in Cruzeiro do Sul when they are here. They are poor and ignorant and need a pastor. This place is not open yet but soon will be they say. Let us pray for this place. These are the very ends of the earth, the twigs of the tree. So far the attendance has been good and everyone seems to be happy. Will close to get this off but if there is any delay in the boat I will add a line to this. Remember me to all who love the coming of the Lord Jesus and may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all, Amen.

Sincerely,
J. F. Brandon

DESIGNATIONS

(Continued from preceding page) would like for your church to get enough copies of the Missions Sheets free each month for each family to have a copy then write us and we will put you on the mailing list.

ORDINATION IS CANCELLED

(Continued from preceding page) out if this were true and he refused to answer our questions about the matter. He was paid two months in advance so as to have money while on the boat going up river, also we sent \$200.00 to the bank in Manaus 1000 miles up river to be given him when he arrived there. He sent up river and got this money against instructions and did not tell us about it. We wrote the bank to put the money to Missionary Brandon's account and the bank advised that Mr. Boeker had already gotten the money. He received this money on February 19, 1946, and had in addition \$200.00 to buy food to take up river. He cabled us that he had canceled the trip up river so we applied this money as another month's salary. With more than two months salary in advance he began to threaten to sell Mission equipment if we did not send salary for April and May. He didn't know we had found out about him getting the money from the bank in Manaus. Also he sent the following cable: "Consul enquired regarding salary April May. Salary not here May first

South Side Baptist Church, Winter Haven, Fla.....	\$ 55.00
First Baptist Church, White Plains, Ky.	12.00
Grace Baptist Church, Owensboro, Ky.	6.00
Liberty Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio	10.50
Liberty Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio	13.50
Bellview Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky.	28.00
Tabernacle Baptist Church, Lewisburg, Ky.	60.00
First Baptist Church, Coal Grove, Ohio	27.00
First Baptist Church, Coal Grove, Ohio	28.00
Ahava Baptist Church, Plant City, Fla.	10.00
Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Fulton, Ky.	10.00
North Ballard Baptist Church, Wickliffe, Ky.	32.00
Raiford Baptist Church, Raiford, Fla.	5.00
Golden Pond Baptist Church, Golden Pond, Ky.	1.50
South Union Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.	18.00
Memorial Baptist Church, Murray, Ky.	35.00
Memorial Baptist Church, Murray, Ky.	5.00
Liberty Baptist Church, Central City, Ky.	5.00
New Hope Baptist Church, L. B. C., Dearborn, Mich.	10.00
New Hope Baptist Church, Dearborn, Mich.	14.26
Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla.	238.35
Hickory Baptist Church, Hickory, Ky.	15.09
Richland Baptist Church, Livermore, Ky.	22.03
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Hickory, Ky.	15.68
Maranatha Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Mich.	10.00
Seven Springs Baptist Church, Dycusburg, Ky.	19.80
Grace Baptist Church, Baseline, Mich.	60.23
Grace Baptist Church, B. Y. P. U., Baseline, Mich.	9.50
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.	35.00
Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.	71.00
Woodland Park Baptist Church, TELSSC, Hammond, La.	10.00
Bethel Baptist Church, Roseville, Mich.	18.00
Fenton Road Baptist Church, Flint, Mich.	27.72
Fenton Road Baptist Church, LBC, Flint, Mich.	5.00
Ryan Road Baptist Church, Van Dyke, Mich.	8.73
Second Baptist Church, Marion, Ky.	11.77
Benton Baptist Church, Benton, Ky.	97.77
Scotts Grove Baptist Church, Murray, Ky.	35.00
Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Larson, Seffner, Fla.	20.00
Mrs. G. M. DeHaven, Calvert City, Ky.	10.00
Zimrande DeHaven, Calvert City, Ky.	20.00
Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Schmidt, San Bernardino, Cal.	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Hix Jr., Memphis, Tenn.	6.00
W. H. Morrison, Big Clifty, Ky.	20.00
Charles Holsinger, Wheaton, Ill.	5.00
Mrs. C. D. Chick, Marion, Ky.	50.00
Dr. E. A. Spencer, Five Islands, Me.	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Howell, Columbia, Tenn.	4.00
Alex Sumpter, Union Grove, Wis.	1.00

