

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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MORE EVIDENCE OF RELIGIOUS APOSTASY

Before the coming of the crowning day of Christ's vindication and manifested glorification, there must come the day of the apostasy, earth's and religion's darkest day. For in spite of occasional glimpses of light, such as the present stirring among multitudes of children and young people, or the advancement, in ecclesiastical position, of a true servant of Christ, the trend is downward, and not upward; toward apostasy, and not away from it. This is one of the signs of the times, for "the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times, some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons" (1 Tim. 4:1). And our blessed Lord, by asking of a rhetorical question, implied its answer in the negative: "When the Son of

Man cometh, shall He find the faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8).

As an illustration of the tragic expansion of apostasy in organized Christianity, consider the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. For seven years its Board of Christian Education has been working on a new series of Sunday School Lessons. They are to be published in the autumn of this year, under the title: "Christian Faith and Life." But the title is a misnomer, for they are filled with fables, and not Christian doctrine. They cast doubt upon the verbal inspiration of the Scriptures, and promote a gospel which is not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, but a man-made substitute—a social gospel that speaks much of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man,

but is silent on man's sin and lost condition, and the substitutionary atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ whereby, through faith and the regeneration of the Spirit, men may become the children of God and may speak to him as "Father."

Or again, we allude to a clipping recently received from a reader and friend in Kentucky, cut from the editorial page of a local newspaper, in which great acclaim is made for an interfaith service, which a Catholic speaks on the subject, "My Friend, the Jew;" a Jew on the subject, "My Friend, the Protestant;" and a Protestant chaplain, on "My Friend, the Catholic." So each one pats the other on the back, and no good is done for anyone. Our correspondent comments: "Where do we go

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HE IS ENOUGH

I am so weak, dear Lord, I cannot stand
One moment without Thee!
But oh, the tenderness of Thine enfolding,
And oh, the strength of Thy right hand!
That strength is enough for me.
I am so needy, Lord, and yet I know
All fullness dwells in Thee;
And hour by hour that never failing treasure
Supplies and fills in overflowing measure
My least, my greatest need; and so
Thy grace is enough for me.
It is so sweet to trust Thy Word alone;
I do not ask to see
The unveiling of Thy purpose, or the shining
Of future light on mysteries untwining.
Thy promise roll is all my own,
Thy Word is enough for me.
There were strange soul depths, restless, vast, and broad,
Untold as the sea;
And infinite carving for some infinite stilling;
But now Thy perfect love is perfect filling.
Lord Jesus Christ, my Lord, my God,
Thou art enough for me.

—Frances Ridley Havergal

Southern Baptists Drift Farther From Their Moorings

The Southern Baptist Convention voted to employ a man to promote entertainment programs in our churches. This is no criticism but a word of caution. Years ago we read of a pastor up East who decided to serve lemonade each Sunday night just before preaching, with a view to inducing young people to come to church. It did increase his crowd a bit. After trying it for several weeks, he pressed slips of paper through the audience with the request that people write down any suggestions they would have for improving the service. One mischievous lad wrote "Put a little more sugar in the lemonade." If our churches get into competition with the world, it will take still more sugar. The world has more than we have in that

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EVERY TIME

The preacher had just concluded a hot and scathing sermon on the sin of swearing. He had stated several times that he knew one of his hearers that was guilty. The service ended. The worshippers one by one filed out the back door. The first to go was a woman who was suspected of using foul language. With a red and angry face she exclaimed, "I shall never darken this door again!" Before the astonished preacher could recover from this blast, another said, "Well, brother, if I had known you was about last week, I'd a been somewhat more careful of my language." A third said, "I think you had at least have come to me privately about it rather than telling it to the whole church." A fourth remarked angrily, "I can never so embarrassed in all my life!" Then came the real culprit—the one at whom the preacher named all his remarks. With a and cherubic smile, he

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Increased Drunkenness All Over Our Whole Nation, Another Sign Of The Last Days, And Christ's Return

Never before in the history of modern civilization have the nations of the world been so drunk on the devil's brew.

Perhaps the greatest single contributor to human woe and misery, drink turns man into the savage beast: it murders, it rapes, it kills or maims on the highway, it fills our penal institutions, it thoroughly demoralizes, it reduces to want and poverty, it breaks up the home, it severs social ties, it takes the food out of the mouths of little children, it denies bread to starving millions, it destroys both mind and body, it robs one of every noble aspiration and high ideal, it brings to shame and humiliation, it plunges the soul into the depths of black despair, and at the last it leaves the serpent's sting of death, for no drunkard "shall inherit the kingdom of God."

