

The Kind Of Independent Churches And Preachers Needed In The Belligerent Turmoil Of Christendom

Belligerency is a state of war, and war is conceived because of division, and division is the fruit of an improper conception of what is right, and an improper conception is the product of the lack of study to show one's self approved unto God. It also is the philosophy of Satan to follow the line of least resistance. As we look at the problems that are confronting Christendom we find the reason for so much division lies in the values that people have put on MAN POWER instead of HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERED CHURCHES.

It is not the desire of the writer to take issue with anyone, or to cast reflections upon anyone that has been led astray by those who knowingly have departed from the Word of God, because as they think they have found a more effective way to carry out the great commission than the Holy Spirit directed way that is set forth in the Holy Scriptures. We also believe that the GO of the great commission means to avail ourselves of every opportunity to preach the word, anywhere and everywhere that we can get anyone to listen and to use the printed page and radio with the zeal that would please the Lord, but to stay by the book of God re-

gardless of the cost. In this article it is our desire just to look at things as they really are.

After Paul had suffered persecution at Philippi, and the old jailer won to the Lord, and a strong church was organized, then because of Paul's zeal for the truth, many of the brethren because of Paul's bonds, had great confidence in the Lord, and were bold to preach the word without fear, but another group saw how much love the people had for Paul, and became envious of his influence so they also preached Christ of envy and strife. These preached Christ because of contention, not sincerely, for the purpose of adding afflictions to Paul's bonds. Well, what was Paul's reaction to those that were proclaiming Christ not sincerely, and only because of pretense? He rejoiced whether Christ was preached in pretense or truth. Why? Because Paul knew that God's Word would not return unto him void, and God would bless his word whether it is preached in pretense or in sincerity. But woe unto the one that is preaching in pretense, his affections are corrupt and his work is prompted by the lust of the flesh, and he has no regard for the word of God only as he

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The Baptist Examiner

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

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Do You Like Questions? Here's One And The Answer

Elder Ray Mason
Tampa, Florida

"What is the meaning of 'To-day shalt thou be with me in Paradise?'"

This is a question that we are asked about, and that we often see misinterpreted so it seems worth while to deal with it, although in so doing we shall perhaps repeat some things often said before.

What Does It Mean?

This expression (found in Luke 23:53) was spoken to the penitent thief by our Lord. It does not—as often taught—mean that Christ asked a question. How absurd and how heartless to suppose that Christ said, "Are you going to be with me in Paradise today?" The penitent

might well have replied, "How do I know?" Likewise Jesus did not mean, "I say unto you today—right now—that YOU SHALL BE (in the dim future) with me in Paradise." This is the Adventist perversion of the passage, and they so pervert it in order to fit in with their soul-sleeping theory.

What Did Jesus Really Say?

He said just what the passage plainly says, without any tinkering with it. He said, "Verily I say unto you (means TRULY or OF A TRUTH I say unto you) TODAY (that is right today—this very day) that thou shalt be with me in Paradise." That is, "I am going to take you with me, and I am going to Paradise, and I am going there right this very day."

Some Truths That Relate to This Passage

Jesus did not go immediately to heaven when he died. After his resurrection he said to Mary, "touch me not for I have not yet ascended . . ." (Jnd. 0:7). At that time he had not presented himself in the Holy of Holies for us. Where had his spirit been in the meantime? His body had been in the tomb and his spirit had been in HADES (the abode of departed spirits) and in that part of Hades inhabited by the saved dead. (See Psalm 16:10 and Acts 2:31). The prophet said that Christ's soul should not be "left in hades?" Why? Because it should be brought forth—reunited with the body in the

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Learn What Our Lord Would Have Us Do For A Fallen Brother

Once I planted a vine beside a trellis. How carefully I tended the little sprout, watering it and teaching the tendrils to twine about the slats! Warmed by the strong sun, and nourished by the refreshing rain, the vine grew, and little by little climbed half way up the trellis. Then the leaves began to unfold, and in a little while it began to provide cooling shade, and became a thing of beauty. But one dark night came a storm. The wind blew furiously, and the rain fell in torrents. The next morning, when I looked at the little vine, it was lying prone on the ground, half submerged in muddy water. Then what did I do? I stooped down and tenderly lifted the fallen vine out of the mire, and twined it carefully about the trellis again. In

places I fastened its tendrils to the slats with pieces of soft string, and it began to hold up its head once more. Then I watched it grow day by day, and observed with pleasure that the vine I had lifted up was taking fresh hold. Warmed by the genial rays of sunshine, it gave renewed promise of a strong plant, and I was happy.

Do I ever think to be as considerate of my fellowmen—the men and women who suffer, and weep, and waver, and fall—as I was of that little vine, that knew neither pain nor pleasure? Am I eager to lift up my brother man who has fallen low? Let us give men and women, with undying souls, as fair a chance to begin life over as we would an insignificant plant.—Selected.

Praise Him!

A beloved central Kentucky pastor sends us \$100 toward the purchase of our new Linotype mats.

At the same time another West Virginia pastor writes that he will be sending \$100 within a few days.

This ought to be a real answer to the enemies of this paper. God has raised up friends for us ever since the paper was launched in 1939. How we thank Him for His blessings!

It is indeed a good omen when pastors feel the need of an independent paper and are willing to personally support it. How we do thank God for these two who stand nobly for His Word and who desire to see His Word upheld in the pages of this paper.