Total\$1267.43

Z. E. Clark, Treasurer

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

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

Baptist Faith Missions still needs an adding machine. Only \$15.00 received toward it.

will have to sell some equipment. Wire reply." We wrote to the US Consul in Belem and quoted this cable and the Consul replied advising. "The impression given by the telegram from him, which was quoted in your letter, is entirely erroneous." Here he had sent an "erroneous" cable trying to scare us in sending him two months more salary. We wrote him about him getting the money from the bank two months before and he replied that he meant to write us about it but had forgotten to do so. He forgot to tell that he had gotten the money, yet he sent threatening letters and "erroneous" cable trying to get more. In his angry threatening letter dated March 3, 1946, he wrote: "You can pay our boat passage to the USA and send us the tickets." "Just send our salary to date of departure." Their boat passage was paid and their salary beyond the date of departure. Still he brought the organ and camera home with him. So he did not have to sell by May first to have money to live on as he threatened in letters and the untrue cable. When we began to get his threatening letters we had a meeting and the brethren decided that we should call the State Department and find out if we could

send the money for boat passage through them to be sure that he used it to come home on as we could not trust him. We called the State Department and explained the situation and they advised that we could send through them if we so desired and they would forward to the Consul in Belem and he would see that it was used for passage home. We wrote to Mr. Boeker that we had "contacted" the State Department etc., and he wrote us that the US Consul had showed him the letter that we had written to the State Department. He took for granted that the word "contacted" meant that we had written the letter, when we had telephoned. Now we would like to know how he could read a letter that had not been written. How could he read a letter when there was no letter to read? Yet, we have his letter advising that the Consul had showed him the letter we wrote. Now what do you think of that?

After assuring the brethren that he was head of his house he wrote in a letter dated December 17, 1947, boasting that when they got to Cruzeiro do Sul, where Brother Brandon labors, and if things did not go just as they saw fit, etc., that his wife would tell Brother

Brandon: "To go and peddle his papers elsewhere and that will be the end of Baptist Faith Missions." It is hard to believe that a new missionary with the opportunity to work with a man of God with 23 years of experience who had organized 10 churches, would boast that his wife would tell the man of God, "To go peddle his papers elsewhere," and to threaten that would be "the end of Baptist Faith Missions." But it is true. Proof. We have this letter in our files too. After he had been back in the States five months he wrote in a letter dated October 21, 1947, threatening to "circulate" a letter so that: "The folks can judge themselves what kind of Christians you are." It is no concern of ours what he circulates. But it had better be true. You can rest assured that he won't do any "circulating." After he wrote this, we then advised him of the information we had from the Consul about the "erroneous" cable and also about the letter that he had claimed to read, that had never been written, and he became very quiet and we have not received any more angry threatening letters. He seems to have "drapped" the matter of "circulating." When he made his boast that his wife would tell the man of God to: "Go peddle his papers elsewhere" and that that would be the "end of Baptist Faith Missions," the Mission Sheets had a circulation of about 2000 and now the circulation is over 13,000 and into every state in the union. Also then, we had work in Brazil only and now, in both Brazil and Peru. To God be all the glory and praise. Now he will not have to "circulate" his letter for the folks to find out what kind of Christians we Baptists are. The "folks" know now that we will not put up with a missionary who sends "erroneous" cables, and who "reads" letters that were never written, and who let their wives tell men of God to "go peddle papers elsewhere" and who are traitors to the ones who support them, and who send threatening letters trying to get extra money, and who say "Baptists are just a sect" without excuse for existence, and who deny statements made before a church full of witnesses, and who take property belonging to a mission, and who refuse to return it when requested to do so, and who burn letters from those supporting him. Instead of him being the "end of Baptist Faith Missions" the Lord has blessed and brought him to an "end" where even the ones he tried to get in with won't have him. A missionary in Belem advised Brother Brandon that he had written his headquarters telling them not to accept Mr. Boeker as a missionary as they did not want him. Truly the way of the transgressor is hard. Numbers 32:23 says: "Be sure sin will find you out."—Galatians 6:7 says: "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." Matthew 18:17 says: "And if he neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as a heathen man and a publican." I Cor. 5: 11-13 says: "With such an one no not to eat." "Put away from among yourselves that wicked person." Harmony Baptist Church has acted according to the Scriptures.

