

Why We Should Have Sunday Schools

R. F. HALLFORD
Dothan, Ala.

"Gather the people together, men, and women, and children, and the stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the Lord your God, and observe to do all the words of this law" (Deut. 31:12).

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

"Perhaps it might be well, before answering this question, to raise another in order to clarify our thinking about the matter. What is a Sunday School? It is certainly not some organization detached from a church, merely a place for entertaining the children, nor some kind of religious work carried on for the purpose of 'salving' an otherwise guilty conscience. A Sunday School is a church at

the working of teaching the Word of God to its membership plus others who are enough interested to come and study. In other words a Sunday School is simply a church in its teaching capacity.

It would seem that everyone would be heartily in favor of an organization which does such work. Yet, in spite of what a Sunday School is and does, there is opposition, indifference, and substitution. Perhaps it would be well, therefore, for us to examine the matter by raising the question "Why Sunday School?"

I. Because of the Scriptural foundation.

In both testaments God's Word abounds in clear references and teachings to the work of teaching the Bible to various groups. God not only placed His approval upon such gatherings, but He clearly commanded

them. One of the first such schools for study of the Bible is described in Nehemiah 8. There we find that the Word of God was recovered and the people were eager to learn it. Therefore, they gathered at a certain place before a pulpit of wood upon which Nehemiah and his assistant stood, reading and explaining the Scriptures. So profound was the influence and abiding the interest that the meeting was protracted from day to day for quite a time.

When we turn to the New Testament we find Jesus setting an example by going into the place of worship on the day of worship and teaching the Scriptures to those who were assembled. A typical reference to His action is given in Luke 4:16-18, "And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and (as His custom was) He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there

was delivered unto Him the book of the prophet Esaias (Isaiah). And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised." Surely such an example is worthy of our imitation!

One of the most striking things about the Book of Acts is the frequent reference to the schools which Paul carried on for the instruction of the people who were converted under his preaching. He was not content to lead people to Christ and then leave them to become helpless victims of various false teachings. Rather he displayed the pastor's heart in his concern for their instruction and

spiritual development. In practically every city where he had a group of converts, he held a school of the Bible. At Antioch he continued his work of teaching and preaching the Word of God (Acts 15:35). In the city of Thessalonica he went into the Jewish synagogue and there taught the people the Scriptures, proving that the same Jesus whom he was preaching was the promised Messiah of the Jews. See Acts 17:2, 3. Following the founding of the church at Corinth he remained with them for a year and a half, teaching the Word of God to them. See Acts 18:11. In Ephesus (Acts 19:9, 10) he had to move his school, but he kept at the work of teaching, even until not only the converts were strengthened, but also all the other people in Asia had heard the Word. In the light of these passages, we must conclude that in regular, systematic teaching (Continued on page three)

Read This, If You Think The World Is Getting Better Daily

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) gives the following statistics:

Agged monthly by a third of the off More barmaids than college n, Pels.

es Three times as many criminals as college students.

One million girls infected by venereal disease.

One thousand girls entering from slave states each year.

One million babies born in illegitimacy yearly.

One in five marriages ending in divorce.

Sixty suicides every day.

One murder every forty minutes.

One major crime every 22 seconds.

One hundred thousand unap- tended murders walking the streets.

Seventeen-year-olds represent the largest criminal group.

This is America which is called a Christian nation! With all its churches, Christians and ministers, we have made a very bad dent in this great land

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We must hang our heads in shame!—Bible Broadcaster

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Only the Bread of Life can

when satisfy and give life. That

is Christ, who said: "I am

Bread of Life: he that com-

to Me shall never hunger;

he that believeth on Me

shall never thirst" (John 6:35).

Therefore do ye spend

Continued on page four

BIBLICAL

PREMILLENNIAL

CALVINISTIC

BAPTISTIC

The Baptist Examiner

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

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Whole Number 539

An Astonishing Statement From A Catholic

Not so much on account of what was said, which is familiar prophetic truth, as because of the source from which it came, do we designate what we are about to quote as "an astonishing statement." While he and Cardinal Spellman, with other Roman Catholic ecclesiastics, were touring the Pacific recently, Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen is quoted as having made this remark, in Australia: "In the future there will be only two governments in the world — Rome and Moscow."