According to statistics, alcoholic consumption in England for the year 1947 increased by 25 per cent over that of the previous year. Money paid for drink within the space of eighteen months is said to be equivalent

to the total American loan or three and three fourths billion dollars. Bread must be rationed while enough grain to provide a bread ration for seven million people per day is set aside for the liquor industry.

Turning to the United States drinking has so increased that Americans are now consuming four times as much liquor as they did in 1934. In the nation's capital consumption runs at 16 quarts per capita; in wide-open places like Reno or Las Vegas, the average is 13 quarts; and for all of the U. S. the figure is five quarts per capita. At least one person in 81 per cent of the American homes has a record for drunkenness. The American liquor bill for the year 1946

Mused Uncle Mose

We got er new pahson, an' he ain' married. Sist' Julie say to him kinda shy like las' Sunday: "Ah heahs you's engaged; who de lucky gal?" But she ain' heahed nothin' 'bout it; what she meant wuz, "Is you engaged?"

amounted to \$8,700,000,000. According to Mrs. D. Leigh Colvin, president of the national W. C. T. U., "enough grain has been wasted in alcoholic beverages since repeal to feed all the starving of the world, and the amount of money spent for drink would more than pay for all world relief, currently and years hence." Then we have yet to consider the nation's huge crime bill amounting to \$16,000,000,000, two-thirds of which is accounted to drink.

Jesus said that "as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." The sins of Noah's day included drinking. The prophet Isaiah cried, "Woe to the drunkards of Ephraim, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, which are on the head of the valleys of them that are overcome (Heb. broken) with wine." (Isa. 28:1). Then follows a pronouncement of judgment that can refer only to the last days. The wrath of God will surely fall in judgment upon the liquor traffic just as it will upon every other evil when He "ariseth to shake terribly the earth."—Midnight Cry.

The Next Meeting Of Tri-State Baptist Bible Fellowship

The next meeting of the Tri-State Baptist Bible Fellowship is to be held with the First Baptist Church of Russell on Friday, Sept. 3rd, at 7:30 p. m. All readers of the Examiner are cordially invited and urged to attend.

We are particularly interested in having you come to this meeting because we have a treat in store for you by way of a speaker. Without announcing his name, let me urge you to be in attendance. We covet for him a large hearing. And we covet for you the privilege of hearing him.

The meetings of the Fellowship are not only a time for hearing the Word of God, but a season of fellowship that is enjoyed by all those who attend. Let us have a large attendance for this meeting.

THE PERFECT ONE

A preacher announced a men's meeting in his church, proposing to give the men a chance to air their objections to Christianity. Over twelve hundred were present. The first objector said, "Church members are no better than others. The ministers are no good," said another. And so the objections were mentioned one after another, and the pastor wrote them down on paper: "Hypocrites in the church," "The church is a rich man's club," "Christians don't believe in the Bible any more," etc. — twenty-seven in all.

When they were through the pastor read off the whole list, then tossed it aside, saying: "Boys, you have objected to us pastors, to church members, to the Bible, and other things, but you have not said a word against my Master!" And in a few simple words he preached Christ to them as the Faultless One, and invited them to come to Him, and believe on Him. Forty-nine men responded! — Record of Christian Work

The First Baptist Puplit

"THE SEALING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"

"And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."—Eph. 4:30.

Several years ago I saw a man seal some freight cars. As you doubtlessly know, it is just a little piece of lead and wire that he used. As he sealed those cars, he said that no person would dare to break the seal until the car had reached its destination. Further he declared that even when the car reached its destination, that only an official of the railroad had the authority to break that seal. Even the consignee to

whom the car was being shipped did not have the authority to break the seal.

I remember as I reflected then upon his work of sealing the cars, that it seemed to me that it was a very flimsy affair that the railroad was using whereby to seal that car. I remember remarking to this particular railroad agent that it seemed to me to be a very, very meager way of sealing the contents of that car. I recall that that individual said, "It isn't the matter of the strength of the seal; it is the power of the federal government behind the

seal."

Beloved, I love to think of that experience in the light of my text which speaks about the fact that my salvation is sealed unto the day of redemption. I am happy that the Word of God makes it clear that we are thus sealed. My text is not the only scripture that so states. Listen:

"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also, after that ye believed, YE WERE SEALED WITH THAT HOLY SPIRIT OF PROMISE."—Eph. 1:13.

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"THE SEALING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"

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Then when the Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Corinth, he said:

"Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; WHO HATH ALSO SEALED US, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts."—II Cor. 1:21, 22.

So, beloved, in the light of our text and in view of these two Scriptures that I have read other than our text, we have at least three specific statements within the Word of God saying that God's children are definitely sealed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

I

WHAT DOES THIS SEALING SIGNIFY? Of course you can readily see that the sealing signifies a finished transaction. We have a good illustration of this in the book of Jeremiah. At the very time when the Babylonian army was drawn up outside the city of Jerusalem, and when that Babylonian army was occupying a field of ground that belonged to Jeremiah's uncle, Jeremiah was prophesying the return of the Jews to Palestine and the restoration of the nation. Nothing could seem farther from the truth, for here was the Babylonian army drawn up outside the city ready to carry the people into Babylon as captives and yet his message was that God was going to restore the people of God unto Jerusalem. As a means of proving that what he preached was so and that he believed it himself, God said, "Jeremiah, you go buy the field from your uncle—the field where the Babylonian army is now encamped. There isn't anything that you can do that will be more con-

vincing to the people of your faith in your own predictions as to the restoration of Judah than for you to buy the field where the Babylonian army is now encamped." The record tells us that Jeremiah went to his uncle, Hanameel, and bought the field. Listen:

"And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle's son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver. And I subscribed the evidence, AND SEALED IT, and took witnesses, and weighed him the money in the balances."—Jer. 32: 9, 10.

Legally we would say today that the deed of that field passed from Hanameel to Jeremiah and that it was put on record in the court house. A little different language is used here when Jeremiah said, "I subscribed the evidence, and sealed it, and took witnesses." Notice, please, that the sealing signified that the transaction of the purchase of that field on the part of Jeremiah from Hanameel—that this transaction was thoroughly finished, and when the sealing of the evidence was made, that signified a finished transaction.

Beloved, when the Holy Spirit of God seals a believing child of God, that signifies a finished

transaction, namely, that the transaction whereby that you and I have been bought by the Lord Jesus Christ out of the bondage of the Devil—that that transaction is now finished—that it is now complete and that we, once for all, have been transferred from the bondage of Satan unto the Lord Jesus Christ, Himself.

We have two passages of Scripture in the Word of God which tell us the meaning of redemption: namely, that it is a finished transaction. Listen:

"Being justified freely by his grace through the REDEMPTION that is in Christ Jesus."—Rom. 3:24.

The word that is used for "redemption" here is "agorazo," which means "to buy in the market." Thus, when we are redeemed, we have been bought in the market of sin where the Lord Jesus Christ paid the price of our redemption. In other words, it is a finished transaction.

The other passage of Scripture which indicates the meaning of redemption is found in Galatians. Listen:

"But when the fulness of time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, TO REDEEM them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."—Gal. 4:4, 5.

The word "redeem" here is different from the word "redemption" in Rom. 3:24. Here it is the word "exagorazo," which means not only to buy in the market, but when you have thus bought, that the article which is purchased is never again to be exposed to sale, for it has been bought out of the market. In either case, whether it is the word "agorazo" or "exagorazo" that is translated "redemption," the meaning is one and the same—namely, that our purchase is a finished transaction.

That is exactly what we have when the Holy Spirit seals a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. The transaction is all finished. We have been bought in the market of sin; we have been bought out of the market of sin, never again to be exposed to sale. The transaction is all finished. We now belong to God because the purchase price of the blood of His Son has been paid and the transaction is fully finished. Therefore, beloved, as in the case of Jeremiah when, after he had purchased this field, the seal was placed upon

the evidence, signifying a finished transaction, so when we have been redeemed by Jesus Christ and now are the children of God, the seal of the Holy Spirit is placed upon us, signifying that the transaction is all complete, that it is finished once and for all, that we are the children of God, and that so far as the transaction is concerned, it is complete in the Lord Jesus Christ.

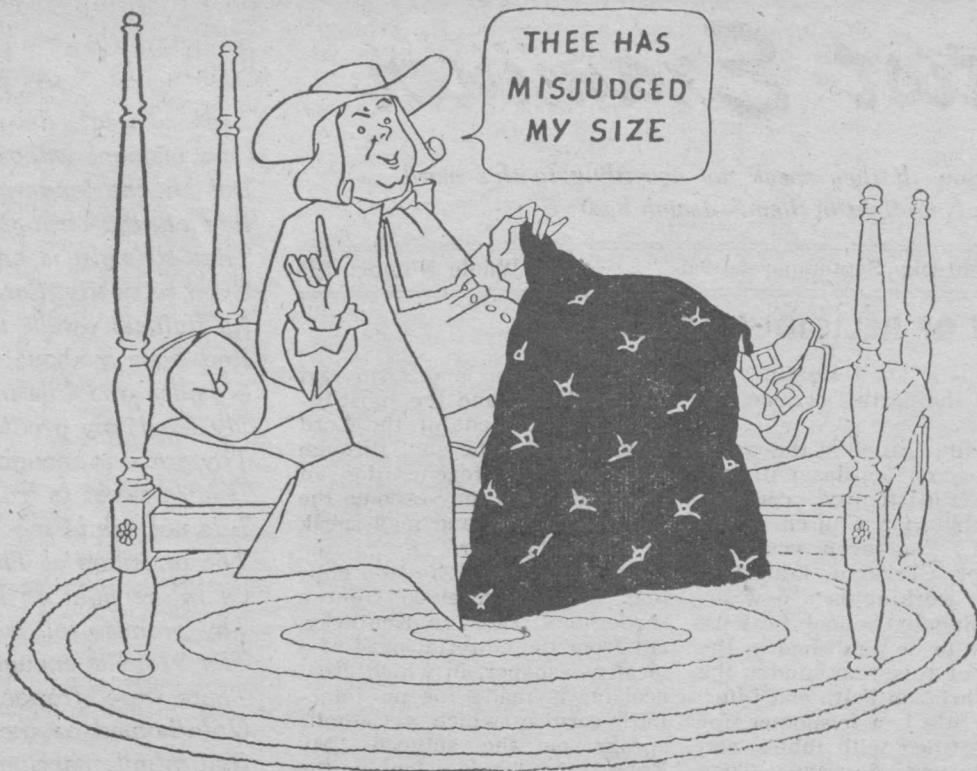
Beloved, this sealing not only signifies a finished transaction—it likewise presents to us a guarantee.

Did you ever go into a large meat market and see them as they perhaps bring into that market from a refrigerator truck a large carcass of beef that had been prepared by Swift & Company. If you have, you've probably noticed that all across that carcass of meat there is stamped time and time again the word "Swift." In fact, beloved, it is stamped with a roller stamp all the way from one end of the carcass of meat to the other so that anyone who buys any piece of that carcass of meat is sure to see stamped into that meat the word "Swift." That is the guarantee put out by Swift & Company that that meat is theirs and that they stand back of it to guarantee it.

Sometime ago, beloved, when I was in another city, I noticed that the bread of that city was stamped by the name of the baker, not only on the wrapper, but on the loaf of bread itself from one end to the other. It was a stamp which had been put on that bread bearing the name of the baker thereof so that every slice of bread carried the name of the baker of that bread. That wasn't just merely an advertisement. That, in addition to an advertisement, was a guarantee as to the purity and freshness of that bread.

Beloved, if Swift & Company guarantees their meats, and if this bakery guarantees its bread, how much more is it a guarantee that we are saved and shall be kept saved when we realize that we have been likewise sealed by the Holy Spirit. If the stamp of a baker on a loaf of bread or a stamp of the butcher upon a carcass of meat stands as a guarantee behind that edible product, how much more is it true that the seal of the Holy Spirit stands as a guarantee of the work, not of man, but of the Triune God, Himself.

Likewise, the seal of the Holy



"For the bed is shorter than a man can stretch himself on it: and the covering narrower than that he can wrap himself in it."—Isaiah 28:20

Spirit signifies an eternal security. Listen:

"And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king SEALED IT with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the posture might not be changed concerning Daniel."—Dan. 6:17.

Daniel has committed an unpardonable sin as far as Babylon is concerned. He has prayed thrice daily to his God in spite of the fact that it has been decreed by the king that if any one prays to any other god they will be thrown into the lions' den. Despite the decree of the king, Daniel prays to his God. He has his window wide open and he faces to Jerusalem, three times daily to his God. As punishment, he is thrown into the lions' den. When the lions' den has been closed and the door thereof made secure with a large stone, the king took his own signet ring and sealed the door of the lions. The record says "that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel, as if to say when the king of Babylon signed and sealed the decree of Daniel's destruction in the lions' den that even the king himself could not change what he had sealed.

In like measure we read Esther a Scripture which plainly tells us that what has been sealed by the king cannot be changed by the king himself. Listen:

"Write ye also for the king as it liketh you, in the king's name, and SEAL IT with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the king's name, and SEALED WITH THE KING'S RING, may no man reverse."—Esther 8:8.

Previously in the book of Esther the king had given order for the destruction, in a wholesale manner, of all the Jews. He couldn't reverse his order. Now when Ahasuerus the king learned that the Jews are not his enemies but rather his chiefest friends within his land, he writes another order giving them the privilege of defending themselves on the day when the wholesale destruction takes place. He sealed it with his ring. The record says that his purpose might stand.

Thus you see, beloved, the experience of Daniel in Babylon and from the experience of these Jews in the land of Ahasuerus—thus you see the seal of the ring signifies security.

Beloved, from the very fact that we were saved we were sealed by the Holy Spirit as a promise. If the seal of a head of state signifies security, how much more the sealing of the Holy Spirit signify a sealing, not only of time, but of eternity as well. The souls of the sons of men thank God this morning for praise Him from the very day of my soul for this blessed day by the Holy Spirit, that seal not only signifies a finished transaction has been completed, it not only guarantees that we are the work of God and not the work of flesh, but furthermore, beloved, that sealing signifies our eternal security in Him, for this day sealed in the power not only the Father, but the Son and the Holy Spirit as

II

HOW LONG DOES SEALING LAST? My text does not say that you are sealed as long as you are faithful.

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Pray - Give - Go

Three things the Master hath to do,
And we who serve Him here below
And long to see His kingdom come
May pray or give or go.

He needs them all—the open hand,
The willing feet, the praying heart—
To work together and to weave
A threefold cord that shall not part.

Nor shall the giver count his gift
As greater than the worker's deed,
Nor he in turn his service boast
Above the prayers that voice the need.

Not all can go; not all can give
To speed the message on its way,
But young or old, or rich or poor,
Or strong or weak—we all can pray.

Pray that the gold-filled hands may give
To arm the others for the fray;
That those who hear the call may go,
And pray—that other hearts may pray!
—Annie Johnson Flint

If you don't know whether you are on your head or your heels,---then get on your knees.

THE SEALING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

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Word of God said that you were sealed so long as you were faithful, there certainly wouldn't be any joy in your religious experience this morning. There isn't a one of us that has been a hundred per cent faithful to our God for the past seven days. There isn't a Christian here this morning who would dare stand in the presence of God and say, "I have done the best I could against sin and for God to every day of this past week." Certainly, beloved, there isn't a one of us who would even dare to say that we have done all we could against sin and for God. I am glad that this text doesn't say that we are sealed so long as we are faithful, for if it were so, that we were sealed only so long as we were faithful, all the joy would go out of my life and your life and your soul would be but a husk. There would be no joy in your experience for you know that there has been a multiplicity of times when you have been unfaithful to God.

Turn to the Word of God, beloved, and you will find that Simon Peter was not always faithful. He denied the Lord Jesus Christ. In order to make his three-fold denial emphatic, he even punctuated it with profanity, yet, beloved, in spite of his denial and profanity—in spite of this, the Apostle Peter is still sealed with the Holy Spirit. At a later time we hear him as he says:

"WHO ARE KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."—I Pet. 1:9.

He was not saved so long as he was faithful. He was not sealed so long as he remained faithful. Rather he declared that he had been kept by the power of God in spite of his unfaithfulness. I say then, beloved, that this sealing does not last so long as you are faithful.

Furthermore, beloved, this text does not say that you are sealed until you grieve the Holy Spirit away. The fact of the matter is, you can't grieve the Holy Spirit away. Even though you may have heard many so-called preachers say that by sinning you can grieve the spirit away—even though you may have heard some so-called preachers thus speak, the Word of God emphatically declares that the Spirit of God cannot be grieved away from a Christian.

"And I will pray the Father, that he shall give you another Comforter, that he may ABIDE WITH YOU FOREVER."—John 14:16.

Here our Lord Jesus was talking to His disciples as individuals, and He said to them, "The Holy Spirit shall abide with you for ever. He cannot sin so much as to leave Him away."

Beloved, I am glad for this Scripture that talks about how we are sealed by the Holy Spirit. I am glad that it doesn't say within this verse that we are sealed until we have grieved Him out of our lives. Thank God that it doesn't thus take, for if it did, all joy and happiness and all security and all assurance and all consolation and all comfort would be gone, for you well know, as I have repeatedly again and

again within your life. How you ought to get down on your knees and thank Him today that this text doesn't say that you are sealed until you sin Him away! Thank God, this text in John's Gospel that I have just read, tells us that the Holy Spirit abides with us forever.

I want you to notice also that this text does not say that we are sealed until the hour of death. I'm glad to know that the Lord Jesus keeps watch over the dead bodies of His saints. Here is a verse which doesn't indicate that He seals us only up to the time that we die. I'm glad that He keeps watch over the dead bodies of His saints.

I look out here this morning and I see those of you where death has come into your home within the last few years since I have been your pastor, some of you more than once. I think how glad we ought to be as children of God—how glad we ought to be that the Lord keeps watch even over the dead bodies of His believing children. Listen:

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."—Psa. 116:15.

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the Word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not precede them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."—I Thess. 4:13-17.

What a blessing it is to know that our Lord still looks after the dead bodies of His saints. This does not say you are sealed until you die. How I do thank Him that there isn't a one of you who has ever lost a loved one but what you have the assurance that the body of that loved one is still today in the keeping care of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are not sealed until the day of death. Thank God, beloved, the sealing goes beyond that!

I talked a few days ago to a man whose son was killed on one of the islands of the Pacific in the recent World War. He was having his son brought back home. He knew beyond a shadow of doubt that it was his son's body because another son had been permitted, by the providence of God, to be present at the time of his burial. As he talked to me about that body of his son being brought back home, he told me that this son was a child of God, and had been an earnest, zealous Christian lad. I said to him, "My brother, it is comforting to know that whether his body is sleeping yonder on the island of the Pacific or whether you bring him back here to Kentucky soil to bury him—it is comforting to know he is still sealed by the Holy Spirit of God."

Beloved, my text tells us how long we are sealed. It doesn't say that you are sealed so long as you are faithful. It doesn't say you are sealed until you grieve the Holy Spirit away. It doesn't say that you are sealed until you die. But, beloved, it does say that we are sealed until the day of redemption. Listen:

"And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."—Eph. 4:30.

When is the day of redemption? What is the day of redemption of which Paul speaks? Let the Scripture interpret Scripture. Listen:

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for YOUR REDEMPTION DRAWETH NIGH."—Luke 21:28.

Jesus is speaking here about His own visible personal return to this world a second time. He says that when He comes in the air to catch away the redeemed of God out of this world and to catch the dead saints out of the ground, then that is the day of redemption. Redemption will then be complete. Now our souls are redeemed. Now we are spiritually redeemed. Our bodies are not redeemed and our bodies will never be redeemed until Jesus Christ comes and catches the last one of the sleeping saints out of the ground and the last one of the living saints out of this earth and redeems the body, transforms, translates, and changes the body to look like the Lord Jesus Christ. Beloved, that is the day of redemption and we are sealed even unto the day of redemption.

This text ought to thrill every child of God here this morning. There isn't a Christian here this day but what ought to be thrilled through and through with the very thought of the fact that we are sealed, not until we grieve the Holy Spirit away, not until we sin and by our unfaithfulness lose our salvation. It ought to thrill us to know that we are sealed, not until we die, but that we are sealed beyond death. We are sealed until that day when our body is redeemed like our soul is already redeemed, and then with a perfect body conformed to the Lord Jesus Christ and with the soul that has already been made like the Son of God,—then, beloved, we can say that we have been fully redeemed by the Lord Jesus Christ.

III

HERE IS AN EXHORTATION IN VIEW OF THAT SEALING. What is that exhortation? "Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Christian people can grieve Him, yet you can't grieve Him enough that He will leave you.

I remember when I first became pastor of this church that I talked one Sunday morning about walking with God, and I said, "Beloved, when you are saved, God takes up His residence within you by way of the Holy Spirit, and from then on you ought to walk worthy of Him. For whatever you do, you subject God unto that very thing." I said that if you go into a movie, you force God to go with you, for the Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Trinity, is within you. After the service was over a woman came around and said, "No, no, Brother Gilpin, that is wrong. When you go into a movie or do anything that is wrong, you leave God outside." I said, "Sister, that is Arminian theology. There is not one word of grace about such tommy-rot of which you speak." Beloved, when the Holy Spirit and the Son of God becomes a part of you and you are sealed by the Holy Spirit, from that hour on He is there within you. You can't grieve Him enough that you can grieve Him away, but you can grieve the Holy Spirit of God.

He indicates some ways whereby He can be grieved. Listen:

"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth,

but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."—Eph. 4:29.

This is the verse preceding our text as if to say, "If there is corrupt communication coming out of your mouth, it grieves the Holy Spirit."

In the verses following our text He says:

"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."—Eph. 4:31, 32.

My brother, is there any malice in your heart this morning? My sister, do you have harsh bitterness against any individual today? If so, you are grieving the Holy Spirit of God. I thank and praise Him today that He has sealed me until the day of redemption. I haven't any doubt about my salvation. I haven't any doubt about the fact whether He is going to keep me, not just as long as I live, not until I die, but He is going to keep me until my body is redeemed the same as my soul. I haven't any doubt about that. Beloved, I want to follow His exhortation, when He says, "Don't grieve the Holy Spirit that is living within you."

Can you imagine some cultured, refined Christian woman who has to live in a filthy home and eat filthy food, sleep on a filthy bed and listen to filthy talk? I say, beloved, to some refined Christian woman who would go through an experience like that, it would be literal Hell to her soul. It would grieve her soul. Beloved, the Holy Spirit is far more delicate than the most fastidious woman who ever lived within this world. We grieve Him many, many times by what we do and what we say and the way in which we live and the experiences we have. We grieve the Holy Spirit of God.

I was thinking this morning how that a few days ago a man from the back side of Boyd County, Brother Charlie Ross, who is a member of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, came over to the printing shop one day and brought a great big basket of food—vegetables of various kinds—that he had grown out on his farm, for this preacher. He didn't bring those things in a garbage pail. No, beloved, he brought them in a clean basket. I thought this

morning how the Holy Spirit is far more refined than any preacher. We ought to present to God a clean basket—a clean house at least, for the Holy Spirit in which to dwell.

As I was thinking, my mind just wandered about and I remembered a few other gifts of recent date. I remembered how Sister Foster has been bringing me buttermilk. She doesn't bring that buttermilk to my home in a jar which has not been washed. I remember how Sister Lester brought me a couple of frying chickens week before last. Wouldn't it have been something if those chickens had been brought in a filthy container? I got to thinking about a family out yonder on the west coast, the Winters family in California—some months ago sent us probably ten pounds of shelled English walnuts which they had grown within their own yard. They didn't send them in a filthy container. My mind dropped over to Mobile, Alabama, to a Baptist preacher who sent me some months ago a large supply of pecans. Then I dropped over a little farther to Florida to an old Swedish man and wife, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Larson, whom I have only seen but once in my life. I just passed by their home long enough to have prayer with them one day. Winter after winter for the past several years they have sent us box after box of oranges from their grove. All these, beloved, have been sent in containers that would enhance the value of what I received, by receiving the same in a clean container.

I am saying this morning that the Holy Spirit is much more sensitive than a preacher. If an individual would make a gift toward one whom he loves in the Lord and make that gift in a way that might be presented in an appetizing manner, how much more should I present myself to God that I might not grieve the Holy Spirit, that my life might be clean before Him.

I say again, beloved, I am glad that I am sealed. I don't have to worry about my salvation. I'm not concerned in the least as to whether I am going to Heaven or whether I am going to Hell. I know I am going to Heaven. That was all settled—settled long ago. I am concerned as to how I live. I don't want to grieve the Holy Spirit of God. Do you? May God help you today to go out of this house of God as a saved man (Continued on page four)

THE BIBLE

**"When I am tired, the Bible is my bed;
Or in the dark, the Bible is my light.
When I am hungry, it is the vital bread;
Or fearful, it is armor for the right.
When I am sick, 'tis healing medicine;
Or lonely, thronging friends I find therein.
If I would work, the Bible is my tool;
Or play, it is a harp of happy sound.
If I am ignorant, it is my school;
If I am sinking, it is solid ground.
If I am cold, the Bible is my fire;
And wings, if boldly I aspire.
Should I be lost, the Bible is my guide;
Or naked, it is raiment, rich and warm.
Am I imprisoned, it is ranges wide;
Or tempest-tossed, a shelter from the storm.
Would I adventure, 'tis a gallant sea;
Or would I rest, it is a flowery lea.
Does gloom oppress? The Bible is a sun,
Or ugliness? It is a garden fair."**

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- I. The Existence of God.
- II. The Bible A Revelation From God.
- III. The Inspiration of the Bible.
- IV. Objections to Verbal Inspiration (Answered).
- V. The Nature and Attributes of God.
- VI. The Will of God.
- VII. The Doctrine of the Trinity.
- VIII. God's Relation to the Universe.
- IX. The Lord Jesus Christ.
- X. The Holy Spirit.
- XI. The Doctrine of Angels.
- XII. Satan—His Origin, Work, and Destiny.
- XIII. The Creation of Man.
- XIV. The Essential Elements of Human Nature.
- XV. The Moral Nature of Man.
- XVI. The Original State and Fall of Man.
- XVII. The Doctrine of Sin.
- XVIII. Human Responsibility.
- XIX. The Free Agency of Man.
- XX. The Doctrine of Election.
- XXI. The Atonement.
- XXII. The Outward and Inward Calls.
- XXIII. The New Birth.
- XXIV. The Doctrine of Conversion.
- XXV. Repentance and Faith.
- XXVI. The Doctrine of Justification.
- XXVII. The Doctrine of Sanctification.
- XXVIII. The Three Tenses of Salvation.
- XXIX. The Perseverance and Preservation of the Saved.
- XXX. The Doctrine of the Church.
- XXXI. The Doctrine of Baptism.
- XXXII. The Lord's Supper.
- XXXIII. Why the Washing of Feet Is Not A Church Ordinance.
- XXXIV. The Office of Bishop.
- XXXV. The Deaconship.
- XXXVI. The Place of Women in the Church.
- XXXVII. The Present State of the Dead.
- XXXVIII. The Millennium.
- XXXIX. The Second Coming of Christ.
- XL. The Two Phases of Christ's Coming.
- XLI. The Great Tribulation Period.
- XLII. The Man of Sin.
- XLIII. The Battle of Armageddon.
- XLIV. The Final States of the Righteous and the Wicked.

Interesting Questions

1. Why does the Bible assume and declare the existence of God without offering proofs?
2. Is the Bible reliable as to historical and scientific facts?
3. What does the Bible mean when it speaks of God as repenting?
4. How are we to reconcile the seemingly conflicting statements concerning the will of God?
5. What is meant by the statement that there are three persons in the God head?
6. Can sinners resist the Holy Spirit?
7. Does the Bible agree with evolution and is evolution scientifically proved?
8. What did the original image of God in man consist of?
9. Is man a trinity?
10. Is man a free agent?
11. For whom did Christ die?
12. Did God elect men because He foresaw that they would believe?
13. Which is first in conversion: quickening or repentance and faith.
14. Do Paul and James contradict one another on justification.
15. What is the correct interpretation of Acts 2:38?
16. What is the meaning of I John 3:9?
17. Will any man reach Heaven who does not endure to the end?
18. What did Christ mean when He said that the gates of Hades should not prevail against His church?
19. Where are the dead and what is their state?
20. Is Christ now on the "throne of David"?
21. Is the millennium now in progress?
22. Will God ever again deal with Israel as a nation?
23. Does the Bible teach a general resurrection and a general judgment?
24. Does the Bible teach a pre-tribulation rapture?
25. What or who is or who will be the "man of sin"?
26. When and by whom will the battle of Armageddon be fought?
27. Will Christ reign personally on the earth during the millennium.

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"THE SEALING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"

(Continued from page three)
or woman with a new determination that you will not grieve the Holy Spirit of God.

Let me say a word to the unsaved. You can't grieve the Holy Spirit. You don't have the Holy Spirit within you. You can't grieve Him because He has never become a part of you. May the Lord, by His grace, stoop low and touch your heart and save your soul, and may the Holy Spirit begin to dwell within your heart.

May God bless you!

APOSTASY

(Continued from page one)
from here?" It is a good question. If, among these three, one were born again, he could rest without telling the others their sin and need of a Savior and of God's provision in His Son.

As the Word of God clearly tells us, however: "The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth and shall be turned into fables" (2 Tim. 4:3, 4). Such a time has come. Men are daily turning from the truth, preferring fables to the Gospel of Christ.

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

(Continued from page one)
grasped the preacher's hand and pumped vigorously. "Brother," he boomed, "that's what I call real preaching. You certainly poured it on them today."

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS

(Continued from page one)
field. One great danger we face is that of a hodgepodge of spiritual-carnal things and cheapening of the church's activity. Already we are witnessing the Lord's House of Prayer turned into a den of thieves and some denominations. We hate to see our Baptist people heading in any sense in that direction. We are losing our great human resource already by standardizing our theology with training above the common people like some other denominations. Now if we are going to ape them in a worldly program in the name of spiritual values, we will wake up to see that we are waterlogged by adoption of Baalam's strategy of intermingling between the children of God and the sons of men.

As we see it, sports are a yellow if they are. But they are John Plowman's hand saw. Great said a hand saw is a good thing but not to shave with. Sports and amusements have their place, but not to enrich spiritual life, but physical. If people want to have those things, let them have them. They can do it in such a way as to associate them with the family of the Holy Spirit's program toward witnessing against the world in all its ways, and pointing the way to men and women to the life and its way of life.

—The Mountain View

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

SEPTEMBER 4, 1948

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