Many gave sacrificially to help buy clothes for the Boekers and to send them out and to support them for 7 months. Before they left for Brazil, Brother D. O. Calvin told Mr. Boeker that if he would do as he had said, and as he had promised, that he would give him the shirt off his back before he would let

him suffer for lack of support, and Brother Z. E. Clark promised to stand behind him with all he had, and we promised the same and told him that if necessary that we would sell our home to help him before we would let him suffer because of lack of support. He seemed humble and assured us of his loyalty, yet he turned traitor to those who were supporting him within less than two weeks time. In less than two months after he reached Brazil we wrote him a letter dated July 25, 1945, letter No. 10, and said: "We love you and are back of you and believe that this will cause you to take courage and to have faith as never before. We do not want you to be just another missionary. We do not want you to be an average or above the average missionary. We want you to be the best DV like Judson, Carey, Nelson and Brandon. There is no limit to what you can do if you will resolve to 'launch out into the deep' on faith. God and Boeker is the biggest team on earth and there is no limit except on Boeker's part." In a letter dated Nov. 26, 1945, Mr. Boeker boasted that he took this letter out and burned it. He wrote that it: "was so hot (No. 10 I believe) I could not keep it in my files, but took it out and burned it" so I would never read it again." Yet he was taking money pretending that he was our missionary. Mr. Boeker was caught up with, and the letters he wrote have been given to us and are now in our files.

MISSIONARY R. P. HALLUM WRITES OF WORK

Continued from preceding page I tell them I have two invitations for them. First, if they are not believers, I invite them to receive the Lord Jesus as their own personal Saviour who is the bread of life. Second, to come to the services. I had a good time yesterday afternoon visiting. The most of the people were very nice to me, accepting the literature and some promised to come to the services. We are expecting the arrival of the "Thumbe" between the 20th and 25th. It is a ship which has our machines on it, the outboard motor, etc.

Your brother in the Lord,
R. P. Hallum

WE WANT TO KNOW

(Continued from preceding page) kept informed as to what the missionaries are doing and what they are accomplishing by the grace of God. That is the reason for the Mission Sheets. We know where the Brandons and the Hallums work and what they are doing and we read about the missionary journeys made and about the souls saved and about the need of the work etc. There are no paid secretaries in Baptist Faith Missions, there are no paid "bosses" to try to tell pastors and churches what to do. There is no office rent, there are no modernistic professors supported to lead preachers astray. But instead we support men who are Missionary Baptists and who love the men of faith and who love the lost and who go and preach the gospel to them at great sacrifice. J. F. Brandon has been in Brazil now over 23 years and needs another missionary to come and help him. He is still waiting. R. P. Hallum has been in Peru now over 11 years and he too is still waiting for help. The fields are ripe unto harvest but the laborers are few. Who will say here am I Lord, send me?

JUNE 21, 1947

"SHIELDS OF BRASS"

(Continued from page one)

I kept up the standard set by my father. Rehoboam knew, as well as everyone else, that they were brass and not gold, yet they kept up the appearances and tradition of the past. Naturally, they would rather have had shields of gold, yet they substituted shields of brass to keep up the tradition of the days gone by.

I like to think of all these as an illustration of the church that Jesus built. Over 1900 years ago our Lord began His church, constituting it out of the material that had been prepared by John the Baptist. From that hour there has never been a day but what Baptists and Baptist churches have flourished in the world. That church which Jesus built began with shields of gold—that is, they started out with high standards. Anyone who reads the New Testament will be convinced that they had high standards in those early days.

As an example, in the days of John the Baptist, we hear him say:

"But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire."—Mt. 3:7-10.