We may be doing him an injustice, but we suspect that the monsignor did not base his prediction upon Bible prophecy. Ecclesiastical Rome has a too heinous part with political Rome, in Bible prophecy, for him to be aware of the prophetic future and remain within

the fold of Roman Catholicism. Msgr. Sheen is a very astute man, intellectually and politically, and he foresees the trend of international events with a clear eye.

Yes, there will be but two mighty governments in the world in some future day, perhaps not far distant — Rome and Moscow, see Dan. 2 and 9; Rev. 13:16-18; Ezek. 38 and 39). But there is still a government in the universe, the government of God; and when the Rome and the Moscow of

the future think themselves at their zenith, behold, Heaven will open, and there will come forth the rider of the white horse, called "Faithful and True," and His armies. And He will smite the nations, whom He will rule with a rod of iron. as He treads the winepress of the "fierceness and wrath of Almighty God" (Rev. 19:11-16). He will then establish a perfect government of peace and righteousness, as He reigns as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

—Our Hope

Mused Uncle Mose

One reason w'y er lot o' peoples don' go to chu'ch dese days is dat dey ain' no inter-mishun in de sarmon fo' time to smoke.

"I think THE BAPTIST EXAMINER is a very fine paper. I hope you live long to keep it coming to us all."—Mrs. Inez Farmer, Charleston, W. Va.

The First Baptist Pulpit

"RELIGION IN THE HOME"

"... and he said what have they seen in thine house?" — II Kings 20:15.

Here's a passage of Scripture, beloved, that always blesses my soul everytime I read it. I get quite a joy out of reading this miracle of healing on the part of Hezekiah. As you may have noted when I was reading this Scripture, Hezekiah was a sick man. God's Word says he was sick unto death, which means he was sick enough to die and humanly speaking, we would expect his death as a result of his sickness. However, Hezekiah was just like each of us. If you thought it was the end of life for you, I imagine you would

turn your face to the wall and pray like Hezekiah. It isn't a question of whether you are going home to glory. It isn't a question of whether you are saved, but one always feels as though there is something more to be done. You always feel as though there is something yet that can be accomplished. And thus it was with Hezekiah. When the prophet of God told him he was going to die, Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to God that he might not die, but live. Immediately, God gave an answer and God sent the prophet back into the presence of Hezekiah with another message: You are going to live and three days from now you

are going to go to church for on the third day from now you will be able to go unto the house of the Lord. Now, that is strange, beloved, that a man would be sick enough to die and God told him to set his house in order for he was to die and then when he prayed, God sent a second message telling him he was going to live fifteen years, and that on the third day thereafter he would go to the house of God.

Of course, the man who reads this passage of Scripture has to believe in the sovereignty, and the omnipotence, the majesty, and the might of God. This passage of Scripture is absolutely (Continued on page two)

More Apostasy, This Time, It Concerns The Methodists

A Sunday School teacher in the Methodist Church of Shady-side, Md., placed an advertisement in the Annapolis Evening Capital, challenging any three Protestant ministers of that area to debate with him as to the existence of the Devil and Hell. This teacher, one Alexander W. Andrews, feels sure that he knows more than the Bible and is wiser than God; for he says: "I have thought it out quite a bit, and have come to the conclusion that there is no Devil."

Of course, there can be no basis for debate, since the Bible-believing minister and the Bible-denying S. S. teacher would have no premise on which to begin. Either the minister would have to lose his faith in the Bible as the Word of God, or the S. S. teacher would have to admit the Bible to be true. In the latter event, obviously, the debate would be over before it started.

Here is a man who has taught a class in the Methodist Church "for years," but he does not believe God's Holy Word. He puts his reason above divine revelation. And he considers himself (Continued on page four)

"Holy And Reverend Is His (God) Name"

Psa. 11:9

This word is used only one time in the Bible and it applies only to Almighty God and not to any man. Webster says reverence is "awe combined with respect veneration; an obeisance." That does not apply to any minister of any rank. I take the position that the title Rev. should not be prefixed to any man or any mortal, that it is sinful to so apply it. I know some preachers love to be so called and have great self respect in accepting a title that only the Almighty is due. I read an article lately of a fine preacher defending calling preachers of his rank Reverend, but I disagree with him, and heartily agree with the Holy Spirit in giving God only this Holy Title Reverend. — Baptist Fellowship Courier

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JOHN R. GILPIN—EDITOR

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"RELIGION IN THE HOME"

