

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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Biology Takes A Back Seat

I didn't even learn to read!" Hope smiled faintly at this reminder and then laid down her fork and sighed. "Daddy," she finally ventured, "this has been the hardest day I have ever spent in school. I feel as though I never want to go back."

Mr. Davidson stared at her in blank amazement. "Why so?" he questioned. "Did something unusual happen?"

"Something certainly did," answered Hope. "You know Miss Landon, who teaches our biology class, is always telling us that the world and everything in it came into being by means of evolution. Well, today, when

she began teaching in the same way, I felt I couldn't sit there and take it any longer. So I raised my hand and said, 'Miss Landon, I am sorry to disagree with you, but I cannot accept the theory of evolution. My father is a minister and I have been brought up from childhood to believe the Bible account of creation. I believe with all my heart that God created the universe and all that is in it by the Word of His power.'

"Miss Landon stared at me as if she couldn't believe her ears, and said, 'I didn't suppose anyone living in our enlightened age had such old-fashioned' (Continued on page three)

HOW I MADE HIS ACQUAINTANCE

I had heard much of Him, but took no heed. He sent daily gifts and presents, but I never thanked Him.

He often seemed to want my friendship, but I remained cold.

I was homeless, wretched and starving—in peril every hour—and He offered me shelter, comfort, food and safety, but I was ungrateful still.

At last He crossed my path, and with tears in His eyes He besought me, saying, "Come and abide with Me."

Let me tell you how He treats me now.

He supplies all my needs; He gives me more than I dare ask.

He anticipates every need; He begs me to ask for more.

He never reminds me of my past ingratitude; He never rebukes me for my past follies.

He is as good as He is great.

I am in all things His debtor, but He bids me call Him Friend. He is Jesus, "a Friend who sticketh closer than a brother."

Holy Rollerism's Errors

Roy Mason
Tampa, Fla.

BOOK OF ALL DENOMINATIONS" which is perhaps the most authoritative book on denominations in America, lists the leading holiness "churches" as follows:

"CHURCH OF GOD," started in 1886 in Monroe County, Tenn.

"CHURCH OF GOD" (APOSTOLIC) started in 1897 at Danville, Ky.

"THE ORIGINAL CHURCH OF GOD," started in 1886 near Birchwood, Tenn.

"CHURCH OF GOD" (headquarters at Anderson, Ind.), started about 1880 by Daniel S. Warner and others.

"CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE," made up of a union of Pentecostal missions and "churches." Union consummated in 1907 at Chicago.

(Several smaller holiness groups are also detailed, but none date back farther than 1886).

What then is wrong with the origin of Holy Rollers? Simply this: Their so-called churches came into existence—were brought into existence by human founders eighteen hundred or more years after Jesus Christ

set up his church on earth. Hence they are false churches—rivals to the one that He started—and with no authority from Heaven for their existence.

Jesus said (Matt. 16:18—"I (not some man) will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Holy Roller "churches" started by men, eighteen centuries and more after Christ, cannot possibly be identified with the church which Jesus started during the days of His personal ministry and which He promised to perpetuate in the world. (Same thing holds good with reference to any so-called church started by a human founder this side of Christ).

But not only is Holy Rollerism wrong as to origin, it is likewise wrong as to its teaching.

Mused Uncle Mose

Dey's lots o' peoples dat brag 'bout bein' broad minded wid dey chilluns dat have to come 'roun' attter while to de pahson weepin, an' ast him to hep 'em pick up what's lef' o' de ruins.

This I shall set forth as briefly as possible.

The vagaries of Holy Rollerism are so numerous and so varied that it would be very difficult to catalogue all of them. They are all split up and divided among themselves as to belief. For instance, the writer of these lines once lived in a town where they were two separate bands of Holy Rollers. They had divided over the question of the millennium; one group declaring that we were at that time living in the Millennial era! But while differing widely, there are certain teachings that characterize practically all of them. I shall call attention to some of these, and shall seek to show the fallacy or unscripturalness of them. Let us keep in mind that if space permitted, the number of points on which Holy Rollers are in error could be extended almost indefinitely. However, I take time and space to enumerate only a few of these. I begin by saying that Holy Rollers are

WRONG ON SALVATION

1. They make salvation a

process, instead of an instantaneous act of faith on man's part, associated with instantaneous, supernatural, regeneration brought about by divine power. Their way is to go to the "altar" and "pray through." The process they go through at the "altar" is really a form of penance. The idea seems to be that when they whoop and howl and weep and pray enough that God finally is appeased and they "come through." Their practice in the matter of salvation is a departure from the simplicity of the way of salvation as given by Paul when he said (Acts 16:31) "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

2. They teach apostasy, which is the doctrine of salvation partly by works. For certainly there is no essential difference between working to BE saved and in working to KEEP saved. In either case it is dependence upon human effort. This doctrine is also the doctrine of the devil. The first preacher of apostasy was the devil. In what is probably the oldest book in the Bible, the Book of Job, the devil preached that lie. In Job 1:11 and 2:4-5 Satan told God that he could make Job apostatize. God told him to try it. He tried and failed.

3. They teach that salvation is (Continued on page four)

DOUBTS OVERCOME

A boy came to his pastor speaking of his doubts. The pastor listened to it all, while his own heart beat with the tenderest pity for the lad. "It is a most serious hour for you, my lad," the pastor said; "will you do me a favor this afternoon?" "I will, with pleasure; tell me at once what you would have me do." "Go for a visit this afternoon to an old blind man," whose name he called, "and read to him several chapters from the Word of God."

The lad was pale, how could he do it; what should he read? The pastor told him what to read, and asked that again at seven that day he join him in (Continued on page four)

What's Wrong With Holy Rollers?

FIRST, THEY ARE WRONG TO ORIGIN. There are various sects and so-called churches of the different Holiness groups today. Phelan's "HAND-

THE WEAK BATTERY

takes more strength to shine in it does to sound. That is an amateur electrician and out some time ago. An change says that he rigged an electric light for his room and found after a little that flickered and faded. A friend examined his plant and told him that it would never again be a light but it might run a bell. He declared that the battery was not strong enough to make a light, but was still strong enough to make a noise.

And that is what is the matter with some of our church members. They are not strong enough spiritually to make a light, but they are strong enough otherwise to make a (Continued on page four)

The First Baptist Puplit

"THE WITHERING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"

"The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the Spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass."

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of God shall stand for ever.—Isa. 40:7-8.

About ten years ago I heard a modernistic radio preacher say, one Sunday morning, that he had served as a foreign missionary in China and that he endeavored to take the best of the heathen religions which the people espoused and tried to build Christianity upon it. I am satisfied, beloved, that the statement of this modernistic radio

preacher would truly characterize the attitude of many, many preachers of America today. I am sure that there is many a preacher in America today who is trying to do the same thing; namely, to build Christianity upon the best that is to be found in a man.

In fact, beloved, you would not even have to get out of Russell to find that to be true. A preacher here in this town not long ago said to a man, "You are a pretty good fellow. When you come to church next Sunday, bring a change of clothes and let me baptize you into the fellowship of our

church." In substance, that was the statement this so-called preacher made to this unsaved man who himself makes no profession and no pretention as to a spiritual experience with the Lord Jesus. I say, beloved, that that which is true of this so-called preacher here within this town, is true of hundreds and thousands of preachers all over America today who attempt to build Christianity upon the best that can be found in human nature.

May I say before I go one step further that all such attempts are but failures and all (Continued on page two)

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JOHN R. GILPIN—EDITOR

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"THE WITHERING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"

(Continued from page one)
such attempts, beloved, must inevitably and invariably lead to failure.

I

Before there can be any comfort of the Holy Spirit, **THERE MUST FIRST OF ALL BE THE WITHERING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.** I mean to say, beloved, that before any man can ever be saved, yea, before any individual can ever experience salvation, the Holy Spirit must wither our fleshly natures. If you will turn with me to the 16th chapter of the Gospel according to John in the 8th to 11th verse, you will find these words, "And when he is come, (the Holy Spirit) he will *reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.*" I say, beloved, in the light of this verse as well as in the light of my text, the first work which the Holy Spirit does in the life and the experience of any individual is to wither that one's fleshly nature.

Several years ago when we were first married, I went to hold a revival meeting in a very wealthy, aristocratic church in the Bluegrass. Mrs. Gilpin went along with me and if ever two individuals were wine and dined and feasted royally, it was our experience at that time. I closed that revival meeting, preaching as I might say for the "upper 400," and went immediately the next week to hold a revival meeting in a community near to Cincinnati, which was certainly just the opposite.

If I might say that the one in the Bluegrass was constituted of the "upper 400," then I would certainly be compelled to say, to speak truthfully, that the church near Cincinnati was made up of the "lower ten thousand." I have had lots of experiences by way of coarseness and absolute filth that I have had to put up with in being entertained in various homes in many localities. However, I can say, beloved, that I have never in my life in twenty odd years of experience in the ministry—I have never yet seen so much coarseness, filth, and dirt as was mine to experience in those two weeks in this revival meeting. I think I have a comparatively good stomach and that I can put up with and stand a little bit of most any kind of rigid experience, yet I will say, beloved, that for two solid weeks with but very, very few exceptions, we were virtually grieved by the coarseness and the filth that we experienced in our entertainment during those two weeks of that revival.

Beloved, the Holy Spirit is

more sensitive to moral filth than the most delicate, cultured, refined lady is to the most degraded living conditions in the world. I say, beloved, that no woman could ever be more sensitive to living conditions than the Holy Spirit is to moral filth. Therefore, beloved, before the Holy Spirit takes up his residence within, he has to wither our fleshly nature.

Once upon a time America belonged to the Indians and all the land that we know today that is tillable and in cultivation was once what we might say backwoods. Before there could be one acre of ground tilled, before a city might be planted, before the transaction of commerce might begin, the woodsman's ax must hew and hack those trees and bring them to the ground. The trees of centuries, yea, even virgin timber must feel the woodsman's ax and fall, the stumps had to be removed from the ground, the roots of those trees had to be taken from the soil and burned. The whole reign of nature had to be disturbed before civilization might make its inroads upon America.

I say this morning, beloved, before the Holy Spirit can or will plant the Word of God within our hearts and within our lives upon which to build Christian faith, the whole reign of our old nature must be disturbed and must be withered ere the Spirit of God build Christ within our lives.

In that respect, beloved, I am reminded of that great Christian character of a few years ago who is affectionately spoken of as "Uncle John Vassar." He had a cousin in whom he was tremendously interested, so much so that he continually invited this cousin to go to the house of God to hear the Word preached. Yet when this cousin repeatedly refused to go to the house of God, finally Uncle John Vassar hired him to attend services just once. Out of compulsion because that he had made a bargain and in order to live up to his end of it, this cousin went to church just once. But the day that he attended services in the house of God as a hired man, the message that the preacher brought broke his heart to the extent that he went then continually and of his own accord. Returning home one night after a service at the house of God, he awakened his wife who had not gone to church with him, saying, "How can you sleep when your husband is going right down to Hell before your very eyes?" How can you account for the fact that he was so disinterested that he would not go to the house of God without being paid to do so and later went of his own accord gladly and joyously, hoping that the Lord might save his soul?

How is this experience to be accounted for? Only in one manner! Previously he was just a natural man without the Holy Spirit. Then when he went to the house of God, beloved, the Holy Spirit began the withering work which He must effect in the life of every individual before He plants the Word of God within that person's heart.

I, too, have had many experiences of like nature. I can remember a man who hasn't lived here in Russell now perhaps for ten or twelve years, but who came to our services one night, beloved, and sat on the third seat to the front with the full expectancy of causing trouble in the house of God that night. He told me at the close of the service what he had expected to do and showed me what he had come here expecting to strike me with. Yet, beloved, when

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF CHRIST

The moment the man believes on Jesus Christ he is in the righteousness of Christ—perfectly righteous; he has put upon him the Saviour's garments. You heard Mr. Weaver say on this platform—I thought it was a good illustration—that one day he met with a very poor man who was in rags. This man being a Christian, he wished to befriend him; he told him if he would go home with him, he would give him a suit of clothes. "So," said Richard, "I went upstairs and took off my second best and put on my Sunday best for I did not want to give him my best." I sent the man upstairs and told him he would find a suit which he could put on; it was my second best. So, after he had put on the clothes and left his rags behind, he came down

and said, "Well, Mr. Weaver, what do you think of me?" "Well," I said, "I think you look very respectable." "Oh yes, but Mr. Weaver, it is not I. I am not respectable; it is your clothes that are respectable." And so," added Mr. Weaver, "so it is with the Lord Jesus Christ. He meets us covered with the rags and filth of sin, and He tells us to go and put on not His second best, but the best robe of His perfect righteousness; and when we come down with that on, we say, 'Lord, what dost Thou think of me?' He says, 'Why, thou art all fair, My love; there is no spot on thee.' We answer, 'No, it is not I, it is Thy righteousness; I am comely because Thou art comely; I am beautiful because Thou art beautiful.'"

—Copied

that man went out of the house of God he went away completely whipped because the Holy Spirit began that night the withering work within his soul and in less than a month's time after that he had seen the truth that Christ died for his sins and was gloriously saved. I baptized that very man because primarily the Holy Spirit began to wither him the night he came here to cause difficulty.

In my first pastorate one Sunday evening at the close of the services, a man invited me to come to his home the next week to talk with him. I told him that I could not see him any that week for I would be in college and wouldn't have an opportunity. He then wanted me to come to his home the next Sunday, and I told him that I rather doubted that I would be able to do so but I made an appointment to meet him there at the house of God one hour before the service the next Sunday night. In some manner he was providentially hindered from keeping his part of the agreement and after I had gotten to preaching, he came in late to the services. It happened that that second Sunday night he was in church, his son was saved; the next Sunday night his daughter was saved; the next Sunday night he, himself, was saved. Those children had never been in the house of God one time to hear the Word of God preached previous to that experience. They were children some fifteen or sixteen years of age. I baptized this man and these two children; later, I had the privilege of baptizing his wife, and some six months afterward, I learned the sequel to that experience. One of the deacons said, "Bro. Gilpin, you don't know how near you came to being thrashed one Sunday evening about six months ago," and then he called the name of the family of this man whom I had led to Jesus. He said, "Do you know why that man came to church that first Sunday night? He came in order to give you a thrashing and he was not even coming inside. He was going to wait outside until the services were over, and I persuaded him to come in and sit down and be peaceable until the services came to a close." He said the Spirit of God got hold of that man's heart there within that first service. I say to you this morning, my beloved friends, the Holy Spirit withered that man; his fleshly nature withered that first night he heard the Word of God.

Do you realize this morning, beloved, the reason why so many people who join Baptist churches today live like the Devil and

act like the Devil even when they come to the house of God? It is because, beloved, that they join the church and they make a profession but the Holy Spirit of God has never withered that old nature of theirs. I say, my brother, you can't build Christianity upon a life that has not been withered by the Holy Spirit. I insist today that the cause of so many church difficulties and the reason, beloved, of so many problems that arise is nothing more than that folk join the church without first being saved, without the Holy Spirit ever having withered their old fleshly nature.

A great Scotch preacher of a few years ago was Robert Murray McChaney. He had been carefully trained in his youth. He was blameless, we might say, so far as his morals were concerned. He knew his Bible. He had been taught to repeat formal prayers. He went to church very carefully and very regularly and was pretty well satisfied with himself in his religious experience until his elder brother died, and as he stood looking at his brother within the casket, he said to himself, "If I were there within that casket, where would my soul be?" As he stood looking down into the casket with his dead brother's face staring up at him, it dawned upon him that he was an unsaved individual, religious but lost. One thing, beloved, had never taken place within his life. He had never been withered by the Holy Spirit. Later, Robert Murray McChaney was saved, and then he wrote his own experience in the words that we sometimes sing:

"I once was a stranger to Grace and to God
I knew not my danger, I felt not my load
Though friends spoke in rapture of Christ on the tree
The Lord, my righteousness, was nothing to me.

"I oft read with pleasure to soothe or engage
Isaiah's wild measure or John's simple page,
But often when pictured the blood sprinkled tree,
The Lord, our righteousness, was nothing to me.

"When free Grace awoke me by light from on high,
Then legal fears shook me, I trembled to die;
No refuge, no safety in self could I see,
The Lord, our righteousness, my Saviour must be.

"My terrors all vanished before that sweet name,

My guilty fears banished, boldness I came
To drink at that fountain, giving and free,
The Lord, our righteousness, was all things to me.

I say this morning, beloved, the first thing the Holy Spirit has to do within any life before Christ may be planted in you is this: You have to be withered by the Holy Spirit.

II

THE VALUE OF THIS WITHERING IS INTERESTING. LEADS US TO SEE OURSELVES AS WE ARE. No man ever sees himself as he actually is before God until the Holy Spirit withers his old fleshly nature. Read with me Romans 8:8, "So then they that are of the flesh cannot please God." No man, my brother, my sister, ever believes that of himself until the Holy Spirit withers him. Why, there are people here this morning who believe that they can please God even though they are unsaved. There are those who are here this morning who are unsaved who have a feeling that they themselves are highly pleasing unto God. I tell you, my brother, you never see yourself as you are, a lost sinner unable to please God, until the Holy Spirit withers your fleshly nature. Did you ever have a wound on your body or any part of your body where a proud flesh set in? You know what I mean by "proud flesh," don't you? Well, beloved, that proud flesh that will heal, that proud flesh has to be removed from the wound. I say today, my brother, before the Spirit of God ever works within your heart to save your soul by the implantation of Jesus Christ, that Holy Spirit has to wither the flesh that you and I are naturally possessors of before God.

Another value of withering that IT LEADS US TO JUST HOW SINFUL WE REALLY ARE. No unsaved man knows the depths of his own depravity. No unsaved man realizes how sinful he is. No unsaved man will ever realize nor ever know just how sinful he is in God's sight until the Holy Spirit withers his fleshly nature. Why, the unsaved man looks at this world and to him it is a beautiful thing. Everything in the world has to offer is beautiful and is perfectly all right. It is as beautiful as the flowers in spring. But, my brother, the world to a saved man is a world to a saved man is a world to an uninhabitable wilderness. Read Ecc. 12:8 where Solomon says, "Vanity of vanities."

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THE WITHERING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

(Continued from Page Two)

the preacher; all is vanity." The unsaved man wouldn't say that. No unsaved man, my brother, could ever realize that this world is all vanity. To him it is a paradise until the Spirit of God withers his fleshly nature.

Another value of withering is, **IT SHOWS US OUR UTTER UNRIGHTEOUSNESS IN GOD'S EYES.** Before a man is saved, he thinks himself very, very righteous and he prides himself on the fact of his righteousness.

Matthew 10:20 a rich young ruler said to Jesus, "What lack I yet?" Imagine a man so sincere, yet he realizes not how sincere he is, daring to stand in the presence of Jesus to say, "What lack I yet?" That was because, brethren, he had not been withered. I say today that no man can know how unrighteous he is until the Holy Spirit withers his fleshly nature. We have a good example of that in the Gospel of Luke. Two men went to church, one bad and one good. The good one said, "Lord, I fast so often; I give my tithes." And he stood before God all the good there was in him. He might as well have said, "Lord, I am so good. I taste me. See how sweet I am." And the record says that the good man went down to his grave condemned but the other man, the poor sinner, who realized that he was a terrible sinner in God's sight, standing off himself and smote upon his breast, wouldn't even dare to look up to God, but he smote himself and said, "God, be merciful to me a sinner!"

That poor sinful wretch, the flesh of God says went down to his grave justified, whereas the other went away condemned. Why? One reason, my brethren, the Spirit of God withered one, while the Spirit of God had not withered the other. No man will ever know how unrighteous he is until the Holy Spirit withers his fleshly nature.

Another value of the withering work of the Holy Spirit, beloved, is **THAT IT LEADS US TO SEEK THE ALREADY PRESENT SAVIOR.** Do you realize, beloved, that the Lord Jesus Christ is seeking you this morning? Luke 19:10 says, "The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

That is His business. He is the one who does the seeking. He is the one who does the saving. My brother, you never have met the Lord. You never have, in any wise at all, thought of seeking the Savior. You will never seek Him until the Holy Spirit withers you in your flesh. Only the man who is going to a physician. A man who has a cancer or a tumor in his body for years but being ignorant of its presence, he never goes to a physician. Only when he realizes the presence of that maladjustment within his physical body. No lost sinner ever seeks the Savior until he realizes that he is a desperate sinner in God's eyes, or as we might say, until

the Holy Spirit withers him in his own nature.

III

THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE. You may say this morning, "Bro. Gilpin, I don't care whether the Holy Spirit ever withers me or not. I am a lost man. I am very happy. I go about my business and I am enjoying the world and I don't care a whole lot whether the Holy Spirit ever works with me or not." Very well, beloved, you have an alternative, namely this, if the Holy Spirit does not wither you now, then beloved, your soul must wither eternally. Listen:

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

My brother, it is one of two things: Either the Holy Spirit withers you now or else you must wither eternally in a lake of fire. What an alternative!

As I have said repeatedly, sin has to be paid for. You can pay for your sins in Hell. You can't pay for them in a day, a week, a month, a year, ten years, or even a century; there is no prospect of ever paying for them in the sense of getting out. It will take you all the ages of eternity; yea, eternity might even come to the end and you wouldn't any more than have your sins paid for. You can pay for them yourself in Hell but Jesus Christ paid for them on the cross by His death on Calvary being a perfect substitute in God's sight. He fully satisfied the law of God by His death, paying what it will take you all eternity to pay. Listen sinner friend, look up to Him this morning. May the Holy Spirit of God wither you now that you won't have to wither in God's presence. May the Holy Spirit of God wither your fleshly nature this morning and implant the Spirit of God within you today that you might be saved so that you won't have to wither for your sins throughout all eternity.

Let me ask you a question this morning, beloved, as I bring this simple message to a close. **HAS THE HOLY SPIRIT EVER WITHERED YOU?** You say, Bro. Gilpin, I am a church member. I have been baptized. I come to church when it is convenient. I am asking you a different question. Has the Holy Spirit withered you? Have you ever come to the place that you realize that you are a sinner in God's sight, deserving of Hell and that you ought to have gone to Hell? Have you ever been withered to the extent that you realize that unless the Lord saves you, it would be a Devil's Hell for you? Oh, may the Spirit of God wither you today and plant the Word of God within your heart whereby that you may be saved. Listen, I Peter 1:

23-25: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." When the Holy Spirit withers you, he does not stop, he then plants the Word of God within your heart and through that Word you are born again into the family of God by the Lord Jesus Christ. I ask you this morning, have you been withered? Has the Holy Spirit planted the Word of God within you? Are you saved? Are you a child of God this morning? You can have this experience instantly.

There used to be an elderly man who lived in this section who was a Baptist preacher. I knew him and loved him. He lives in Florida now, a great stalwart man of God, now way up in years, retired, waiting for the Lord. One day we stood right in front of this pulpit and talked about the passage of Scripture that I have read to you this morning from the 40th chapter of Isaiah. I asked him if he had ever thought in terms of that Scripture. I asked him if he concluded with me that this text in Isaiah definitely taught that a man has to be withered by God before that he can ever be saved. He said, "Bro. Gilpin, I have thought of that. I believe it, and it has been my own experience." He said, "One hour before I was saved I was looking for whiskey to get drunk." He said less than one hour from the time he started out with others with that expressed purpose in mind he was a saved man, but, he said, "In that length of time the Holy Spirit withered my fleshly nature."

Oh, may God's Holy Spirit this morning touch you and bring that proud flesh down to the place where that you realize what a sinner you are in God's sight. May you look up to Jesus who died for sinners and trust Him as your own personal Savior! May God bless you!

BIOLOGY TAKES A BACK SEAT

(Continued from Page One) ideas. It surprises me that a person who has had the advantages of a modern educational system can be so narrow-minded. Surely there are not many who believe as you do.

"Oh, yes," I answered, "there are a great many people who believe as I do. In fact, everyone in our church does because Daddy has always preached the Truth to us."

"Well, this is interesting," she continued, in a sarcastic tone of voice. "You surely do not accept the story of Jonah and the whale, do you?"

"Yes," I replied, "it is in the Bible and I believe the Book from cover to cover."

"I suppose you would have us believe there is a personal devil, too, then, since you take the Bible so literally," she went on.

"I certainly believe it myself," I answered, "for I have had personal dealings with him and I know he is very real."

"At this she shook her head in an incredulous manner and asked, 'What do you say, then, about Jesus, who claimed to be the Son of God? You surely don't believe He was more than a man, do you?'"

"By this time I felt as if the weight of the universe were

resting on my frail shoulders and that it was up to me to keep it from crashing. So I sent up a swift prayer for help, and began, "Miss Landon, I know in my heart that Jesus Christ is God as well as man. I have always believed it, but two weeks ago I accepted Him as my personal Saviour and since that time I have known it is true!" At this point the bell rang for the class to dismiss, and there was not time for any further discussion."

Hope's mother was in tears now as Hope concluded her account. Pastor Davidson, when he could recover his voice, said, huskily, "Daughter, it gives us great joy to hear you tell this. Who would have thought that so soon after being saved you would have an opportunity to witness so boldly to your teacher and classmates?"

"But, Daddy," interrupted Hope, "it was awful to stand there all alone. I felt as if I were on trial for some terrible crime. There are two hundred girls in my class. Daddy, and not one of them stood by me. I know, though, that many of them believe as I do but were afraid to confess it because of Miss Landon's disdainful attitude."

"It is good for a young Christian to have to stand alone," said Mr. Davidson. "That is what makes one grow strong. A lone tree on a hilltop grows much stronger than one that is shielded by others in the forest because it has to meet the storms alone. And who knows but that your clear testimony may yet be the means of winning many of your classmates to Christ?"

"Oh, Daddy, that would be wonderful!" Hope blurted, her blue eyes brimming with tears.

Hope prayed long and earnestly that evening before retiring. "Lord Jesus," she whispered, "I thank Thee for helping me to

say the right things in class today. It was all of Thee, dear Lord. I couldn't have done it alone. Help me tomorrow, Lord Jesus, if I shall have another opportunity to witness for Thee. Speak through me, Lord, and, oh, please let me win some of my girl friends for Thee. . ."

Hope returned to school next day with a song on her lips as well as in her heart. The Lord Jesus seemed to be walking at her very side and a great peace filled her soul.

There was a strange stillness in the room as the biology class was called to order. Hope thought, as she glanced around the room, that the girls were unusually sober today. She did not feel sober at all. On the contrary, she felt as light as the fleecy clouds she could see floating in the blue sky outside the window.

As the class bell rang, Miss Landon stepped to her desk and the roll call was given. Then, she said: "We really didn't cover much ground in our biology lesson yesterday. We did some side-tracking, it seems. Miss Davidson did you finish what you had to say when the bell rang yesterday?"

Hope rose to her feet, saying, "Only this, Miss Landon: I wanted to say that I believe there are others in our class who have the same convictions as I do, in regard to the Bible."

"I don't believe it," snapped Miss Landon, "but we shall soon find out." She turned to the class. "If there is another person who believes as Miss Davidson does, please stand to your feet."

Before she had finished speaking, nearly one half of the girls

INTERESTED IN RETURNS

A small boy was seen vigorously pushing his way into a meeting to be addressed by a missionary. When asked why he was so anxious to get in, he replied, "I gave that man a nickel last year. I want to find out what he did with it." And certainly an investor has the right to expect returns!

SOUNDS FAMILIAR

"I never go to the movies nowadays, because my parents made me go too often when I was a boy. Also, no one at the movies ever spoke to me, and every time I went someone asked me for money. The manager never called on me—and people who attend are not all that they should be."

BIOLOGY

(Continued from page three) were standing. What followed can best be described as an old-fashioned "popcorn meeting." It seemed that everyone wanted to talk at once. Some were wet-eyed; others, with their arms around Hope, were asking her forgiveness for letting her stand alone. Miss Landon was at a loss to know how to handle the situation. She just stood there, helplessly looking on.

Finally it occurred to her that perhaps Hope could handle the group. Hope caught her distressed, appealing look, and in a calm voice said, "Let us all kneel in prayer." Everyone obeyed, and Miss Landon, not knowing what else to do, knelt at her desk also.

The praying and confessing continued throughout the forty-minute class period and Miss Landon made no effort to stop it. The girls may not have learned any biology that day, but many of them learned to know God in a new and real way.

There were many new faces at the evening service in Pastor Davidson's church next Sunday. During the testimony service which followed, more than a score of Hope's classmates told of being saved in the classroom that memorable day, because of her brave confession of faith! —Power

HOLY ROLLERISM

(Continued from page one) not complete without a second work of grace, or "second blessing" as they term it. In this second blessing they claim that the Adam nature is completely eradicated, and that they are completely sanctified. But the Bible teaches that "by grace are ye saved through faith" (Ephes. 2:8). The salvation here spoken of is not presented in the Bible as an incomplete salvation, but saved means saved, and when one is saved he is just as saved as he will ever be in this life. The baptism of the Holy Spirit that they prate about is not taught in the New Testament as something to be received by believers in this age. Such a baptism occurred on Pentecost, and was repeated later when the gospel was first carried to the Gentiles, but nowhere in the epistles is there indication that people of the many churches ever experienced it.

Holding as they do wrong views as to salvation, most Holy Rollers have never really looked to Jesus Christ for salvation. They have never come as lost, helpless sinners to Him, depending wholly upon Him and the merits of His shed blood for salvation, hence they are lost. Lost sinners most of them are, while claiming to be sinless. They justify themselves, while at the same time they have never been "justified by faith" (Rom. 5:1). "Going about to establish their own righteousness they have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God." (Rom. 10:3).

WRONG ON SIN

People who are wrong on the sin question are quite likely to be wrong on just about everything else. Holy Rollers claim to reach the place where they are "wholly sanctified," and live above and without sin. The chief trouble with their claim is that it simply is not so. They warp, twist, distort and pervert the word "sanctify" as used in the Bible. It is wilful ignorance that seeks to inject into the word "sanctify" the idea of sinless perfection, for the word as used in the Bible means nothing of the sort. "Sanctify" means to "set apart." Sanctification pertains unto every true believer in Christ. Sanctification means to be set apart to the service and glory of Christ, and the gradual development of the new life principle planted in the soul in regeneration. Try reading the Holy Roller meaning of sinless perfection into the different passages in which the word sanctify occurs and see what an absurd mess you have. Try it on 1 Pet. 3:15 and John 17:19.

To be perfect as the Holy Rollers claim to be, one would have to be as good as Jesus Christ was, one would have to be as good and perfect as God Almighty on His throne. There is no escape. If any Holy Roller falls short of absolute perfection or absolute sinlessness, he is both imperfect and a sinner. If any measure up to the point of absolute perfection then they are equal with God in holiness. Is any Holy Roller as good as God? What impiety for anyone to claim such a thing.

I have talked with Holy Rollers and have asked them, "Do you claim that you always do everything the Lord wants you to do, just as He wants it done? Do you claim that you never have an evil thought; never make a mis-step of any kind?" Before such questions they usually began to stammer and hesitate and finally to say, "Oh I sometimes make a mistake, but that isn't sin." The trouble with such Holy Rollers is they don't know what sin it is in God's sight. They have a dulled, warped, twisted sense of sin. God's word says, "ALL UN-RIGHTEOUSNESS IS SIN" (1 John 5:17). All so-called mistakes constitute unrighteousness and consequently SIN! My experience has been that the moment one denies the doctrine of sinlessness the average Holy Roller shows his sinful nature and practice right there on the spot by immediately getting fighting mad!

When Holy Rollers profess to be without sin, they according to the Bible, do at least six things: 1. THEY DECEIVE THEMSELVES. "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves." (1 John 1:8). 2. THEY

LIE. "If we say we have no sin . . . the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8). 3. THEY MAKE GOD OUT A LIAR. "If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us." (1 John 1:10). 4. THEY PROVE THEMSELVES TO BE FILTHY WITH SIN. "There is a generation that is pure in their own eyes and yet is not washed from their own filthiness." (Prov. 30:12). 5. THEY PROVE THEIR OWN BLINDNESS. "Who is blind as he that is perfect." (Isa. 42:19). THEY DECLARE THEMSELVES TO BE SPIRITUAL BASTARDS. "If ye be without chastisement, then are ye bastards and not sons." (Heb. 12:8). If God chastises Holy Rollers that proves that they sin, for He does not chastise any without cause. If He doesn't chastise them, it is no proof that they are sinless; it is proof that they are spiritual bastards; that they call God Father when they are not His sons. No escape from this.

These are terribly plain things to say, but they are the teachings of God's Word. Before any jury that reverences the Word of God, Holy Rollers must stand condemned as having a false religion.

WRONG ON TONGUES

Holy Rollers claim the gift of tongues, and as pretended proof they jabber and chatter worse than a troop of monkeys. In many of their assemblies the exercise of "tongues" is the most prominent feature. I offer a few remarks on this delusion: There is no similarity between meaningless gibberish of a Holy Roller meeting, and the tongues of Pentecost. At Pentecost the tongues were real languages; languages that were spoken by those present at Jerusalem! Acts 2:8-11 makes this clear. The gift of tongues was given to meet a real need of the gift of tongues in a land where all speak the same language! Holy Rollers don't, in their pretended gift of tongues, speak a real language. Never was a Holy Roller known to have supernaturally imparted the knowledge of a real language such as to enable him to converse with people of that language. Proof? I served for a time as missionary to Brazil. There are Holy Roller missionaries in Brazil, but they have to learn to speak Portuguese in the same laborious manner as the rest of the missionaries. If they could secure the gift of tongues such as the Bible refers to, would they spend months studying a language?

The same arguments given above are applicable to the teachings concerning tongues in 1 Corinthians. It might be well to point out, however, that Holy Rollers don't pretend to conform to the restrictions that Paul lays down in 1 Cor. 14:27-28.

Besides all this Paul by the Spirit foretells that the gift of tongues shall cease. (1 Cor. 13:8). They HAVE ceased, and Holy Roller "tongues" are but a cheap counterfeit!

WRONG ON HEALING

In the manner of divine healing they substitute credulity for faith. They practically demand God to heal apart from any means. They refuse medicine and doctors and often neglect to properly minister to the sick. In a church of which I was once pastor was a doctor who told me that he had lost many cases, especially children, because the Holy Rollers refused to send for him until the disease had progressed beyond all power to cure. While I was pastor of the same church I learned of one instance in which they sought to raise the dead. They kept the body

of the child until putrefaction began and the authorities had to force the burial of it.

WRONG AS TO DISORDER

Holy Roller assemblies are confusion worse confounded. The racket is terrible. This in itself proves that God is not the author of their way of doing. The Bible says as much. "For God is not the author of confusion" (1 Cor. 14:33). Not only are they disorderly but often they are vulgar in their manner. I have seen women supposedly "under the power" as they call it, lying around on the platform disheveled, their hair streaming down on the floor and the preacher ranting up and down tramping it beneath his feet. Add to this scene the picture of men and women down on the floor rolling around in the dirt and you will have a picture of the extremes to which they go, and a justification of my charge that they are sometimes vulgar in the things they do.

Why, sometimes even the Negroes are ashamed of some of their "stunts." J. H. Hailey of Jackson, Tenn., is authority for the following story which illustrates what I have just said:

In Blossom, Tenn., the holiness craze was running full speed. The nightly orgies were something to tell about, and people were flocking for miles to see the performance. In the town there lived one Captain Moore who had a cook known as Aunt Rose. One morning the Captain said: "Aunt Rose, have you been to the meeting?" She said: "Yessuh, I goes ev'ry night." The Captain then said: "Aunt Rose, why don't you colored folks get religion like that?" And Aunt Rose, with a look of pitying rebuke, replied: "Law bless yo' haht, honey; dem folks is des now a gittin' whah us niggahs been ev'y sence de wah."

THE FRUIT AND DESTINY OF HOLY ROLLERISM

An evil tree cannot bear good fruit, hence the fruit of Holy Rollerism is only and continually evil. Note some of the things that it produces:

1. DELUDED SOULS. Some in their ignorance of true worship, are deluded into thinking that this caricature of religion with its fleshly emotionalism, is genuine Christianity. Such reach the place where it is almost impossible to reach them with the truth. All religious services conducted along the same scriptural lines are too tame in contrast with the emotional hulla-balloo that they have grown accustomed to.

2. MENTAL AND PHYSICAL INJURY. Indulgence in an orgy of emotionalism night after night is highly injurious to the individual both mentally and physically. People get so they crave the excitement just as a dope fiend craves his drug. I can usually tell a Holy Roller if he is one who indulges frequently in emotional excesses as soon as I see him. There is a peculiar look that they come to have. Nor am I exaggerating in this; I have spotted them time and again. Physicians have told me of attending persons who had gotten into a condition analogous to Saint Vitus dance as a result of indulgence in their emotional orgies.

3. IGNORANCE. Holy Rollerism is a product of ignorance—particularly of the Bible—and at the same time it is productive of ignorance. They disparage education, and express their contempt for an educated ministry. Education and enlightenment—above all, intelligent study of the Bible is fatal to Holy Rollerism. It thrives in the soil of ignorance, and its fruit partakes

of the characteristics of the from which it springs.

4. SHIFTLESSNESS. rule Holy Rollerism and lessness go together. They usually extremely poor citizens. "By their fruits ye shall them" applies to religion well as to individuals. The religion of the Lord Jesus lifts up, exalts, and fills ambition to be something while. A missionary to Argentina told me of working among the lower classes of that and he testified that in two years' experience he had seen a case in which conversion did not so change life that the person converted did not soon change his environment. Holy Rollerism not manifest this power. generally disparage the bulk of nice places of worship. are not ambitious for their homes, and the kind of lives live do not speak well for religion.

ITS DESTINY

I can but express what I believe concerning the destiny of those who follow this false religion in the words of Paul as pressed in Philippi. 3:18-19. "I tell you . . . that they are the mimes of the cross of Christ WHOSE END IS DESTRUCTION."

Those who follow a false will end where all false end—even in the selfsame "where the beast and the prophet are." In the Old Testament those who departed false religions were charged the true faith and went off Jehovah with having gone spiritual adultery. Terrible the punishments that such. Can we believe that looks any more leniently those who follow in the way of false religions today? Holy lerism has been shown on evidence of the Word of God be a false religion. Let all ware of it. It cannot be a Testament religion, for it not heard of for centuries the birth of Christianity. anti-Biblical in its teaching, degrading in its practices, detrimental in its influence.

To use the words of Scripture (II Tim. 3:5) "FROM SUCH TURN AWAY!"

DOUBTS OVERCOME

(Continued from page one) the study to tell how his went. At seven the lad appeared at the door. Alternately sobbing and laughing like a little child he explained: "Say not a word about my giving up the church about my doubts and fears. When I read to the old man, he became so happy he shouted for joy, and I shouted too. Pastor, I learned my lesson! Henceforth I will be busy for my Lord." —The Brooklyn Eagle

THE WEAK BATTERY

(Continued from page one) noise! And the noise they make is so disquieting that they usually disturb the peace of Zion.

Shine, but be silent! —H. C. Moore

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MRS. G. G. PRIDE, Tampa,