Notice John was talking to the religious leaders of his day. When they would show an interest in his ministry, he demanded to see the fruits of their repentance. He urged that they forget their Jewish ancestry with the solemn declaration that God could thereby put life into stones and raise up children unto Abraham. Who ever heard of a preacher in these modern days making such demands of professing Christians? If you will but contrast John's methods of dealing with professors today, it is quite obvious that we have drifted far since the days of John.

Then, likewise, notice the standards set up by Jesus during His ministry. He said:

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall he give in exchange for his soul?"—Mt. 16:24-26.

People join the church today, yet in His day Jesus demanded that they follow Him. Very few today would even dare to take Jesus seriously about the matter of self-denial. Jesus would warn against an attempt to gain the world, yet in this modern day of selfishness and greed and lust for material gain, the words of Jesus are hopelessly out of date. Surely the standards have changed much since His day.

The early church likewise had some unusually high standards. In the fifth chapter of Acts, which tells the story of

Ananias and Sapphira, we have an indication of the high standards maintained by that early church. Of course, you remember these two—Ananias and Sapphira, who are noted as being big liars. To be sure they got their reputation in a day when competition was not as keen as it is today. If they were members of the average Baptist church of this 20th century, there surely would not be much difference between them and the balance of the membership. Yet in the days of this early church the membership was so filled with the Holy Spirit that a man could not lie and live. Accordingly, these two died for their lying. I fear that the majority of our churches in this modern day in contrast are so filled with liars that there is no room for the Holy Spirit.

Thus, from these experiences taken from the life of John the Baptist, the teachings of Jesus, and the experience of the early church—thus we see that the standards set up in the beginning were far different from the standards of our churches today. As Rehoboam substituted shields of brass instead of gold, thus keeping up appearances, so in this 20th century we have substituted standards far inferior to those set up by our Lord twenty centuries ago. Of course, in the eyes of the world it keeps up appearances, yet every sensible Christian knows that there is as much difference between the churches of today and those of Jesus' day as there was between Rehoboam's shields of brass and Solomon's shields of gold.

There must be a reason for the drift of times and for the changes which have taken place. I believe that such reasons are not hard to find.

I

A GREED FOR CHURCH MEMBERSHIP IS PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE. In the days of the beginning of Christianity they demanded quality. Today we desire quantity. The evangelists, pastors and churches are all guilty. Loose methods and un-Scriptural teachings coupled with a glaring emotional appeal have filled our churches with unsaved church members. In the majority of instances they are just so many ecclesiastical corpses, definitely devoid of the Spirit of God.

When I first became pastor of this church, better than eighteen years ago, there was another church not so far away which stood definitely and squarely for the Scriptures. The pastor and his church were both a source of inspiration to me, yet not so today. Now their loose methods which are used in getting church members are nauseating and disgusting.

The last time that I was in attendance I saw them literally force folk to profess to be saved in whom the Spirit of God was not even working. Billy Sunday and all union evangelists combined never equalled their methods. A deacon of that church sat in my study some months ago and in the course of our conversation I asked him why they had drifted so far from their original position. In substance, he declared that their church was the largest in the Association and it was expected of them that they lead the Association in numerical gain. Since, as he said, they did not get enough professors otherwise, they had to adopt new methods in order to get a sufficient number of

additions to justify their position as a church. If this were not pathetic and tragic, it would be laughable.

Frankly, I do not consider this as an isolated case, but rather look upon it as a typical example of modern church-anity. It is no wonder that with such a greed for church membership that our standards come so far short of those originally set up for Jesus' church. How could it be otherwise. Rehoboam never did more to keep up appearances than Baptist churches do today.

II

THERE IS A SELFISH PRIDE IN CHURCH BUILDINGS which largely contributes towards the drift of the times. The early church did not boast of its proud steeples, yet today magnificent church architecture is a veritable rage. If the First Baptist Church of "Possum Trot" builds a new edifice then the First Baptist Church of "Clabber Bottom" will have to build one just a little bit bigger. Actually, we have come to the place of a worship of our church buildings. When our present building was under construction, before my study was finished, I arranged one corner of the balcony as a temporary study. One day when in it I heard two of the members of our church downstairs talking about our new beautiful building. One of them declared that the members of the church would just have to dress up more than in the past in order to be in keeping with the building. On the following Sunday I told publicly of overhearing this conversation. It reminded those present that this church building was not being built except for one purpose—namely, that God's Word might be preached and sinners might be saved. I said then that if it were being built for any other purpose, that it was my sincere hope that God would destroy it. God almost took me at my word, as the following week we had a fire which came very nearly causing serious damage. I took it then as a warning from God that we were to remember to serve the Creator and not worship the works of the creature.

Yes, it is true that there is a tremendous amount of selfish pride relative to church buildings today. Surely old Rehoboam never attempted to keep up appearances more than we do today.

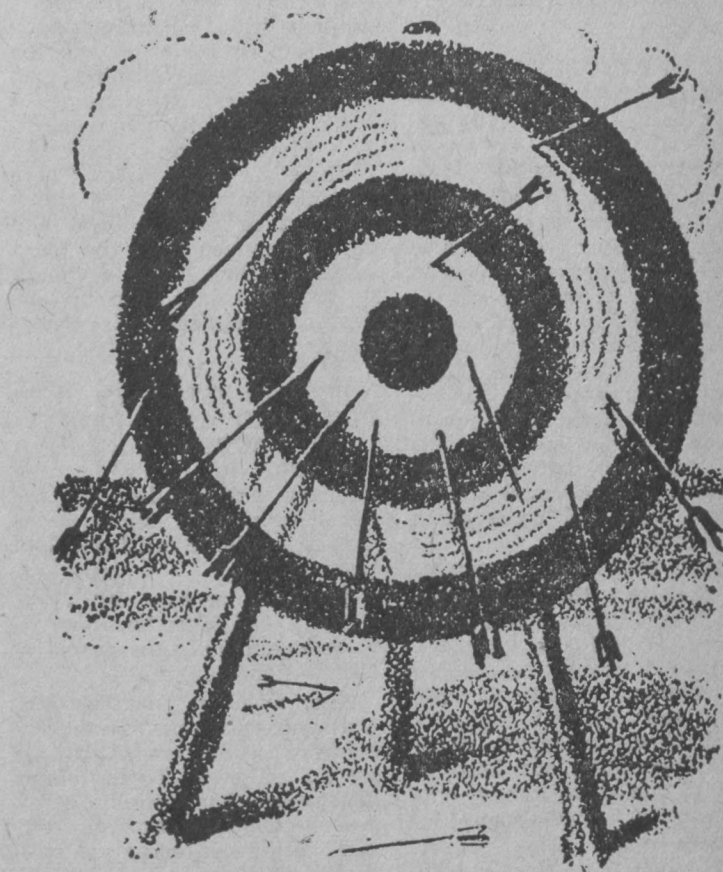
III

THERE IS A DEFINITE LACK OF CHURCH DISCIPLINE IN OUR CHURCHES. In the early days of Jesus' church, churches practiced discipline and thereby kept their membership clean. If you have any doubt concerning this, then take a little excursion through God's Word and read for yourself.

"But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such a one, no, not to eat. For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore PUT AWAY from among yourselves that wicked person."—I Cor. 5:11-13.

"A man that is a heretic, after the first and second admonition, REJECT."—Titus 3:10.

"Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that we WITHDRAW YOURSELVES from



"For all have sinned, and come short (missed the mark) of the glory of God."—Romans 3:23.

every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us. And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed."—II Thes. 3:6,14.

While it is true that the early churches practiced discipline, it is just as true that discipline is ignored and forgotten in this 20th century. In our printing shop, we printed some Minutes for an association in Illinois several months ago. There were approximately thirty churches in the Association and yet only one church in the preceding year had excluded any one, and even then this one church had only excluded one person. How like unto the average group of Baptists.

It is a rare instance that you ever hear of a church today which practices discipline in the light of God's Word. The reason is obvious. The majority of our churches are filled with worldlings and heretics who need to be disciplined themselves.

I confess that with the attitude of other neighboring, supposed-to-be sister churches, that a church and pastor doesn't have much encouragement in attempting to practice discipline. It is true that if a church disciplines some of its members and excludes them, that regardless of the offenses, they can go immediately to some nearby Baptist church and at once gain admission. Sometime ago we excluded a doctor from our membership who was guilty of profane swearing, non-attendance, immorality, gambling and drunkenness. His own brother-in-law preferred the charges against him. The First Baptist Church of Ashland immediately took him in, face value, asking no questions. In the light of such an experience, of course a church doesn't have much encouragement to try to keep the body clean, and therefore our churches have drifted. It is only logical that filled with members who should be excluded that the standards of the New Testament will be forgotten.

IV

OUR CHURCHES ARE FILLED WITH PHILISTINE EXPEDIENTS. When God gave explicit directions as to the making of the furniture for the tabernacle, He declared that the ark in particular was never to be touched by any but Levitical hands. It was never to be hauled and was only to be carried by the Levites. When it was captured by the Philistines and it became a curse to them, they put it on an ox-cart and sent it home. When David sought to bring it to Jerusalem, though he knew that God had said that is was never to be hauled, but always carried by the Levites—though he knew this, he hired Ahio and Uzzah, sons of Abinadab, to haul it on an ox-cart to Jerusalem. This thing displeased God to the extent that he killed Uzzah for his disobedience in touching it. While God allowed the heathen Philistines to haul the ark, He would not allow His people to do so.

The churches today are filled with Philistine expedients. As a simple illustration, consider the observance of the Lord's Supper. There was never an indication of but one cup used in the Memorial Supper.

"The CUP of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?"—I Cor 10:16.

"And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of IT."—Mt. 26:27.

Literally, Jesus said, "All of you drink of it." The word "it" would indicate that there was just one cup in use, yet today the average church uses individual cups which is an attempt at sanitation rather than Scripturalness. I contend that this is merely a Philistine expedient.

I mention another: Southern Baptists in order to carry on mission work have that which is known as the cooperative program. It is the shrewdest, most subtle scheme devised by the Devil to defeat the purpose of God in missions. For over 1900 years our churches did not have it. There is as much Scripture or reason for it to-

(Continued on page four)

NORTHERN BAPTISTS

(Continued from page one)
Convention to act upon it:

BE IT RESOLVED that we affirm our faith in the Christ of the New Testament and understand the New Testament to reveal concerning Him that:

He is Eternal, He came forth from the Father, was conceived of the Holy Spirit, was born of the Virgin Mary, was sinless in nature and character, performed miracles by the power of God, died for the sins of all men, was buried and arose again bodily from the grave the third day, ascended up to Heaven, is sole and all-sufficient mediator between God and man, is mighty and seeking to save, and will come again as He promised.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Convention require its employees and the employees of all its agencies, boards and committees to accept without question these plain, self evident uninterpreted New Testament statements concerning our Lord as at least one condition or employment or appointment by the Convention.

This resolution was rejected by adopting the following substitute motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that, believing that the Grand Rapids resolution clearly expressed the will of our people, this Convention again refuses to make ANY creedal statement a test of fellowship and service.

And what did Jesus say?
"Come out of her, my people."
—Rev. 18:4.

SHIELDS OF BRASS

(Continued from page three)
as there is for sprinkling, baby baptizing, or the priest wearing his collar buttoned hind part before. To call it missions, it has no justification. It is merely a Philistine expedient.

These are but samples. There are hundreds of them which are just as un-Scriptural and as far removed from the Word of God. How could a church do anything but keep up appearances under such conditions?

V

THE MINISTRY IS NOW REGARDED AS A PROFESSION RATHER THAN A CALLING. In Paul's day the ministry was a calling. He referred to his own experience as that of a definite call from God. Listen:

"Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, CALLED to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God."—Romans 1:1.

"But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and CALLED me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood."—Gal. 1:15,16.

Surely we have drifted far since Paul's day in this respect. In the eyes of the world the ministry is merely a profession, and I fear that the majority who are in the ministry today consider it just as lightly.

I can remember when I was but five years of age that God called me to preach. I was standing in the doorway between two rooms in our home when I felt definitely that it was God's will that I should enter the ministry. To be sure I

was not saved as yet, but I knew from that hour on that I was to preach His Word. I did not want to and I did everything I could to convince God that He had made a mistake in thus calling me, yet when I surrendered to His will for my life there came over me a peace and joy for which I rejoice today. I am happy now that I am in the ministry, not having chosen it as a profession but having entered it as a result of a definite call from God.

VI

THERE IS A LACK OF POSITIVE DOCTRINAL EMPHASIS IN OUR CHURCHES. Rehoboam, when he placed the shields of brass in the temple, did so to keep up appearances. The average church goes through services on Sunday, yet there are but few places where a positive doctrinal emphasis is heard from the pulpit. The majority of sermons are as tasteless as the white of an egg. (Cf. Job 6:6). The average moral essay delivered from the average pulpit is as far removed from a sermon as the North Pole is from the South Pole. If one of these little Sunday morning essays were tied up in a pink ribbon and all the Bible preachers in America were out hunting for a sermon, not one of them would take a shot at it.

Instead of a Biblical exposition by way of a sermon today, we have sermonettes. Of course, it requires a preacherette to deliver a sermonette. This always results in Christianettes on the part of the hearers, with the ultimate result that you build a churchette thereby. What a combination—sermonettes, preacherettes, Christianettes, and churchettes!

It is so seldom that one attends services where the doctrine of election and the doctrines of graces are Scripturally presented. It is so seldom that one hears a sermon on Heaven, Hell, and the hereafter. There just isn't any positive doctrinal emphasis in the average church, as the standards of today are far different from those in the New Testament days.

VII

BAPTISTS ARE TRYING TO BE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE. John the Baptist was different from everyone in his day. The teachings of Jesus were entirely contrary to the philosophy of his age. Paul declared that Christians were to be different. He said:

"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.

Surely we have drifted far since Baptists are trying now to be like everyone else. Instead of magnifying their peculiarities and differences, Baptists are trying to see how near like the pagan denominations and the world they can be.

When Sampson was tempted by Delilah that she might learn the secret of his strength he said:

"There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I have been a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be LIKE ANY OTHER MAN."—Judges 16:17.

His peculiarity was, that he was consecrated to God. If he were to lose that consecration, then he would be "just like any other man". Who wants to be

like any other man? Our churches ought not seek to be like everyone else; they ought to seek to be different. If a church differs from all others and is Scriptural, it will not only be noticed because of its differences, but will be blessed of God. The same is true of a school, an individual, or even a paper like THE BAPTIST EXAMINER.

God doesn't like us to be like the pagan heathen with whom we associate. He wants us to be peculiar unto Himself.

VIII

WE HAVE A PROFESSION WITHOUT POWER. The Holy Spirit worked in the early church. It empowered, led, and directed all of their activities. They even had a missionary program which the Holy Spirit directed.

"As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away."—Acts 13:2,3.

How foreign this is to the policies of today.

In the days of Elisha when his school of prophets needed a new dormitory, they went down near the Jordan to cut timber that they might enlarge their dwellings. As one man was laboring, his ax head came off the handle and fell into the water. I can hear him now as he looked at his worthless handle and cried, saying, "Alas, master." All he had left was just a handle. His power and usefulness was gone. If the majority of our churches were not so spiritually dead, they likewise would say today, "Alas, only a handle!" We still have our profession but we are powerless.

It could not be expected to be otherwise, since we are merely keeping up appearances, though we have drifted far from the standards of the New Testament.

Is there any reason to believe that conditions will get any better? Certainly there is always hope for the individual who will repent and turn back to God and His service. In the days when Israel had backslidden and were far removed from God there was hope for the individual who might repent.

"Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the Lord; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith the Lord, and I will not keep anger for ever."—Jer. 3:12.

Our Lord is knocking for admission into our churches today.

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will sup with him, and he with me."—Rev. 3:20.

What a picture! The Lord Jesus who founded His church is now outside of it and knocks to gain admission. Even then there is no hope that He shall be admitted, so that the appeal is to the individual rather than to the church that they might sup and have fellowship together.

Yes, there is hope for the individual Christian who will honestly turn back to God and sincerely do His will. However, it is a hope which is based upon separation from our worldly standards of today and a return to Jesus only. Listen:

"And I heard another voice from Heaven, saying, COME

OUT OF HER, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."—Rev. 18:4.

Would to God that we as individuals might hear His voice in these days when our churches are merely trying to keep up appearances. Though our church standards are far removed from those of the New Testament, may we as individuals remember God's words to Eli, when He said, "Them that honor me I will honor, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed."—1 Sam. 2:30.

Let me ask, is yours a shield of gold or a shield of brass? May the Lord bless you!

ALIEN IMMERSION

(Continued from page one)
stered to those who have trusted the Lord for salvation and who are willing to identify themselves with His church.

Those who have trusted the Lord but will not accept their responsibility as a member of the church are not entitled to baptism, and anyone who administers baptism in such a case does so without Scriptural authority, adds to the confusion that is in the world around us, and helps the enemy in his attempt to defeat the church.

The ordinance of Baptism was given by Christ to His church, to be administered by His church to members of His church and none others.

When any man institutes an organization and calls it a church, he says in effect to Christ, "Your church does not suit me, so I will set up one of my own." This constitutes nothing less than open rebellion against our Lord, and when a Baptist church, which alone can approve its Galilean origin, accepts such baptism, it places its approval upon a rebel institution inspired by Satan and carried on by men.

The writer is well aware of the much exercised argument that there is good in all churches and that we are all going to the same place. Beloved, we are not all going to the same place unless we have been washed in His blood. If we have, I will concede we are all going to the same place regardless of our affiliation with so-called churches, but our reward depends upon service rendered in obedience to our Lord. It will make a lot of difference on that Day whether we have been faithful to Him or to some man-made institution.

FATHER ABRAHAM

(Continued from page two)
faith for righteousness"—not your own righteousness, mind you, which is as filthy rags before the eyes of God, but the righteousness of the Lord and Saviour, then you will, like father Abraham, exercise a faith which will:

First—Believe and obey God's call to genuine repentance—a real turning away from self and the cares of this world, to seek the way of God.

Second—Faith in and reception of the redemptive work of Christ on Calvary, and manifest this faith by devotion and obedience to the glorious Gospel of Christ.

John 5:24, "Verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

THE SET OF THE SAILS

I stood on the shore beside the sea;
The wind from the West blew fresh and free,
While past the rocks at the harbor's mouth
The ships went North and the ships went South,
And some sailed out on an unknown quest,
And some sailed in to the harbor's rest;
Yet ever the wind blew out of the West.

I said to one who had sailed the sea
That this was a marvel unto me;
For how can the ships go safely forth,
Some to the South and some to the North,
Far out to sea on their golden quest,
Or in to the harbor's calm and rest,
And ever the wind blow out of the West?

The sailor smiled as he answered me,
"Go where you will when you're on the sea,
Though head winds baffle and flaws delay,
You can keep the course by night and day,
Drive with the breeze or against the gale;
It will not matter what winds prevail,
For all depends on the set of the sail."

Voyager soul on the sea of life,
O'er waves of sorrow and sin and strife,
When fogs bewilder and foes betray,
Steer straight on your course from day to day;
Though unseen currents run deep and swift,
Where rocks are hidden and sandbars shift,
All helpless and aimless, you need not drift.

Oh, set your sail to the heavenly gale,
And then, no matter what winds prevail,
No reef shall wreck you, no calm delay,
No mist shall hinder, no storm shall stay;
Though far you wander and long you roam,
Through salt sea-spay and o'er white sea-foam,
No wind that can blow but shall speed you home.

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