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Mused Uncle Mose

Pahson say w'en he go to a new chu'ch, an' some fella come an' talk close like 'bout de pahson dat jes' left, an' brag on de new pahson, den he go home an' tell he wife, "I knows who we got to watch now."

Victor Masters, Former Editor Of Western Recorder, Says Baptists On Down Grade

In accepting an invitation to appear at a program sponsored by the Baptist Seminary of Fort Worth, Elder Victor I. Masters, former editor of the Western Recorder (machine publication of Kentucky Baptists) says:

"I know that my dead and buried—and they glad of it—standing with the machine' group, will sink a bit—in their holy! holy! viewpoint, when I am advertised as on the program of the Baptist Seminary. But I am delighted to come.

"If I know anything, I know we have deeply imperiled our faith and are leading on toward formalism and spiritual decadence our Baptist people in the South.

"I sat so 'pretty' in the Western Recorder 22 years, only because the rank and file of Kentucky Baptist were for such open policies as we espoused. 'The Holy Program' High Priests' were not

pleased, but feared if they 'hol-lered' too loud it would back-fire upon them.

"The average Baptist Secretary has one sole big interest in the paper—that it shall shout, Holy! Holy Program! loud enough and damn by the best means available all who fail to see in it our primary obligation to God."

Well, there it is, brethren! All of God's elect are not going to be deceived forever. Victor Masters was in a better position to know conditions affecting Kentucky Baptists than anyone else. I repeat, in view of this statement from one who knows, that the only safe course today is one of independency—independent BAPTIST Churches, preachers, schools, and papers,

HOW GOD TOLD HER

Watts - Dunton once told this tale of an Italian girl whom an unbeliever found reading the Bible. After asking her what she was reading, and hearing that it was the Bible, he inquired why she spent her time reading a book like that. "Because, sir," she answered, "it is the Word of God."

"Nonsense!" he said. "Who told you that it is the Word of God?"

"God Himself, sir," she replied, in no wise abashed by his manner.

"Bah! Impossible!" said the man. "How could God tell you?"

For a few moments the girl was reduced to silence, but only for a few moments.

"Sir," she asked, "who told you there is a sun in the blue sky?"

"Who told me that?" replied the man. "Nobody. I do not need anybody to tell me. The sun tells me."

"Yes," said the girl, in triumph, "and that is the way God tells me. As I read, I feel His warmth and light."—Religious Telescope.

The First Baptist Pulpit

"THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS"

L. F. Gill, Pastor
Bible Baptist Church
Mansfield, La.

Many people believe our Lord was crucified on Friday and rose from the grave on Sunday morning—that He was in the grave two nights and one day, or about thirty-six hours. This is the teaching of the Catholic Church and is accepted by many others without any attempt to know the truth of God's Word.

In Matt. 12:40, Jesus said: "For as Jonas was THREE DAYS and THREE NIGHTS in the whale's belly; SO SHALL the Son of Man be THREE DAYS and THREE NIGHTS in

the heart of the earth." (See Jonah 1:17). Very clearly we see the "Friday to Sunday" theory does not fulfill the words of our Lord—one is 36 hours—the other is 72 hours.

Several years ago I decided to find the TRUTH of God's Word on this important subject regardless of the study required—to find "what saith the Scriptures?" In the following pages I give you the result of a long careful, open study of God's Word. I challenge you to study it with an open mind—to check me with the Word of God. I will show you that Jesus did not enter Jerusalem on Sunday—so there is no "Palm Sunday." He

was crucified on Wednesday instead of Friday—so there is no "Good Friday." He rose Saturday evening instead of Sunday morning—so there is no "Easter Sunday."

A STUDY OF THE REGULAR SABBATHS

1. Exodus 16:23-30. The Sabbath first commanded—to Israel.

2. Exodus 20:8-11. The fourth commandment—"Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." The SEVENTH day of the week was always a SABATH. Nothing ever altered this. There

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MASONRY, A SIN

"Here, then, is a false religion whose institutions and forms of worship make no recognition of our need of a Mediator, that never mentions the personality and work of the Holy Spirit, that teaches a code of morals that is not Scriptural, that ignores all need of repentance and faith in Christ, conducting funeral services that are full of heathen superstition; and promising unsaved sinners a future blessedness which they have earned by their own good works."

I repeat this is the Master-Sin of Masonry, and ours is no groundless accusation because the official books and teachings of Masonry distinctly disavow any relation with Christianity, and specifically claim this faith to be of pagan origin. Here is the statement of Mr. Mackey, the chief spokesman of Masonry: "I have no doubt that Freemasonry derives its legends, its symbols, and its methods of instruction from the old religions—sun-worship, tree-worship, animal-worship." And

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"THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS"

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were a number of SPECIAL sabbaths in connection with the Feasts but these were in addition to the regular Sabbaths. It was possible for Israel to have three Sabbaths in a week—one regular Seventh-Day Sabbath, and two SPECIAL Sabbaths in connection with the Feasts. The SEVENTH day was ALWAYS a Sabbath. Every Sabbath day—whether the regular SEVENTH day or the special feast day Sabbaths—was a HOLY DAY. No labor could be performed.

3. Exodus 31:12-17. The Sabbath is a SIGN between the Lord and Israel. Is a type of the Israelite Kingdom. (See Heb. 4).

4. Leviticus 23:3. The Sabbath is an HOLY CONVOCATION. "Six days shall work be done; but the SEVENTH is the Sabbath of rest, and HOLY CONVOCATION." Remember this—you will need it. Just fix in your mind that each seventh day was a SABBATH—a holy day—an holy convocation—a day in which there was no labor.

A STUDY OF THE SPECIAL SABBATHS OBSERVED BY ISRAEL

God not only commanded Israel to observe the regular "seventh-day" Sabbath but He commanded a number of SPECIAL Sabbaths in connection with the great feasts. Study Leviticus 23. In verses 5-8 we find that in the first month the 15th and 21st were Sabbath days. Verses 23-32 tells us the 1st and 10th days of the seventh month were Sabbaths or holy convocations. You readily see these two Sabbaths were not seven days apart. Then in verses 33-39 we find that the 15th and 22nd of this seventh month were also Sabbaths. So in the seventh month in addition to the regular seventh-day Sabbaths there are FOUR special Sabbaths—the 1st, 10th, 15th, 22nd. REMEMBER—all these special Sabbaths in Lev. 23 were on FIXED days of the month. Always they come on a certain day of the month regardless of the day of the week. This is very important. Study it until it is clear to you.

A SPECIAL SABBATH ALWAYS FOLLOWED THE PASSOVER

1. Exodus 12:3-6. The Passover lamb was selected on the 10th day of the first month (Nisan—our April). The lamb was kept until the 14th. It was killed and eaten on the NIGHT of the 14th of the same month. "In the fourteenth day of the first month at EVEN is the Lord's Passover." (Lev. 23:5). The Passover was always eaten on the NIGHT of the 14th of the first month.

In reckoning the time REMEMBER—while our day begins at MIDNIGHT, their day began at sunset. To put it in our terms let us say, their day began at 6:00 P. M.—that is our 6:00 P. M. So they ate the Passover in the early or first hours of the 14th—just after it began at 6:00 P. M. Jewish

Historians tell us they always killed the lambs in the late evening or last hours of the 13th—just before the 14th began at 6:00 P. M.

2. The 15th, or day following the eating of the lamb, was always a Sabbath or holy convocation. It is important to see that this 15th day of the month was ALWAYS a Sabbath regardless of the day of the week. Lev. 23:5-7 reads, "In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the Lord's Passover. And on the FIFTEENTH day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread into the Lord; seven days ye must eat unleavened bread. In the FIRST DAY (15th) ye shall have an holy convocation: YE SHALL DO NO SERVILE WORK THEREIN." This plain passage fixes—once and forever—the fact that the 15th or day following the eating of the Passover was ALWAYS a Sabbath or holy convocation.

This is important to see for here many have been confused. The Gospels make it clear that our Lord was crucified on a day before a Sabbath. Without any study of the Scriptures many have taken it for granted this was a regular Saturday-Sabbath and therefore He had to be crucified on Friday. This is the result of failure to STUDY. Here it is in a "nut shell." Jesus ate the Passover in the first hours of Wednesday the 14th—just after 6:00 P. M. (We would call this Tuesday night). Then He went to the Garden—was arrested—tried—and the next day crucified—still Wednesday the 14th. He was crucified on the same day in which He ate the Passover. Then at 6:00 P. M., Wednesday evening the 15th began—this SPECIAL Passover Sabbath. Now study John 1:31 which reads, "The Jews therefore, because it was the PREPARATION, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the SABBATH day, (FOR THAT SABBATH DAY WAS AN HIGH DAY), besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away." It is all so clear. This HIGH Passover Sabbath—the HIGHEST of all the year—would begin at 6:00 P. M. and they must hasten the removal of the bodies. Work could be done on the 14th but no work on 15th. Note this also, the 14th (day He was crucified) was called the PREPARATION or preparation day. It was the PREPARATION for this highest of all Sabbaths. The 15th—this HIGH day—was the day that was called the "Pasover." Study this until it is clear to your mind.

How Long Was The Body of Jesus In The Grave?

Those who accept the "Friday to Sunday" theory of His burial say He was in the grave part of Friday, all of Saturday and part of Sunday and this accounts for three days. This is a weak effort to "explain away" the plain words of God. When a "theory" is in variance with the plain Word—change the theory—not the Word. In Matt. 12:40 Jesus said, "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

If we had no evidence of when He was crucified or when He rose I would still say He stayed in the grave three full days and three full nights—a full seventy-two hours—for His Word never fails (Matt. 24:35). Any theory that does not account for the three days and three nights of His own word is false. If He was in the grave only from Friday evening till Sunday morning His Word failed. In these words Jesus makes Jonah's stay in the whale a type of His burial. In Jonah

1:17 we read, "Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights." Words cannot be plainer than these. Any school boy can read these words and tell you how long Jonah was in the fish—three days and three nights—72 hours. Who will dare make these plain words of God mean less than that? Then Jesus had to be in the grave 72 hours to fulfill the type of Jonah. In several places Jesus said He would rise the third day or that on the third day He would rise. (See Matt. 16:21; 17:23; Mark 8:31; 10:34). Those who hold the "Friday to Sunday" theory make much of this—that He would rise the third day—which they say was Sunday. But a little study of Matt. 26:62-64 will reveal very clearly that the "third day" meant the same as "after three days" the third day was "after three days" had expired—at the end of 72 hours. Now let this be a fixed point—Jesus was in the grave 72 hours. He had to be—for He said He would be—His Word cannot fail.

When Did Our Lord Rise From The Dead?

This point is very clearly fixed by the Word of God—to open minds. Matt. 28:1 (King James Version) reads, "In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre." Matt. 28:1 (American Standard Version) reads, "Now late on the Sabbath day, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre." Mt. 28:1 (Moffatt's Translation) reads, "At the close of the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was drawing, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to look at the tomb." Forget the "theory"—let God speak. At the end of the Sabbath—late on the Sabbath—at the close of the Sabbath—just at 6:00 P. M. when the first day of the week began—these two women came to look at the tomb. God fixes the time of this visit definitely. It was just at the time when the regular Sabbath closed and the first day of the week began—definitely at 6:00 P. M. Saturday. Note that this was a regular Saturday—Sabbath for it was followed by the first day of the week—this was not a high Sabbath. As you continue reading Matt. 28:1-8 you find what these women saw at 6:00 P. M. Saturday evening. They saw the earthquake and the angel roll back the stone, etc. They heard this angel announce that Jesus was risen from the dead. They were invited to see the place where the Lord lay, etc. You cannot read this passage with an open mind and not be convinced that Jesus rose from the dead at the close of the Sabbath as the first day of the week dawned or began. God very definitely fixes the very minute of His resurrection.

Now bear this in mind: Matthew records the visit of the women on Saturday evening—at the close of the Sabbath—at 6:00 P. M. Mark, Luke and John all record the visit of the women the next morning, early Sunday morning, about daylight. The two women came to see the tomb. Sunday morning they came with spices to anoint His body. It is all so clear when you let the Word mean what it says instead of trying to make it "fit a theory." Just read it and believe it as God wrote it.

When Was Jesus Buried?

Now remember we have two fixed points—fixed by the Word of God. First, He was in the

grave 72 hours. Second, He rose Saturday evening at 6:00 P. M. These are definite—no argument on them. Counting back 72 hours from 6:00 P. M. Saturday places us at 6:00 P. M. Wednesday. If there was no other evidence other than the above fixed points I would be forced to say He was buried at exactly 6:00 P. M. Wednesday evening. In our terms He was in the grave three nights—Wednesday night, Thursday night, Friday night. And also three days—Thursday, Friday, Saturday—the full 72 hours.

In the following—in the "Ten Eventful Days"—I will give more proof concerning the day on which He was crucified but just now let us look at the Word concerning His death and burial.

Mark 15:25 tells us He was crucified at the third hour. This was 9:00 A. M. when they put Him on the cross. Matt. 27:45-50; Luke 23:44-46 make it clear that He died about the ninth hour which was 3:00 P. M. This left only three hours until the High Passover Sabbath began at 6:00 P. M. Let us note the events of these three hours. Some of this three hours was consumed in the Jews' request and Pilate's order to break the legs of those crucified (Jno. 19:30-37). Then Joseph came and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate had to make sure of the centurion that Jesus was dead. Then Joseph had to buy the linen, take Jesus down and prepare Him for burial (See Mark 15:42-46). All of this consumed time—and there were only three hours to begin with. Read carefully John 19:41-42 and you readily see Joseph had to rush. The Jews' "preparation day"—the 14th—was coming to a close. The 15th—the High Passover Sabbath—was about to begin—at 6:00 P. M. He had to be buried and buried quickly. His body was placed in the tomb in the garden because it "was nigh at hand." There was no time to bury Him anywhere else. The open mind can readily see that He was buried in the last minutes of the day—even at 6:00 P. M. on Wednesday. From 6:00 P. M. Wednesday to 6:00 P. M. Saturday—72 hours. Read carefully Matt. 27:57-61; Mark 15:42-47; Luke 23:50-56. If you read these with an open mind you will be fully convinced that only Joseph claimed the body—took it down—wrapped it in linen cloth—and buried it. Nicodemus was not present that evening. The time was so short Joseph did not have time to prepare the body according to Jewish custom. Joseph did not use any spices in the burial. Note carefully Luke 23:50-56. The women observed this and that is reason they prepared the spices and brought them to the tomb Sunday morning. Note Luke 23:56. The women returned prepared the spices. The women could not prepare the spices that night or the next for it was the High Sabbath. Then they must have prepared them Friday. Saturday was regular Sabbath and they could not anoint His body that Sunday morning was the day they came. The Greek word rendered linen or linen cloth—these passages means a "sleeve" garment. The same word used in Mark 14:51-52 and rendered linen cloth. In haste Joseph simply wrapped the body in the new linen cloth—which was the Jewish custom in burial. Matthew, Mark and Luke record the temporary burial of Jesus by Joseph alone.

Now study carefully John 19:38-42. Sometime after Wednesday evening—and it surely must have been Friday—Nicodemus joined Joseph and "they" do not find the plural word "he" not "they" prepared body of our Lord for burial. Nicodemus furnished hundred pounds of spices. The Greek word for spices in verse 40 is different from that in the other gospels. It means "burial bandages." Moffat translates it "bandages." Note verse 40 which reads "Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as manner of the Jews is to bury. But what was the Jews' manner of burial? They used narrow strips of linen cloth and wrapped or wound the body in the spices which was gum substance. When they finished it was much as if the body been wound in adhesive tape. Such preparation of a body required time—time, which Joseph did not have Wednesday evening. After Christ rose we were seeing these undisturbed "burial bandages" that John the first believer in resurrection (See John 20:6-7).

I am confident this final preparation was made Friday—between the two Sabbaths. If some one objects because tomb was then under guard the soldiers, then just remember both Joseph and Nicodemus were very prominent Jewish men. Both men were members of Jewish Council. Beside

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"Christ has nowhere promised to bear the burdens of those who borrow trouble."

HE HARVESTS BIG

Who SOWS Big!

"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy."

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."—Psa. 126:5, 6.

"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."—II Cor. 9:6.

ready said they went to properly prepare His body for burial. I am definitely sure they did not know this had been done by Joseph and Nicodemus. They found the grave open—two angels present—but His body gone. As you carefully read the record you will be convinced the Roman soldiers were not there Sunday morning. After the earthquake, etc., of Matt. 28:1-8 the soldiers quickly reported it all to the chief priests (Matt. 28:9-15). These soldiers were highly paid to tell a lie about His resurrection and relieved from this watch. It all "fits together" when you "rightly divide" it.

This first Sunday was filled with many wonderful things—read the four gospel records. The crucified but risen Lord Jesus Christ appeared to His own that day—He died—but He lives.

If this study has been a blessing to you—give God the glory. Thank God for His Word—so simple and plain.

CHRISTENDOM

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can use it to glorify himself.

Our present day pretense preachers haven't changed any. They do not think there is any use of preaching anything but the new birth, and put no value on the doctrines of the Book of God. They never intend to build a church of any kind, and have too big a work to be bothered with pastoring any of them. They are too busy telling the pastors what is wrong with the churches, and thereby are leading people out of the churches, undermining the House of the living God, which is the pillar and ground of the truth; they are described in 2 Peter 2:19, "While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption;" and in verse 10 describes them as despising governments, that is they do not want any strings on them. They want to be as free as the wild ass of Arabia, just eating where the grass is greenest, destroy and scatter all that they do not want, then at the slightest hint of trouble, hoist their tails and flee to the mountains for refuge. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignities; how is that? Well, they are just mocking the churches of the land, and gloating over the failure they have seen, while the book tells us in Eph. 1:21, "Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout ALL AGES, world without end." Also in Matthew 28:20, "And, lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

It has almost become a proverb in Colorado, at least, that these wild asses are reaching more people with the gospel than all the churches put together. Well, we cannot say that they are not preaching the gospel, and that people are not

being saved under their preaching, but it can be said, if the are really saved themselves about all the reward they will receive will be the praise of men. What saith the scriptures? Luke 16:15 "and he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God."

When men count gain as godliness, and run greedily after reward by taking a compromise position, and thereby cut out all that would cause division, they appeal to Christendom to butcher up the book of God in order to have unity; then under the guise of an angel of light, makes his appeal for the tithes and offerings to support such a worthy program, and thereby are undermining the churches by putting no value on the work of the churches, whose business it is to earnestly contend for the faith, and put unlimited value on a compromising pussyfoot that boasts about having an Un, Inter, or NON-denominational program, when the very name itself boldly declares that it stands for nothing, and that it eliminates from its teachings everything that would cause division. If this could be accomplished, Christ himself would be left out. Listen to Matthew 10:34, 35, "Think not that I am come to send peace on the earth; I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law." Dear friend, when Christ causes division in the home, we should not be amazed at a beligerent Christendom, when one group stands ready to earnestly contend for the faith, while the other is ready to sell the truth down the river. In Rev. 3:10, 11, the Lord commended the church at Philadelphia for its uncompromising stand, "Because thou hast kept the words of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." Well, I'll just tell you: when people send their money in to support such a program, they are letting a man steal their crown, and when the crowns are handed out they will come out with a dunce cap. Radio programs that are scriptural should be supported in a scriptural way, and that by the churches: This would eliminate to a large degree, programs that are set for the destruction of the local churches.

If our churches have become so corrupt they are unworthy of support, the membership had better examine themselves to see if part of the blame isn't in themselves, by setting idly by and letting the corruption come

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SCARS

"John," said a father to his son, "I wish you would get me the hammer."

"Yes, sir."

"Now a nail and a piece of pine board."

"Here they are, sir."

"Will you drive the nail into the board?"

It was done.

"Please pull it out again."

"That's easy, sir."

"Now, John," and the father's voice dropped to a lower key, "pull out the nail hole."

Every wrong act leaves a scar. Even if the board be a living tree, the scar remains.

—Point and Purpose in Story and Saying.

did not enter Jerusalem in the so-called "Triumphal Entry" on Sunday but on Saturday. Remember this.

III. Sunday, Nisan 11th—the first day of the week.

Mark 11:12-19 gives His days work very clearly.

Verse 12, "On the morrow"—after events of Mk. 11:1-11.

Verses 12-14, He cursed the barren fig tree.

Verses 15-19, He went into Jerusalem and cleansed the Temple.

Verse 19, In the evening He went out of city—watch this.

IV. Monday, Nisan 12th.

Mark 11:20 to 13:11 gives a record of this day.

"In the morning (11:20) after events of 11:12-19. "They came to Jerusalem" (11:27). There He taught and answered questions.

Went out to Mount of Olives and gave the "Olivet Discourse" (13:14:1-11, "After two days was the feast of the Passover and unleaven bread." This is important—it fixes this day as Monday.

After two days—after Tuesday and Wednesday—would be Thursday—the High Sabbath, the day called the "Passover."

V. Tuesday, Nisan 13th.

Mark 14:12-16. "The first day of unleaven bread, when they killed the Passover." This fixes this day as Tuesday the 13th.

The day when all leaven was put out in preparation for eating the lamb that night (Exodus 12:4-8). The lambs were always killed in the late afternoon of the 13th and eaten in the early hours of the night—after 6:00 P. M. when the 13th began. On this Tuesday the disciples asked Him concerning their eating of the Passover and He told them. They went and made ready the Passover for Him and them.

VI. Wednesday, Nisan 14th—the crucifixion day.

Mark 14:17 to 15:47. The events of this day. 14:17 "in the evening" He ate the Passover (Lev. 23:5) — "When the hour was come" (Luke 22:14-18) — the hour for eating Passover. He always kept the law in every detail. After this He instituted the "Lord's Supper" then went to the Garden where He was arrested. His trial continued through the night. The next day Pilate delivered Him for crucifixion. He was put on the cross about 9:00 A. M. and died about 3:00 P. M. He was buried about 6:00 P. M. of the same day. All of this took place on Wednesday the 14th.

VII. Thursday, Nisan 15th — the High Passover Sabbath.

Leviticus 23:5-7; Numbers 28:

16-19. This 15th—the day following the eating of the lamb, the 14th, was always a High Sabbath. This High Sabbath began at 6:00 P. M. That is the reason they rushed the crucifixion and burial of our Lord. Remember, this was always a Sabbath regardless of what day of the week it came on. God only records one thing that took place on this special Sabbath day—the Jewish leaders asked for and received the Roman guard about the tomb (Matt. 27:62-66) but the Roman guard could not keep Him. On this High Sabbath when the nation professed to keep the law the Great Lawgiver's body lay in the tomb.

VIII. Friday, Nisan 16th.

This was an ordinary day—between Thursday the Passover Sabbath and Saturday the regular Sabbath. As already said in this study I am sure it was on this day the women prepared their spices for His body. Also sure it was this day Joseph and Nicodemus prepared His body for final burial—after the manner of the Jews.

IX. Saturday, Nisan 17th—a regular Seventh-day Sabbath.

God's Word is also silent on this day until we come to the very last minutes — and Matt. 28:1-8 records this. At the very end of the Sabbath—as the First Day of week dawned—at 6:00 P. M. the two women came—not to prepare His body—but to see the tomb. But His three days and three nights—His 72 hours in the grave are over and He rises at the very minute. The angel rolls back the stone and announces His resurrection. But even after all they saw (Matt. 28:1-8) these women did not believe He was risen from the dead (Read Jno. 20:11-18). That He had actually risen from the dead was hard for them to believe. Even after Peter looked in the tomb and saw the grave clothes he "wondered in himself" (Luke 24:12). God's Word is plain to every open mind (Matt. 28:1-8). Jesus rose at the end of the Sabbath—at 6:00 P. M. Saturday evening instead of Sunday morning. There was no "resurrection morning with Him."

X. Sunday, Nisan 18th, the first day of the week.

We repeat, Matthew records the visit of the women on Saturday evening and does not mention their visit Sunday morning. Mark, Luke and John record their visit Sunday morning and do not mention their visit Saturday evening. As al-

THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS"

(Continued from page two)

the tomb belonged to Joseph. These women could have enjoyed any reward for Pilate or the soldiers.

The Roman guard was only to make sure His body was not taken away from the tomb (Matt. 27:62-66). The women knew the way He was buried Wednesday evening (Luke 23:54-56) but I am sure they did not know of this final preparation by Joseph and Nicodemus.

Had they known it they would not have brought their spices to the grave Sunday morning. May answer one more question. It was lawful for the two women to go to the tomb Saturday evening—on the Sabbath—but they could not anoint His body on the Sabbath. After the Sabbath ended at 6:00 P. M. it was too late to do this. So they came only to see—and the next morning they brought the spices—spices they never used—for He was already risen from the dead.

The Ten Eventful Days

I plead for a careful study of the order of events in these days.

I. Friday, Nisan the 9th.

John 1:1. Jesus came to Bethany "six days before the passover." He came from Jericho (Mk. 10:46; 11:1). This Scripture definitely fixes the date when He came to Jerusalem for the last week. "Six days before the Passover." The lamb was eaten on the 14th but the 15th—the High Sabbath—was the day called the "Passover." He was crucified Wednesday—but Thursday the 15th was the Passover. Counting back six days from the 15th you have the 9th. So He came to Bethany—near Jerusalem—on Friday, Nisan 9th.

II. Saturday, Nisan 10th—a regular Sabbath.

John 12:1-19 "the next day"—the next day after He came to Bethany. This day He entered Jerusalem riding the ass and the people spread palm branches before Him. Note—this was not "Palm Sunday" but palm Saturday. That day He entered Jerusalem and also the Temple. In the Temple He "looked round about" but did not cleanse it—why? It was the Sabbath and the money changers were not at work (Read Mk. 11:1-11). He

SHALL HE FIND FAITH?