(Continued from page one)

meaningless to the individual who does not believe that God is a sovereign God. I say, beloved, that if a man does not believe in a God that is bigger than all circumstances, — bigger than every circumstance, then, beloved, he had better leave off reading this 20th chapter of II Kings. Isaiah, the prophet, believed in a God of sovereignty. Hezekiah, the king who was sick, believed in a God that was sovereign and the result was that three days later according to Isaiah's prediction, Hezekiah, the king, was well and was completely able to go to the house of God like the prophet of God had said. To be sure, he followed the simple directions that were given him. He used a simple remedy. The record tells us that he put a poltice of figs upon the boils that he was suffering with and that on the third day he was recovered and that he went into the house of God. As he was praying and God was communing with him, he asked the Lord for a sign whereby he could know that this was true. God immediately said: "Would it be a big thing for the shadow on the sun dial to go down ten degrees or to go back ten degrees?" And Hezekiah said, "Why, Lord, it would be a small thing for the shadow to fall, but the big thing would be for YOU to hold time still and turn back the hands of the clock to such an extent that You'd set time back ten degrees." And accordingly, God suspended the laws of nature that the shadow on the sun dial might return ten degrees or about forty minutes of time. Again I say, beloved, a man has to believe in the sovereignty of God and he has to see a God of sovereignty and omnipotence to believe this portion of the Book.

Then when Hezekiah was completely recovered and going about his ordinary tasks and his pursuits of life there came messengers to him from Babylon. You might send a sick card to one of your friends who is sick, but the king of Babylon went beyond that. He heard that Hezekiah was sick and he sent personal messengers, — a personal envoy, all the way from Babylon over to Palestine to bear his own personal sympathy unto King Hezekiah because of his illness. By this time Hezekiah was completely recovered and when these messengers arrived, naturally, he showed them all over the city of Jerusalem. I can imagine how Hezekiah took them into his house. He showed them all the fine buildings, and led them into his treasury, and showed them all the wealth of his treasury. In fact, beloved, there wasn't a thing that Hezekiah failed to show these individuals. They were

ambassadors from Babylon that had come to bear personal greetings to him from the king of Babylon, and naturally, he wanted to be as nice as he could to them, and he showed everything there was to be seen in the city of Jerusalem. When they returned home, Isaiah, the prophet, came to him and said: "What have they seen in thine house?" And he said: "I have shown them everything. There isn't anything that has been hidden from them." We will not follow the story farther as to what Isaiah said would come to pass, except to remark, beloved, that Isaiah prophesied that as a result of Hezekiah's imprudent showing of his treasury, that all those riches would be taken captive into Babylon and I might say in passing that Isaiah's prediction was literally fulfilled.

The part of this story that I want you to notice especially is this 15th verse wherein Isaiah said: "What have they seen in thine house?" This morning, beloved, I want to make an application of this text to your home. The people who come into your home, what do they see in thine house? If the preacher calls at your home unexpectedly, what does he see in thine house? Your servants, your guests, your neighbors, your children, what do they see in thine house? And in order to answer this question, I want to ask several questions myself.

Question No. 1

IS YOUR HOME A LIFE-BOAT OR A LIGHTHOUSE FOR GOD? There is a world of difference between the two. A lighthouse stands as a warning while a lifeboat is merely to pick up the wreck and to salvage from the ruin what can be saved. I ask then this morning is your house a lifeboat for God or a lighthouse for Him? In the book of Deuteronomy we have a remarkable Scripture in this respect. Listen: *When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a BATTLEMENT FOR THY ROOF, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence.*—Deut. 2:8.

Houses in Palestine were built differently to the way in which we build our houses today. Practically all houses in Palestine were built with a flat roof and instead of a porch around the house as we have them today there was a stairway leading up to that flat roof and the roof itself was the porch of the house. Moses, under inspiration of God said: Whenever you build a new house, be sure you put a banister around that house so that no one can fall from the roof thereof and be hurt and blood be brought upon that house."

Now, beloved, there ought to be a banister around everyone of our houses spiritually speaking, to keep our children from falling therefrom and being ruined spiritually as a result thereof. I ask then this morning, beloved, first of all: Is your home a lighthouse or a lifeboat for God?

Some months ago in Ashland, Kentucky, a young man and woman had a baby born into their home, their first child. A few weeks passed by and the child sickened and died. After the funeral services for the little babe, that father was saved and the next Sunday joined one of the Baptist churches in Ashland. I always rejoice, beloved, whenever I hear of anyone being saved regardless of the circumstances under which salvation becomes a present possession. However, as I was thinking of it, it came to me that

the proper place to begin was at the marriage altar instead of at a funeral. In other words, the proper place to have begun a Christian home, humanly speaking, would have been at the marriage altar when the marriage vows were exchanged, rather than by a baby's grave in the cemetery.

Too many times, beloved, our homes are nothing, more or less, than a lifeboat to pick up the remains and to save possibly some few survivors when the wreck has already taken place. I am asking you again ere I leave this question: Is your home a lifeboat or a lighthouse for God?

Question No. 2

BELOVED, ARE THE PLEASURES OF YOUR HOME WORLDLY OR SPIRITUAL? Far be it from this preacher this morning to fail to recognize the fact that everyone of us needs relaxation. Far be it from me this morning, beloved, to decry pleasures in any wise. Yet, beloved, there are many pleasures in the homes of even professing Christians where those pleasures are purely worldly and sensuous rather than spiritual and Wordy. As surely as God lives, beloved, the pleasures of every Christian home ought to be built around the Word of God and be spiritual rather than worldly and sensuous. I know at least one instance here in Russell of a young man who drinks most heavily and he himself has told me personally that he saw his own father drink time and time again before him in his own home. I know of one young man within this town who gambles and who gambles rather consistently from week to week. I know by personal conversation that he has told me that he has seen his own mother win prize after prize at bridge, that his mother has come home from bridge parties many times with various prizes, and that he sees to this day not one bit of difference as to his gambling on the race horses and his mother gambling over the bridge table. I ask you, beloved, are the pleasures of your home spiritual or are they worldly?

Question No. 3

IS THE ATMOSPHERE OF YOUR HOME PEACEFUL OR UNHAPPY? Sometimes we sing "Home, Sweet Home" but beloved, is it real Home, Sweet Home or is it a mockery after all? Is the atmosphere within your home one of peace and contentment and happiness from which the spirit of God radiates from day to day or is the atmosphere of your home one of continuous and continual bickering from which an atmosphere of Hell is generated? I don't wonder, beloved, that some children do not like their homes. I don't wonder a particle, beloved, that children would rather be some place else than in their own homes. I say, my brethren, the atmosphere of a Christian home ought to be permeated with the spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ.

In the past 20 years that I have been your pastor I have preached all over this country. In some of those homes, beloved, there is a spirit of Christ and happiness that prevailed, beloved, from morn till evening and in other of those homes where I have been entertained, I have found not one particle of the spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ. I ask again, is the atmosphere of your home peaceful and quiet or is it unhappy and boistrous?

Question No. 4

IS THERE CONSISTENCY IN YOUR HOME? Are you consistent as a father, a mother, in what you say and what you do? Do you talk religion but fail to live it? A friend of mine said sometime ago that some folk can talk religion by the yard — even by the mile, and can't walk it by the foot. That is a mighty true statement. Is there consistency in your home? I'm ready to grant, beloved, speaking out of my own experience, that consistency is one of the hardest things in the world to attain and to achieve. That is true beloved regardless of whether you be a Christian or whether you be living for the world. It is hard to be consistent in business, in home, and in church. It is just hard to be consistent. Yet, I ask you this morning: Is there consistency in your home?

Question No. 5

DO YOUR GUESTS AND THOSE WHO COME INTO YOUR HOME, SEE ANYTHING OF GOD WHEN THEY ARE THERE? That was Hezekiah's grand mistake. If you will read carefully this 20th chapter of II Kings you will find that his guests saw everything he had but God. He showed them his house. He showed them all his houses. He showed them his treasures. He showed them his wealth. He showed them his army. He showed them everything he had, but he forgot about the temple. He forgot about the prophet of God, Isaiah. He forgot about the law of God. I know he did not show Isaiah unto these messengers from Babylon for when they

had gone home and Isaiah heard of their visit, he said: "What have they seen in thine house? As if to say, I haven't seen them. I know nothing at all about these men of Babylon. Thus, you see, beloved, these messengers who came to visit Hezekiah saw everything he had but God. There wasn't one reference to the Lord, the way of God's prophet, God's law, or God's house that these individuals saw. I ask you this morning, beloved, when people come into your home, do they see anything of God in your home?

Some months ago I was talking with a woman in this town. She told me how that she had lived at one season in the home of a prominent Baptist preacher in Kentucky for a period of year or a little longer. And that period of time she never saw that preacher nor a member of his family read the Bible. She never heard a verse of God's Word read within the home and never heard a prayer offered within the family. I may think, beloved, that that is an exaggerated and unusual case, but I am persuaded to believe that there are countless thousands of professing Christians where the home life could be characterized by that description. When folk come into your home, what do they see of God in your home?

Question No. 6

IS YOUR HOME ANY DIFFERENT FROM THE PAGAN GODLESS HOMES OF THIS TOWN? I don't speak disrespectfully of those who are saved, but I would remind you, beloved, that every individual

(Continued on page three)

Bringing Back The King

Earth's governments are sore perplexed, a crisis seems at hand,

The world is in convulsions, and no one has command;

Men's hearts are failing them for fear of that which next shall be;

And every where there is distress, and sad perplexity;

Men try this plan and try that plan, prosperity to bring,

But never think to speak a word of bringing back the King.

He once was here in lowly guise, but was despised and slain;

Men would not have His perfect rule, nor own His right to reign;

He said He would return again, and no one else but He

Can ever solve the wrongs of earth, nor end its misery;

Then why not pray for Him to come to straighten everything?

Why speak ye not a word today of bringing back the King?

He came in lowly guise, but He will come again in power;

And those who now reject His claims will tremble in that hour;

He'll judge the nations, and will bring prosperity and peace;

And to earth's utmost bounds will make wars and distress to cease;

Earth's golden age will then appear, and heaven and earth shall sing

When He returns again to reign o'er all the earth as King.

--A. E. R.

MISSIONARIES IN BRAZIL

J. F. Brandon
Miguel Ibernon
Cicero Bicipo
Maio Dutro
Eufrazio Soraes
Francisco Santiago
Walter Fernandes
(Portuguese Language)

BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

In Peru Since 1935

In Columbia Since 1947

In Brazil Since 1923

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

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

MISSIONARIES IN PERU

R. P. Hallum
Mrs. R. P. Hallum
Miss Marguerite Hallum
(Spanish Language)
IN COLUMBIA
Jose Tomas del Castillo
(Spanish Language)

MISSION SHEETS

SEPTEMBER 25, 1948

OF THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE THREE

CHURCH ORGANIZED IN COLUMBIA

Bueneventure, Columbia.
August 13, 1948.

you believe it to be advisable. (I think it would do well to do this, R. P. Hallum). By all means I look for your instructions and opinion. Your brother that loves you in Christ.

Thomas del Castilla A.



Two bridegrooms with their brides. All of these were baptized soon after getting married, and were in the organization of the church.



Group of men in organization of Baptist Church in Bueneventure, Colombia.

Group of men and women baptized, minus one woman, wife of one of the men.

A Letter Showing How R. P. Hallum Plugs Away And How Souls Are Saved In Peru

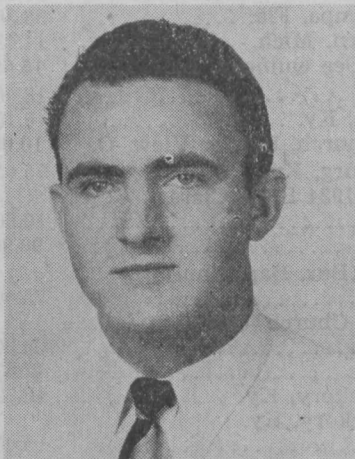
Iquitos, Peru.
August 19, 1948.

Dear Brethren:
Greetings in the name of the

HALLUM'S WORK BEARS FRUIT

On their way back to Peru early in 1947 the Hallums were delayed in Bueneventure, Colombia, for several days. While there he baptized a native Colombian preacher (Don Thomas) and started a mission work here. Later Don Thomas went to Iquitos, Peru, where he was examined and ordained by the church in Iquitos. Pictures and information of his work have

(Next page Column 1)



Billy Parrott



Jerry Parrott



Mrs. Billy Parrott

Brother Parrott has reminded me that His name is Billy and not Billie as I have had in the former issues of this paper. Now we have it right. We have been telling you about this young preacher and his wife and son who are to go to Brazil within a few months the Lord willing and asking you to pray for them and to have a part in sending them out. Brother Z. E. Clark, the treasurer of the mission, sends a list of names that have sent in for August. If there are others they were received after he wrote to us and will be listed in the financial report. The Parrotts are taking shots for about a half dozen things and getting ready to sail as soon as possible the Lord willing. We have written for passage for

December or January but the boat companies do not know of sailing dates that far in advance. Brother Parrott is to be with the Ahava Baptist Church and Pastor George Boyer in Plant City, Fla., in a meeting beginning November 7. Perhaps other Florida churches would like to have them in their churches while they are in that vicinity. Write us about it and we will try to work them in so that they can be with you.

Great Needs

We need the money to send them out and God's people have the money. Surely all who read this and see their pictures will want to have a part and will send in an offering right away.

Some churches have enough money in their treasury to send out this young man and his family and support them full time for a year without taking up a special offering. Wonder what they would say should the Lord come and that money is there unused to win souls.

The need is so very urgent just now because Missionary Brandon has had to return home because of illness. Billy needs to be there to get acclimated and get the language and carry on the work and keep the native preachers encouraged and the work going. Let's quit fooling around and pray about this and send in the money to send them out. Send all offerings to the Treasurer, Elder Z. E. Clark, Box 202, Cannelton, Ind.

TWO LETTERS AND A STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OVERBEY AS TO THE SICKNESS AND RETURN OF MISSIONARY BRANDON

Manaos, Amazonas.
July 24, 1948.

Dear Brethren:

Your letter came yesterday but I am unable to make a reply at present. I am not so well, hardly been able to get about for the last fifteen days. It is imperative to get away from this climate for a few months. We have earnestly sought the Lord in the matter, have taken counsel with missionaries, brethren and doctors and all have advised me to go there long before. I have held out until the church was organized and able to stand. The Lord is prospering us in the work and we feel that it will stand. The workers are animated together with the brethren. They are concerned about my health and want me to go.

To Sail August Seventh

A boat will leave here about August 7 for New York. I have spoken for passage but it is not yet confirmed. The few days on the sea will be better for me than anything else. I am not hasty in my resolution to return. All think I have delayed longer than I should have. If you do not agree with me there

is plenty of time to wire me. Hope all are well with you and prospering in the Lord. Best wishes.

—J. F. BRANDON.

BRANDON ARRIVES

Benton, Ky.
August 30, 1948.

Dear Brethren:

I arrived in New York Thursday and came across for Kentucky, arriving Saturday morning. Had a good journey across and the Lord endeared Himself as only He could. I feel that it will be better for me to go to the hospital in Memphis and if you brethren agree I will write them and make arrangements. (Don't wait to write, go at once, Ed.). I feel that it will be more among my people and can perhaps keep you all better advised. I hope you are all well and your work is progressing. Best wishes to all the brethren in the work of the Lord Jesus.

Sincerely,

J. F. BRANDON.

OVERBEY'S STATEMENT

Missionary Joe F. Brandon has returned to the United States because of illness. Bro-

ther Brandon is in very bad health. He is a sick man and has been for a long time. It was the opinion of some that he should not have returned to Brazil a year and a half ago. But the Lord blessed his efforts in the short stay and another Baptist Church was organized in Brazil just two months ago. A letter today advises that Brother Brandon arrived in New York Thursday, August 26, and in Benton, Ky., with his family on Saturday, August 28.

To Enter Hospital

Brother Brandon plans to enter hospital (Next page, column 1)

NATIVE MISSIONARIES

It would be interesting reading for all to get the back numbers of the MISSION SHEETS and read the story of each of the native Brazilian Baptist Missionaries that they help to support. We know of no book that is more thrilling except the Book of Books. This man Walter Fernandes is only one of six native missionaries who are preaching the word while Brother Brandon is home sick. Pray for them.

NOTICE

Anyone desiring more information about this mission work write to the Secretary of the Mission. Address your letter to:

H. H. OVERBEY
1210 E. Grand Blvd.
Detroit 11, Mich.

HALLUM'S WORK

(Preceding page, Column One) been in the MISSION SHEETS from time to time and now pictures and news of the organization of a Baptist Church in Bueneventure, Columbia, are in this issue. This makes two Baptist churches organized in South America within the last two months, one in Manaus, Brazil, and the other in Columbia. Surely this makes our hearts glad. The Lord is leading and blessing the work of Baptist Faith Missions and to Him be all the honor and glory. It is a mighty good place to put your mission money. It will be used for mission work just like the Lord Jesus commissioned His churches to do in Matthew 28: 19-20. Pray for the work and the missionaries and send your offerings to the Treasurer of the mission, Elder Z. E. Clark, Box 202, Cannelton, Ind.

HALLUM PLUGS AWAY

(Preceding page, Column two) who had made profession of faith before there were seven believers. I expect to make another trip to that place soon. Those professions of faith were made in spite of interruptions by the old man that argued with us on another occasion about which I wrote you. He butted in telling me the meaning of certain Scriptures and I told him what his trouble was and he shut up and gave no more trouble.

Thrilling?

On Tuesday, August 10, wife and I went to visit a family of North American friends who live down river from Iquitos. We visited eight days and had a very nice and restful visit. The only disagreeable thing about it was in our going. We went by air on a Pan Air two motor plane. It is a trip of 45 minutes, but the pilots evidently got lost and wandered over the jungle for two hours. Happily they found the river and arrived at the port. But it caused some anxiety I think on the part of all the passengers. I am enclosing three pictures of Don Thomas' groups with explanations in English. Yours in His service.

R. P. HALLUM.

BRANDON RETURNS HOME

(Preceding page, Column 5) ter the Baptist Hospital at Memphis, Tenn., as soon as possible for examination and treatment. Twenty-five years in Brazil at hard labor for his Lord have taken their toll. During these 25 years as a missionary he has led many hundreds of Brazilians to Jesus Christ, many of whom he baptized. He organized eleven churches and established many mission points. One of his failings has been that he has not taken care of his health. He has gone on when most others would have given up. We feel that God's preachers should take care of their bodies so that they may be used longer for the Lord, but Brother Brandon has put his health last.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR AUGUST 1948

Grace Baptist Church, Owensboro, Ky.	\$ 5.00
Grace Baptist Church, Owensboro, Ky.	5.00
Bellview Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky.	15.04
First Baptist Church, White Plains, Ky.	12.00
First Baptist Church, Coal Grove, O.	16.00
Big Creek Baptist Church, Wayne, W. Va.	5.00
South Side Baptist Church, Winter Haven, Fla.	55.00
Ryan Road Baptist Church, Van Dyke, Mich.	9.99
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, North Kenova, O.	6.00
Richland Baptist Church, Livermore, Ky.	28.90
Ahava Baptist Church, Plant City, Fla.	45.00
Ahava Baptist Church, Plant City, Fla.	
(For Parrotts' trip)	76.50
Raiford Baptist Church, Raiford, Fla.	5.00
South Union Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.	48.00
Liberty Baptist Church, Central City, Ky.	8.50
South Side Baptist Church, B. T. U., Paducah, Ky.	4.36
South Side Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky.	36.00
Memorial Baptist Church, Murray, Ky., Blood R. Assn., Murray, Ky.	5.00
A Friend in Van Dyke, Mich.	50.00
Second Baptist Church, Marion, Ky.	13.08
Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla.	
(Hope Bible Class)	35.00
Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla.	38.30
New Hope Baptist Church, Dearborn, Mich.	14.49
Bible Missionary Baptist Church, Dee Quincey, La.	15.69
Liberty Baptist Church, Toledo, O.	18.56
Little Obion Baptist Church, Wingo, Ky.	6.10
Harbor View Missionary Baptist Church, Harbor View, O.	10.00
Tabernacle Baptist Church, Lewisburg, Ky.	75.00
First Baptist Church, Russell, Ky. (1924 Bible Class, for Parrotts)	10.00
First Baptist Church, Russell, Ky.	98.95
Mrs. W. H. Cheek, Burksville, Ky. (Bur. Bap. Church) for Parrotts' trip	75.00
Mrs. W. H. Cheek, Burksville Bap. Church (for Don Thomas' building)	25.00
Zoar Baptist Church, Bardwell, Ky.	42.87
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Hickory, Ky.	10.72
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Hickory, Ky.	
(for Parrotts' trip)	5.00
Seventh Street Baptist Church, Cannelton, Ind.	20.00
Oak Baptist Church, L. B. Class, Royal Oak, Mich.	10.00
Freedom Baptist Church, Lancaster, Ky.	25.00
Marinatha Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Mich.	15.00
Beech Grove Baptist Church, