

Surprising Discoveries In The Roman Catholic Bible

Mysteries.

2. The Douay Version does not give a single example of any one offering prayers to Mary or any saint. This practice did not begin until about 600 years after the apostles.

3. Holy Water, so important in Roman worship, is not mentioned in the text of the Roman Bible, and was not known in Christian worship until about 1000 years after Christ and the apostles.

4. There is nothing in the text of the Catholic Bible to indicate that celibacy of the clergy was to be taught, but much to show that ministers of Christ have the right to marry and did marry. Gregory VII, a pope who lived 1000 years after Christ, outlawed the marriage of priests.

5. The Rosary is not to be found in the text of the Roman Catholic Bible. Beads were used in very ancient times in Pagan worship, but were not introduced into Christian churches until about 1000 A. D.

6. The doctrine of purgatory

was not mentioned by Christ or any of the apostles, nor is there a word in the text of the Catholic Bible to indicate that there is such a place. Purgatory like so many other doctrines of Rome, comes directly from Paganism.

7. Before 1870 the dogma of the infallibility of the pope did not exist even in the Roman Catholic Church, and there is not one word in the text of the Roman Bible to prove that it is true.

8. The earnest Roman Catholic will be surprised to discover that the word pope does not occur in the text of the Catholic Bible.

9. An honest study of the text of the Catholic Bible will reveal that no priests, such as the Roman priests, were appointed by Jesus Christ, nor by any one else with divine authority.

10. Lack of space makes it impossible to mention all of the many innovations that have been introduced into Roman worship without sanction of the Church. One will search the text of the Roman Bible in vain

to find that the cross, relics or images were worshipped. He will find no suggestion of Lent or fasting on Friday. There is nothing there approving the sale of indulgences. There is no hint that Mary was born without sin. Not a word indicates that Peter was ever in Rome, nor is there anything to suggest that he was the first pope.

The discovery that so much of Catholic worship and practice is not to be found in the one Source Book of true Christianity is a startling one indeed. What can it mean except that the Roman Church has forsaken the teachings of Christ for the commandments of men?

Catholic Teachings Contrary to the Teachings of the Catholic Bible

But the zealous Catholic who seeks to know his own Bible will make many other still more startling discoveries. He cannot help but see that the text of his Catholic Bible (notice that we

are not referring to the so-called "Protestant Bible") teaches much that contradicts the teachings of his Church. A few examples are cited. And every Bible quotation given is from the Douay Version of the Bible published with the approbation of "his eminence" James Cardinal Gibbons, late archbishop of Baltimore.

1. The text of the Roman Catholic Bible forbids the followers of Christ calling any man "Father." (The word pope means father).

"Call none your father upon earth; for one is your father, who is in heaven" (Saint Matthew 23:9).

2. The clear teaching of the text of the Roman Bible is that Mary is no nearer to God than anyone who does His will.

"As He (Jesus) was yet speaking to the multitudes, behold His mother and His brethren stood without, seeking to speak to Him. And one said unto

(Continued on Page Three)

BIBLICAL

PREMILLENNIAL

CALVINISTIC

BAPTISTIC

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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Church Discipline For His Churches

W. Lee Rector

The doctrine of church discipline is tremendously important. All who are acquainted with the teachings of the Word on this subject will agree at once with this statement, and all who understand the condition of our churches today will also agree that very few churches are doing anything about it.

Many of our churches are now cursed with worldly-wise and carnally-minded leadership. Under such guidance, the grossest offenses are committed against the laws of God in the name of Christ. Thus many churches have become cold and unresponsive to the truth. They have "the form of Godliness but deny the power thereof." Satan's seat is now in many churches.

When we look at the attitude of many brethren toward the question of church discipline, we stand aghast, amazed, and

dumbfounded. Such contempt for divine instructions evidences the exodus of the Lord from them and the entrance of Satan in the name of Christ. Many churches are nearly, if not completely, Laodicean.

In this brief treatise, we shall look briefly at the occasion for, the urgency of, the kinds of, and the consequences of church discipline.

The Occasion For Church Discipline

The presence of unregenerate hearts, functioning in the life of

Mused Uncle Mose

Deacon Sidebottom tryin' to git he gal up in time for chu'ch, and she say she got to ketch up on hur sleep. He say, "You git outen dar right now. Ef you ketches up on yo' sleep you'll do it down at de chu'ch jes' lak de res' ob us."

a church body, explains one of the occasions for church discipline. These, not knowing the Lord in the free pardon of their sins and not spiritually interested in the precepts of the Master, find themselves willingly running rough-shod over God's laws, and church rules of decorum. Flouting these, church discipline becomes a divine imperative in order to save the Lord's church witness.

The presence of unrestrained flesh, operating in the lives of saints, also occasions church problems. Since the way of the flesh is the way of Satan, a yielding to it can but beget offenses against the divine laws of the Lord's houses. Worldly-minded saints are offenders at this point.

The presence of untutored enthusiasts in our churches, clamoring for conformity to things practiced round about, bring in

(Continued on page three)

Read This To Learn What A Church Is For

Roy Mason

This may sound like a useless question, but it is a fact that many people do not know what a church is for. Let us consider some of the false notions that prevail.

The false notion that it is an agency to entertain and amuse people.

Many think of a church as just another club. They want several socials a week, frequent musical programs on Sunday evenings, plays, pageants, picnics, swimming parties, etc., etc. Standard B. Y. P. U.'s must have social affairs ever so often. Entertainment is thus made a part of church life.

Where in the Bible is such taught? It is not there! There is not one verse that even hints that a church is to furnish amusement or entertainment.

Note: It is right certainly for Christian people to associate

(Continued on Page Three)

LATER THAN WE THINK

I am solemnly convinced when I view the Jew, the Gentile, and the Church that it is later than we may think.

Time hastens without consent and leaves us empty handed. We think we will always have time to do what we need to do, but we are forgetting that from the standpoint of duty, "it is later than you think." We are told that "the night cometh, when no man can work."

If you have work to do—do it now.

If you have a witness to give—give it now.

If you have a soul to win—win him now.

If you have an obligation to discharge—discharge it now.

If you have a debt to pay—pay it now.

If you have a wrong to right—right it now.

If you have a confession to make—make it now.

If you have a preparation to make—make it now.

If you have children to train—train them now.

Time is passing and you are passing out of time.—The Regular Baptist Call.

One Visit With Orthodox Saints Pueblo, Colo.

The Orthodox Fellowship met April 13-15 with the Park Hills Baptist Church of Pueblo, Colorado, for three days of the freest and richest fellowship. Its editor has enjoyed in a long

Preachers and laymen from 12 states including Kansas, Iowa, Texas, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Colorado, Arkansas, Oregon, Mississippi, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri were in attendance.

It was a joy to the editor to speak three times to this fellowship on:

1. "The Sins of The Saints."

2. "Why I Am A Baptist."

3. "Sanctification."

The brethren were most kind in their response to these messages. Other speakers were C. Clark, Denver, Colo.; Claude Bung, Evansville, Ind.; Edgar Carlisle, Ardmore, Okla.; Lester Noles, Fowler, Colo. Besides these, there were others who

(Continued on page three)

SHOE ON OTHER FOOT

Because 163 Catholic students Baldwin-Wallace (Methodist) College at Berea, Ohio, were required to take eight hours credit in the philosophy of religion and attend chapel services, the Bishop of Cleveland ordered them last January 13 leave the college and enter Catholic colleges. "This study of religion," the bishop declared, "tends towards agnosticism and destroys all objective standards of belief and conduct."

Rev. R. C. Knuff, priest of St. Mary's Church in Berea, told the students: "You cannot continue to attend in bad faith for an hour without being guilty of serious sin."

The Catholic Church demands religion in the schools, but only its own special brand.

Bro. Gilpin:

I have greatly enjoyed reading The Baptist Examiner for some time. Before subscribing recently it was passed on to me by a friend in another town.

Mrs. Ray Lunsford, Jr. Hogansville, Ga.

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NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

(Continued from page one)

that there is a greater meaning than what appears on the surface. In other words, there is more to this Scripture than just the story of Jesus miraculously walking on the water. I would like for us to study closely that deeper meaning.

I

JESUS HAD TAKEN HIS DEPARTURE FROM THE DISCIPLES. In verse 15 we read: "When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone." He had just wrought this miracle of feeding five thousand men, not counting women and children. Starting from about the equivalent of a man's lunch, He had prepared food for all this crowd in a supernatural manner. They immediately said, "This is the man we have looked for. Why didn't He come along before! Surely, we will follow Him. We will have no more worries about tilling the soil; we will have no more worries about pulling the net through the sea to gather fish; we will have no more problems as to the matter of the material necessities of life. We will never have to worry about the grocery bill; we will never have to be bothered with the matter of where our next meal is coming from. This is the man—why didn't He come along sooner?" Right then and there that crowd was in for making Jesus Christ, King. If He would have permitted it, they would have rebelled against the Roman Government; they would have overthrown the power of the Caesars, or at least would have attempted to do so; and instead of a Roman monarch ruling Palestine, the Lord Jesus Christ would have been set up by that crowd as an earthly king. Why not? Wouldn't you be interested in someone who would be able to give you a fish-fry anytime you might desire without even having so much as to sit on the bank and do the fishing? Who wouldn't be interested in a king like that?

In order that Jesus Christ might complete His mission, and in order that He might go eventually to Calvary and there die for our sins, He had to take His departure. That crowd didn't need a king that day—they needed a Saviour. Jesus didn't come 1900 years ago to be a king; He came to be a sacrifice, a substitute, a Saviour to pay the price of our redemption from sins. In order that He might complete the task that he came to do, Jesus escaped out of their midst into a mountain himself alone.

To me this is all highly typical of what our Lord Jesus did when He came to the end of His

way; for, beloved, if you will turn through these gospels carefully, you will find that when our Lord Jesus Christ had finished His ministry, had died for our sins, and arose from the grave, that the next event of His life was that He ascended unto the Father. In other words, He departed from His disciples. Listen:

"And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven AS HE WENT UP, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is TAKEN UP FROM YOU INTO HEAVEN, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."—Acts 1:10, 11).

I say, beloved, there is an exact parallel in these Scriptures. In my text in John's Gospel, they wanted to make Him a king. The only way Jesus could avoid it was to escape out of their midst and depart alone into a mountain. In this text in Acts 1, the disciples came and asked him a question:

"When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?"—Acts 1:6.

They were ready to make Him king, but Jesus did again what He had done before in His life. He left the disciples and departed, this time into the skies.

I go back and read of this miracle of the feeding of the five thousand, and then I see Jesus, in order to escape those who wanted to make an earthly king of Him—I see Him as He goes up on a mountain Himself alone. All this was to merely prefigure the time when after His death and resurrection, the disciples would ask Him then to restore the kingdom of Israel; and this time, He departs not into a mountain alone, but ascends slowly into the skies to be with the Father.

While this text in John's Gospel tells us of the departure of Jesus from the disciples, I want to remind you this morning that our Lord Jesus Christ after He had finished His passion at Calvary, departed from the disciples on the Mount of Olives to be screened with the Father and shut away from this world during this present dispensation.

II

WHILE JESUS WAS GONE FROM THE DISCIPLES, THE SEA BECAME QUITE TURBULENT.

"And when even was now come, his disciples went down unto the sea, and entered into a ship, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was now DARK, and Jesus was not come to them. And the sea arose by reason of a GREAT WIND that blew."—John 6:16-18.

That sea, beloved, to me represents the teeming masses of mankind. You stand on the shores of the sea and watch the waves as they come up with clock-like precision—the same number every day, the same number every year, and you realize they have been doing it all through the past centuries, and therefore logically shall continue for all coming centuries—when you stand there and see the waves come in, you can behold the teeming masses of society. As the waves roll one on top of the other, so, beloved, the sea represents mankind in a turbulent state.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it

"IT'S BROUGHT A NEW SPIRIT INTO OUR HOME"



That's what one fifteen-year-old German lad said about a Bible which had been given him and which he introduced into his family's life.

be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just."—Matt. 13:47-49.

In this passage our Lord speaks of mankind as a sea into which the net is cast. Listen to another Scripture of like nature:

"And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues."—Rev. 17:15.

Notice he says "the waters . . . are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues." Therefore, beloved, when I see Jesus going up into the mountain and the disciples getting into that little boat and the sea becoming tempestuous, I see society today as a turbulent mass.

It says that the wind began to blow and the waves began to beat upon that little craft. The sea became rough—there was no calmness about it. I close my eyes and look out upon a world that we live in today in this modern twentieth century, and I see today a sea of mankind that is getting rougher—a sea of mankind that is becoming more and more turbulent—a sea of humanity that is today more and more restless than ever before in the history of civilized man.

Look at the world religiously. There is a restlessness. Look at the world economically. Look at it industrially. Look at it politically. Look at it educationally. Look at it from an international standpoint. Any way you look this morning, beloved, the world is in a restless state. As the waves roll up one after another upon the seashore, so beloved, the world today is restless in every way, and the storm is getting worse and worse, more and more violent as the days pass by.

III

THE DISCIPLES ENTERED INTO A SHIP. While Jesus had gone up into the mountain, the disciples got into a ship. I think this can easily represent the local church. In fact, when I see those disciples get into that little craft, I am reminded that that little ship represents every local New Testament church there is in the world today.

Notice, beloved, it doesn't say there was a fleet—there was just one ship. You say, "Was that a Baptist ship? Does that represent a Baptist Church?" Well, you know that I believe it does. You know this morning I'm certain as the fact that there is a God in heaven that the church our Lord built 1900 years ago was a Baptist church. When I see those disciples get into that little vessel to cross the Sea of Galilee, it would tell me that while my Lord is away, having ascended unto the Father, and while the sea is in a state of turbulence and while the waves are rolling high, that the place for every child of God is in a New Testament Missionary Baptist Church. I am convinced this morning that every person who has been born again ought to be a member of a church like the church that Jesus built.

As those disciples got into that little vessel to cross the Sea of Galilee while Jesus was away from them, so, if you are saved this morning, you ought to get into the church that the Lord Jesus Christ built in the days while our Lord is gone from us.

IV

I WISH YOU WOULD NOTICE THE STORM.

"And the sea arose by reason of a great wind that blew."—John 6:18.

Jesus has gone from them, the disciples are in the vessel, the wind begins to blow, and that restless tossing sea just about swamps the little craft in which the disciples are riding.

To me, all this is but a picture of the world's opposition to every local New Testament church. Satan is described in this parable as "the prince of the power of the air." It was the Devil that whipped up that storm in order to sink that little vessel. He is the "prince of the power of the air," and it was the Devil that caused that wind to blow that the vessel in which the disciples were riding might go down to the bottom of the Sea of Galilee.

The opposition that is raised today against the church of our Lord Jesus Christ is the opposi-

tion that comes from Satan—even the Devil himself.

It is highly conspicuous to that the disciples couldn't stand the storm. There wasn't a thing they could do about it. They just simply couldn't change the storm. Beloved, 1900 years of earth's history passed since that day, Christians haven't improved world one particle since the of Jesus Christ. Every generation talks about making world a better place in which to live. Post-millennial education talk about the world getting better day by day. After 1900 years of Christianity, the world has not improved one particle. I'll even go further and say after 1900 years of Gospel preaching, there is no change in this world today. I wouldn't even expect there to be, for our Lord told us that it would not be any change. Listen:

"But as in the days of Noah, were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."—Matthew 24:37.

Jesus said that when He came back again, the world will be just like it was in the days of Noah. 1900 years of Gospel preaching hasn't changed world one particle. Those principles couldn't stop that storm today. After 1900 years in which the gospel has been preached somewhat throughout all the world, the world still is in a state of unrest, and the world is still in opposition against the church that Jesus built. I say, beloved, the church can't still the storm today.

I think this morning, beloved, how little God's people today can do to counteract the tide of immorality and worldliness, ungodliness and sin that are abroad within the world. Last week I read that if all the cigarettes which were used in the United States this past year had been laid end to end, they would extend around the globe 252 times. Do you mean to me, beloved, that God is pleased with the consumption of which does no one any good but which actually brings harm to the human body which is temple of the Holy Spirit? The saddest of all, Christians take of it the same as the world.

No, no, beloved, those disciples couldn't still that storm and Christianity can't still the storm today.

A Baptist preacher in New York City conducted a survey of recent date in which he learned that a questionnaire was sent to 55,000 youngsters who were attending day schools of New York City. 16,000 of them reported they had never heard of the Commandments. As a result of that same questionnaire, an estimate was made that of the million young people under 18 years of age in the United States, 36 million of them never set foot inside a church one time in their lives.

E. P. Aldridge, who is Pastoral Secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention, in The Watchman Examiner said: "The world is growing head at the rate of six million yearly." He further said there are 27,000 boys and girls in the United States who never been in a Sunday School. Will you believe me that every girl in college today are three bar maids serving liquid hell to those who go to the bar? But listen to words of J. Edgar Hoover he said: "The crime bill of America is a little better \$28,000 every sixty seconds. Can you imagine, beloved,

(Continued on page four)

UPON YOUR KNEES

A marble cutter, with chisel and hammer, was changing a stone into a statue. A preacher, looking on, said, "I wish I could deal such clanging blows on stony hearts." The workman made answer, "Maybe you could, if you worked like me, upon your knees."

SURPRISING DISCOVERY

(Continued from page one)

Behold Thy mother and Thy brethren stand without, seeking Thee. But He answered him that told Him, said: Who is My mother, and who are My brethren? And stretching forth His hand towards His disciples, He said: Behold My mother and My brethren, For whosoever shall do the will of My Father, that is in heaven, he is My brother, and sister, and mother" (Saint Matthew 12:46-50).

It is right to call Mary blessed for to her was given the divine favor of being the mother of the human body of Jesus. But not even the Catholic Bible gives any one the right to call her "mother of God." The deity, Godhead, of the Saviour has always existed. Mary was not the mother of that. She was the mother of the human Jesus.

3. The text of the Catholic Bible clearly and emphatically teaches that there should not be an image in any Christian church or home and that no true Christian should bow down before an image or relic.

"Thou shalt not make to thyself a graven thing, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, nor of those things that are in the waters under the earth. Thou shalt not adore them: I am the Lord thy God" (Exodus 20:4-5).

"Little children, keep yourselves from idols" (I John 5:21).

4. The Christian will find that the text of the Roman Bible commands sinners to confess their sins to one another and to God, but there is nothing to indicate that we should confess them to any man with the expectation that he has power to forgive them.

"Confess therefore your sins to one another" (Saint James 5:16).

"If we confess our sins (to God), He is faithful and just, to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all iniquity" (I John 1:9).

5. The text of the Duoy Version does not teach that we are saved by works of any kind, but that the precious blood of Jesus Christ which was shed on the cross for all sinners.

"Knowing that man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ" (Galatians 2:16).

"The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin" (I John 1:7).

6. The text of the Roman Catholic Bible teaches that salvation is free and that those who would require money for religious services do it in violation of "the teachings of the Word of God."

"Freely have you received, freely give," (Saint Matthew 10:10).

7. It will be a surprise to the Catholic to find that the text of the Bible teaches that God sent His Son to be the Saviour and friend of men, and that He will hear our prayers when we pray directly to God in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "Amen, amen, I say unto you: if you ask the

Father any thing in My Name, He will give it you" (Saint John 16:23). "For there is one God, and one Mediator of God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (I Timothy 2:5).

8. The text of the Catholic Bible clearly teaches that God has not appointed any man to be the vicar of Christ on earth, but that He has sent the Holy Ghost into the world to be the Comforter of sorrowing hearts and the Teacher who will lead them into all truth.

"But the Paraclete, the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring all things to your mind, whatsoever I have said to you" (Saint John 14:26).

"You have no need that any man teach you; but as His unction (the Holy Ghost) teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie. And as it hath taught you, abide in Him" (I John 2:27).

9. The Roman Catholic will discover from a study of the text of his Bible that all who accept Jesus Christ as personal Saviour are saved the moment they believe, here and now. They need not wait until the death hour for assurance of heaven, nor will they suffer in purgatory.

"Amen, amen, I say unto you that he who heareth My word, and believeth Him that sent Me, hath life everlasting; and cometh not into judgment, but is passed from death to life" (Saint John 5:24).

"For God so loved the world, as to give His only begotten Son; that whosoever believeth in Him, may not perish, but may have life everlasting" (Saint John 3:16).

10. The text of the Catholic Bible emphatically declares that tradition makes void the Word of God and is an evidence of disobedience to revealed truth.

"For leaving the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men... Making void the Word of God by your own tradition, which you have given forth. And many other such like things you do" (Saint Mark 7:8, 13).

What can the honest Catholic conclude from these clear teachings of the Roman Bible? Surely, he is forced to the conclusion that his Church has departed from the clear and definite Word of God. And it will most likely dawn upon him that this is the reason why the Roman Church has never shown any real interest in enlisting her people in the study of the Bible, but has in countless instances done all that she could to discourage that holy exercise. For a sincere Catholic to read the Roman Catholic Bible carefully is dangerous. He will discover the sins of his Church.

THE MOST SURPRISING DISCOVERY OF ALL

As startling as the above-mentioned discoveries will be to any honest man who studies the Catholic Bible, there is a still more surprising discovery in store for him.

He will find that his Church has deliberately added to God's Word and in direct violation of God's revealed will concerning

His Word.

Here is the warning! "If any man shall add to these things, God shall add unto him plagues written in this book. And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part of the book of life, and out of the holy city and from these things that are written in this book" (Revelation 22:18-19). This warning is written on almost the last page of the Holy Scriptures.

What has Rome done? At the Council of Trent, A. D., 1546, she deliberately violated this commandment by adding the books of the Apocrypha to the Catholic canon of Scripture. And she did this in spite of the fact that these books were not in the Hebrew Scriptures used and sanctioned by the Lord Jesus, nor was there a word from Him that could be interpreted to mean that he would approve of their addition at a later date. He definitely authorized certain of His disciples to write the New Testament books, but not one word of approval did He give to the Apocrypha.

BESIDES THIS: without a blush, Rome insists that the decrees of councils, *ex cathedra* utterances of popes and what not are equally binding upon Christians with the Word of God. She boasts of her violation of Christ's commandment regarding His Word.

NOR IS THIS ALL. The earnest Catholic will discover that his Church has violated the other half of Christ's warning by subtracting from the Word of God. This she does by inserting foot-notes in her authorized editions of the Bible. And in these foot-notes, she attempts to explain away and change the clear and self-evident meaning of God's Holy Word so as to make it conform to her erroneous teachings.

God has given no one authority to so violate His Holy Message to the hearts and needs of men. And He will not hold him guiltless who thus sins against Him.

Oh Friend, read the Word of God for yourself. It was written to you. God will teach you its meaning. Do not be led astray by any one. Make Christ your personal Saviour and the Holy Spirit your divine and infallible Teacher. Then you shall know the truth, and the truth will make you free.—Tract.

WHAT IS A CHURCH FOR?

(Continued from page one) with each other and they should have their social life with each other. But the point is, it is not the business of the church, as such, to sponsor or provide social life. Christian homes should provide for the social activities of its inmates and associates. When a class or any church group have anything of a social nature, it should not be regarded as either worship or service, but something wholly apart from anything commanded or required in the Bible.

Plays, pageants, entertainment programs, are absolutely out of place in a church. People are not won to Christ through these. How has God ordained that people should be saved? See I Cor. 1:21.

Dangers of Church social life:

That people will think that entertainment and foolishness and fun is all that there is to religion. It gives the unsaved a wrong

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MAY 16, 1948

PAGE THREE

impression of religion entirely.

The expense. Many churches spend more on "refreshments" during a year's time, than they spend on missions. The Corinthians turned the Lord's Supper into a "refreshment" feature and gorged on bread and got drunk on wine. They were punished for this. I Cor. 1:21, 22 with 29-34.

The levity and foolishness. The average church social is a place of tomfoolery. What does the Bible say about such? (Matt. 12:36). Does the Bible mean what is here said? Then how get around it?

Rotten things in the name of religion. In Tampa all sorts of rotten things are done in connection with social life of the churches. Swimming parties, petting parties, drinking, dancing, etc. Churches would be better off without such stuff entirely.

It brings undesirable and unregenerate and worldly people into prominence in churches, who would otherwise have nothing to do with the church. The biggest leaders in social life that I have known in churches during a period of 20 years have been crooks. That's the honest truth if ever I told it. People are rarely if ever won to Christ through a lot of social life.

Constant social activity and rotten worldliness goes hand in hand. I have never known a church that doted on social activities that was a spiritual church—not one. The members are in for what they can get—not for what they can give. Fun and not the advancement of the Lord's Cause is what they are looking for. Any church is better off without people of this kind.

The energy expended. The energy that ought to be expended in witnessing for Christ, seeking the salvation of the lost, and worshipping God, is spent on social "jags."

PUEBLO CONFERENCE

(Continued from page one) spoke after I left and whose names I do not have. Every one of these brethren was at his best and God blessed the messages that were delivered.

The Park Hills Baptist Church with her pastor Eld. Grady Higgs certainly played the part of host most admirably. Surely a better host church and pastor could not have been found.

I was glad to meet some new brethren and renew acquaintances with others. It was a joy indeed to meet Bro. Higgs, host pastor. He is a fine young man, who has only been in the ministry about five years, yet in that brief period he has acquired more knowledge of God's Book than many who have been preaching for years. It was worth a trip across the continent just to meet this loyal man of God. Great things will be heard of him in days to come.

This was truly a great meeting, with unusually large attendance. It was not a time for the making of programs. No one read any dry statistical reports. It was just three days of preaching, Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. What a blessing and a joy to all those in attendance!

CHURCH DISCIPLINE

(Continued from page one) doctrinal corruption, and thus create problems for our churches.

The operation of these three groups in the life of any church, if uncurbed, will destroy the unity and the power and the fellowship of the Lord's house. These occasion need for church

discipline.

The Urgency of Church Discipline

The presence of spiritual rebellion and spiritual virus and dissipating influences in the life of a church demand action. These must be dealt with in their incipency else the spiritual life of the church will become corrupted and the witness of the church played down to the level of the flesh and the carnal. For a church to dodge dealing with these down-grade influences spells spiritual ruin.

Members of churches have been heard to say, "O we can't exercise discipline in our church. If we did we would have to turn everybody out." Perhaps there is a large measure of truth in this word. The existence of such church situation does not discount the doctrine of church discipline, but discredits the leadership of churches where such corruption obtains. The dominion of such carnality in our churches strongly challenges them to clean house, and at once. Churches must move to clean up, else we shall find ourselves in a universal apostate condition.

The Kinds of Church Discipline

There are three classes of church discipline disclosed in the Scriptures. These deal with personal offenses, public offenses, and doctrinal offenses.

1. Personal offenses:

Matt. 18:15-17 describes the procedure the Lord requires for personal offenses. The offended one shall go to the offender, and if the offender does not satisfy the wrong, then the offended one shall take two or three witnesses to the offender, and if he refuses still to satisfy the wrong done, then the offended one shall take the personal offense to the church, and if the offender refuses to satisfy the offense before the body, then the church shall "let him be unto it (thee) as a heathen man and a publican."

Please note that no committee is named by the church to settle this problem.

2. Public offenses:

I Cor. 5:1-13 describes the Lord's method of disciplining one guilty of a public offense against the house of God. The Lord, by Paul, instructs the church when it comes together, in the name of the Lord Jesus, to withdraw fellowship, and to do this upon the basis of a common report.

Another example of the Lord's dealing with a public offense against His church is set forth in 2 Thes. 3:6. Here the Lord orders a withdrawal of fellowship for disorderly conduct.

See also Acts 5:1-11.

Please note again that no committee is required by the Lord to investigate and recommend concerning these public offenses.

3. Heretical offenses:

Tit. 3:10 shows the Lord's way (Continued on page four)

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NOTICE

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NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

(Continued from page two)
crime in America costs a little better than \$28,000 every minute of every day? He said that crime in America costs better than 41 million dollars a day, and better than 15 billion dollars a year.

I say, beloved, those disciples pulling at the oars—in spite of the fact that they pulled, the storm continued just the same. They couldn't stop the storm.

The church that the Lord Jesus Christ built can't stop the storm of immorality and ungodliness and the things contrary to the Gospel today. Instead, the Word tells us that things grew worse. The Scriptures say that it became dark. The storm increased, and then worse than all else, the disciples became fearful and afraid.

I wonder, beloved, if the typology holds true there. As time goes on, as the church fails to still the storm, and the storm gets worse and the darkness deepens, is it not likewise true that God's people become fearful and afraid? I'm saying, beloved, that as conditions grew worse with these disciples, you and I can expect them to grow worse today. I'm not expecting this town to ever come to an acceptance of Jesus Christ as a Saviour. Things will grow worse and worse. Listen:

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good. Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God: Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. But evil men and seducers shall wax WORSE AND WORSE, deceiving, and being deceived."—2 Timothy 3:1-5, 13.

These disciples in the ship couldn't still the storm—the

storm grew worse. In this day and on down to the time when Jesus Christ comes again, you and I can't expect to still the storm. Instead, the storm will grow worse, the night will become darker, and the sad thing about it is that Christians' hearts shall fail them for fear of the things that are coming to pass upon the earth.

V

I WANT YOU TO NOTICE THOSE DISCIPLES. They couldn't stop the storm, but I'll tell you what they did do; they kept the ship from sinking. This ought to thrill your heart this morning, beloved. The old Devil may fling his angry winds and his waves, but the church that has been patterned after the one that was set up by our Lord Jesus Christ is going to succeed. The disciples couldn't stop the storm, but they kept the ship from sinking.

I thank God that after two thousand years of human opposition—after two thousand years of Satanic opposition, that the church which Jesus Christ established still prevails. I thank and praise Him this morning that back yonder he said, "I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." We've got a promise that in spite of the fact that we can't still the storm, that church which He established is going to continue.

I like to notice that those disciples never gave up; they never quit rowing. I'm satisfied that their hearts were filled with fear and fright. I'm satisfied that they were terror-stricken and wondered what might come to pass. Yet, beloved, they didn't give up; they kept pulling at the oars just the same.

Sometimes, beloved, the storm gets mighty fierce. Sometimes things look mighty dark. Don't try to still the storm, but remember your task is just to keep holding to the oars.

I tell you, beloved, when I think about this Scripture it thrills my heart every time I am tempted to give up. Every time it seems that the Devil says, "What's the use in opposing the things of the world, why stand in opposition against them when you know the Word of God plainly prophesies that con-

ditions will grow worse and worse?", then I come back and see those disciples pulling at the oars, and it makes me want to take a little firmer grip and pull a little harder on the oars the Lord has given me to use.

I wonder how you feel about it this morning. You know you can't still the storm. You ought to be definitely convinced of this after the years of your Christian experience. Beloved, even though you know that to be true, I wonder if you feel like I do this morning that you want to take a little firmer grip on the oars and pull just a little harder like those disciples who didn't give up.

VI

NOTICE THE END PICTURE.

Where was Jesus all this time? Up in the mountains. What was He doing? Listen:

"When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone."—John 6:15.

What for? The Scripture doesn't say. What do you think? My opinion is that He went up there to pray. He wanted to get off to himself to pray.

Where is our Lord today as the storm beats on us? He has left us; He has gone up into the skies. What is He doing? He is praying, interceding for us today. Listen:

"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to MAKE INTERCESSION for them."—Hebrews 7:25.

"For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, NOW TO APPEAR IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD FOR US."—Hebrews 9:24.

He left the disciples and went away into the mountain. He left us and went away into the skies. What is He doing? Interceding for us today.

Beloved, He saw those disciples pulling at the oars; and He sees you and me, and it blesses my soul when I remember that as my Lord sees me, He also is praying for me, interceding for me there in the skies; He is making intercession for God's children today.

Just in the midst of the storm, from out of nowhere, without the disciples seeing Him coming, Jesus put in His appearance. I say, beloved, they didn't see him until He was there. He came from the mountain into their presence and stood on the Sea of Galilee.

Beloved, when the hour gets the blackest and when the night gets the darkest, our Lord Jesus Christ is coming back again.

I'm glad, though, that He didn't leave these disciples out in that boat all night. I'm glad that night came to an end, for it tells me with glorious assurance that our Lord isn't going to leave us down here in the world alone; instead, He is coming back some of these days for His blood-bought, blood-redeemed saints that have trusted Him to save.

Our text says that when they had rowed 25 or 30 furlongs they saw Him coming. This book was written by God. Didn't God know how far they rowed? Certainly. Why didn't he say 27½ furlongs? Why didn't he say 28 or 29 furlongs? I'll tell you why. Jesus said, "Of that day, (referring to his coming) knoweth no man, not even the angels." Only God the Father knows the day He is coming back. If he had given the exact number of furlongs the disciples rowed, some smart fellow would have figured the length of a furlong and would have multi-

plied this by the number of furlongs, and said "on this particular day Jesus Christ is coming back." Therefore, our Lord, with wonderfully divine wisdom, in order to be sure that no one would know the exact time of His coming, said "when they had rowed 25 or 30 furlongs."

Regardless of how long it is until Jesus Christ comes, the fact of the matter is He is coming. Listen:

"Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, And if I go and prepare a place for you, I WILL COME AGAIN, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also."—John 14:1-3.

Beloved, he is coming back again. I don't know when He is coming, but I know He is coming.

Did you notice that He came with a message of cheer, for we read that He said unto them, "It is I, be not afraid." He didn't rebuke them because they couldn't still the storm. He didn't say, "Shame on you that you haven't been able to still the storm." He came with a message of cheer saying, "It is I, be not afraid."

Beloved, when our Lord comes back, the man who has tried to stand faithfully for the things of the Lord will have nothing to fear when he stands in His presence, for he will not hear a message of rebuke, but a message of cheer.

Notice, beloved, that just as soon as Jesus comes that sea which has been in an angry rage and has been attacking the ship, is now seen to be calm under the feet of Jesus. The waves have been angrily attacking the ship and it looks like it will send the little boat to the bottom of the sea; but just as soon as the feet of Jesus touched the waves, they became perfectly quiet.

Educationally, religiously, industrially, economically and politically the world is raging with restlessness; but when Jesus comes again, as soon as His feet touch the world, there is going to come a calmness and a peace that this world has never known before. Listen:

"The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool."—Psalms 110:1.

All the enemies against the church that Jesus built, all the enemies against the truth of the doctrines of His church—all those enemies some day are going to be in perfect submission. Jesus is going to make them His footstool when He comes again.

Did you notice what the disciples did? It says, "Then they willingly received him into the ship." Of course, they willingly received Him. I imagine those disciples said, "You never looked better to us in all your life than you look now." When my Lord Jesus comes back, I'll be glad to see Him. I ask you that are saved this morning: Wouldn't you be willing to receive Him this morning? Wouldn't you be glad if before this service comes to a close Jesus Christ would put in His appearance? Those disciples were glad to see Him, and the man that is saved this morning, is on tiptoe looking for Jesus. If you are God's child this morning, there is a hungry void within your heart that you want Jesus Christ to fill.

Then our text says that the ship was at land. Right then, when Jesus got there they were where they were going. Whenever Christ comes back, the Christian's conflict is all over. The journey is complete, the harbour is safely reached.

And where were they going? To Capernum in the land of Gennesaret. Capernum means the city of consolation, Gennesaret means the land of the prince. They were at land in the city of consolation, in the land of the prince. When? Jesus came.

When our Lord comes everything will then be as far as this world is concerned. We will then be in the city of consolation in the land of the Prince.

Let me ask you a simple question: Won't it be a wonderful day when that day becomes ours, and when this experience which we have studied in nature and type becomes a glorious reality? Won't it be marvelous when our Lord comes again?

Beloved, when He comes what is He going to find? Is He going to find you with your hand on the oars pulling against the tide? Is He going to find you given up and sat down? Help you to be one of that crew that shall be standing pulling the oars when Jesus Christ comes again.

God bless you!

CHURCH DISCIPLINE

(Continued from page three)
of dealing with a doctrinal fender, or an heretic, after first and second admonition. The Lord expressly says, "a man that is a heretic, after the first and second admonition reject, knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself." counsels the withdrawal of fellowship.

Please note that no church committee is authorized to deal with heretical offenses.

The practice of churches naming committees to effectuate discipline is completely without Scriptural sanction. Accordingly, such a practice is a man invention, the which betrayed churches into further and further trouble.

Some one might inquire, "Does not a church have authority to name a committee to serve it at its own will?" This authority is inherent in the divine "keys" the Lord delivered to His church by which He "binds" and "looses," Matt. 16:19; and Matt. 18:18. Nothing herein is intended to diminish the divine authority granted to the local church by the Lord Himself. We are insisting, however, that the Scriptures make no definite provision for committee function in church discipline.

Consequences of Church Discipline

Churches practicing discipline find the Lord maturing the spirit of love and devotion in His house; find the Lord's Holy Spirit led and cleansed; find a unified and heavenly blessed church; and find a courageous and conquering membership.

Churches practicing discipline will honor the expressed teachings of the Word about every aspect of its ministry, both message and method.

Churches practicing discipline will find two things obtaining:

1. They find the world the worldly-minded church members frowning upon action, and
2. They find the Lord His faithful saints smiling and blessing such action. Be faithful to the Lord.

Churches practicing discipline under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, are "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord," I. Cor. 15:58. "So mote it be."