What shall He find when He cometh
Suddenly piercing the skies?
Calling His own to meet Him,
Bidding His dead arise?
Cometh at dawn, or at even;
Cometh—Today it may be!
Cometh—it must be soon.

He will find eyes that watch not;
Lamps burning faint and dim;
Hearts that His own heart broke for,
Caring so little for Him!
The world, that He suffered and died for
Gone mad in its race for fame
And me that He laid down His life for
Denying His Holy name.

He will find singing, and sighing;
Laughs with a sob underneath;
He will find selling, and buying,
Marrying, and given in marriage,
Laughter and music and mirth;
Nevertheless, when He cometh,
"Shall He find faith on the earth?"

Help us, oh, help us, dear Master,
To watch for Thee day by day—
Surely Thy footsteps already
Echo not far away—
Oh, when Thou comest, dear Master,
Breaking in on earth's sorrow and mirth
In the hearts Thou art teaching to trust Thee
Thou shalt "find faith on the earth!"

MASTER-SIN OF MASONRY

(Continued from page one)
again: 'Among the pagans, rites of the most magnificent nature were often used in setting apart their temples to the purpose of worship. A Masonic Lodge is an imitation of these ancient examples, consecrated with mystical ceremonies to the sacred purpose for which it had been constructed.' (Textbook of Masonic Jurisprudence, page 288). George W. Chase informs us: 'The Jews, the Chinese, the Turks each reject either the New Testament, or the Old, or both; yet we see no good reason why they should not be made Masons. In fact Blue Lodge Masonry has nothing to do with the Bible; it is not founded upon the Bible. If it was it would not be Masonry, it would be something else.' (Digest of Masonic Law, pp. 207, 208)."

—From Eminent Witness

Against Secretism.
By Thomas M. Slater.

CHRISTENDOM

(Continued from page three)
in, when it is their divinely appointed task to maintain a church by having no fellowship with the unfruitful works of unrighteousness, in the place of getting over and letting unrighteousness take over.

What is the reason for this embarrassing predicament of Christendom? Indeed it will be embarrassing, when the demand comes from our Lord to give account of our stewardship. The answer is obviously the lack of understanding of God's Word, the lack of zeal for the truth and the will power to put truth that they know into action. This is evidenced by the flood tides of indifference; "they say and do not." Surely we can see that the masses are conformed to the world, while very few faithfully war against all compromises.

Surely the flood tides of socialism has the old ship of Zion almost dashed to pieces on the rocks of compromises, and she is reeling like a man that wine has overcome. In the place of "Ye shall know the truth and

the truth shall make you free," it is a social gospel that will offend no one. In the place of "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my pathway." It is, "The flashing evangelist is good enough for me, He is setting the world on fire, and doing more good than all the churches."

It is a marvel how these speckled birds of Christendom that have no such affiliation try to justify their position by twisting scriptures around to fit their needs. For example they use I Cor. 9:14, "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." Well they might be preaching the gospel, but the "even so" cuts them loose, and sends them adrift, because the "even so" refers to the way in which the Levites were taken care of. The Levites ALL had temple affiliations, and were therefore supported by the tithes of the temple. You say, Are not you a little hard on those who preach the way of salvation? I will let the scriptures answer this question. Rom 16:17, "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause DIVISIONS and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and AVOID them." Well now you cannot avoid a thing and support it at the same time, and not only that, it is another means of dividing Christendom, so AVOID them. We also search the scriptures in vain trying to find one that preached that did not have the endorsement of some local church. The great commission of Matthew 28:19-20 was assuredly given to a called out body, and not to individuals. Let us look into this farther in I Cor. 9:7, "Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charges?" Well, these birds that preach without a church is like a man going to war without a country. It is foolish even to think about; then "Who planteth a vineyard and eateth not of the fruit thereof?" Does not Paul liken the vineyard to a church that was organized and functioning in a missionary capacity, and does not a vineyard have a location, and is not it a group that is together? Well, the devil knows the value of the

tithe to put over a truth destroying program, and he is exhausting every effort to horn in on the offerings and sacrifices that are meant to go to the support of the Lords' program. Let us look at Genesis 15:9. Here we find old Abraham offering a sacrifice unto the Lord, but he had to fight the vultures away until the Lord accepted it. My dear friend, don't think that you can make an offering unto the Lord without a conflict with the buzzards of Satan.

The falling away of these last days is manifested by the substitution of human wisdom instead of divine revelation, and its preachments are, "The old book is out of date, we do not need churches anymore." By such teaching they open the way for a Satanic program, the financing system is counterfeited that Satans work might go on in a rapid pace, it promotes the greed of Balaam, anything for reward, by supplying the demands of the people, by prophesying smooth things, they receive liberal support which is their yardstick to show how much good they are doing.

This type of a vulture never goes to any church for support, knowing that his unscriptural program would be denied support, so he resorts to panhandling, mooching, and begging, appealing to his victims for the support of such a worthy program, telling of the multitudes he is reaching through his ministry. He cares only for the big name he gets out of the deal, and to do this he must set at naught the value of an abiding institution which Christ himself declared to be the light of the world.

Well, folks, as you know, vultures feed on dead things, they must have a keen sense of smell because we have observed many times that while the animal is still alive, here will come the vultures, and in some cases they will go to work on them before they are dead, while they still have a little life. Of course, this hastens the death of the animal lest they get well and the vultures miss a good meal. Well, vultures of the ministry are not interested in the revival of any church, but at the least sign of being sick, the vultures will begin to swarm, getting ready to pick their bones. These obnoxious birds are not sport to shoot at, but who could resist checking the efficiency of his ammunition, and seeing how his gun is operating. He is a bird that likes to soar around, and be on the alert, and never miss a disgruntled church member. When he is spotted, he hastens to his rescue, and the first operation on Mister Disgruntle is to get his eyes picked out so he will be blinded to the value of the church; then the vulture has the victim in his power, and he unflinchingly yields his life to the bird of prey, by believing that the support of such a one is doing the most possible amount of good in the service of the Lord. This is Satan's slimy way of destroying the value of the house of God, substituting a radio pastor or some kind of a radio church for the Church of the living God, which is the pillar and ground of the truth.

That we be not misunderstood, the Carson Avenue Baptist Church, of which I am pastor, with the help of sister churches is supporting a daily radio program, THE MORNING MANNA PROGRAM over KOKO at 8:00 a. m., serving the Arkansas valley with the bread of life, and we are doing our dead level best to not only stress blood redemption, but the value of God's lighthouse, his church. This is the Churches business and we feel that it should be supported by the churches; while others

have liberally supported the program, that are not members of the church, and are not giving through a church, we feel that we are doing it the way the Lord commanded, in and through a church.

The one great truth that many people ought to know is that God blessed some of our great independent preachers in spite



Elder Robert G. Walker
La Junta, Colorado

of their mistakes, and not because of them. God blessed the truth that they preached to the salvation of many lost souls, but Satan uses the error that they were in to blind the people to the need of truth. Many of these great preachers left behind them some kind of a teaching institution, that majors in the errors of their founder rather than the truth that God blessed during their ministry.

Satan too well knows that if he can get the teaching of God's word out of the hands of the institution that Christ established, and gave the commission to, he will have made great advancement in the promulgation of his counterfeit system of teaching. Most of these unscriptural teaching institutions can easily leave off some of the teachings of the Bible, the controversial subjects, because this would jeopardize their unscriptural influence.

While on the other hand if the teaching of the book is left where it belongs, in the local church, they have Christ as their head, the Holy Spirit as their guide, it would matter not what the general run of people demanded, they could be occupied with the needful things of earnestly contending for the faith, honoring their Lord and not trying to get along with the devil. If you do not have an institution that stands for truth, how can you expect the products of the institution to stand for anything?

As the Holy Spirit indwells the Lord's Churches, and guides them into the way of all truth, who can deny this as the source from which God calls his truth loving, and Christ extolling preachers. Let us direct our efforts in the establishment of such institutions that will have truth as the object of their defense, and strive to hand down such a noble heritage to the following generations, should the Lord tarry. Independent churches are as important as independent preachers. By this we mean to remain free to support any mission program that they deem as scriptural, and to operate free of any denominational interference of any kind. Such are the churches of the Lord. FREE TO SERVE THE LORD, FREE TO BE LED BY

THE HOLY SPIRIT, FREE FIGHT UNGODLINESS HIGH PLACES.

Submitted in the service of such a church.

Pastor R. G. Walker
La Junta, Colo.

DO YOU LIKE QUESTIONS?

(Continued from page one)
tomb, and resurrection should take place.

Since the resurrection Jesus, Paradise has been heaven. In other words, Christ emptied Paradise and took inhabitants into the inner presence of God. Thus we think of Paradise as being taken to heaven.

Some reasons for believing this—

(1) Ephes. 4:8, 9 seems to teach it.

(2) The abode of the dead was in O. T. times spoken of as "down" and the region thought of as "below," but N. T. times it is spoken of as "up" and "away." (For examples—Acts 7:55, I Cor. 13:1, Thess. 3:13; Jude 14).

(3) Paul speaks of "the end" family in heaven and on earth (Ephes. 3:15). This passage "sockdolager" for the sleeper and for those who have an intermediate place for saved dead.

Until the atonement had been made, the "way into the heavenly places had not been opened up" (Hebrews 12:18-24).

NOW—when a Christian dies he goes immediately into the presence of Christ. Proof found in the expression of Paul: "Having a desire to depart and be with Christ." And "Absent from the body—present with the Lord." Also we remind you of Stephen said, "Lord Jesus receive my spirit." That fits in with soul-sleeping with the theory of an intermediate place for the saved. PURGATORY is not hinted at.

Summary—

The penitent thief believed and asked for future remembrance. Jesus went beyond request and promised him immediate blessing. He promised to take him to be with him that very day. So Jesus took him to Paradise with him, not only that but took him into heaven with him together with the spirits of other saved dead. There he has been for centuries, and will be when Christ returns.

PRAISE HIM

(Continued from page one)
These gifts mean that we have about half the amount needed to pay for our new mission. Your gift, large or small, will be most fully appreciated!

An Appreciated Letter

I have been receiving your paper for some time. Really don't know why, except some of my friends had me placed on the mailing list; anyway I am very grateful to the one whom credit is due. I have much to say of you: I have found your sermons with interest, have found in your paper a treasure of good Gospel truth and information. I have lots of them laid away for reference. I have handed lots of them to my friends. I can truthfully say that you are the strongest Baptist that I ever read after. There is anything I could write for, it would be thousands of thanks just like you.

Yours Brother in Christ
Elder J. N. Lester, Himyar,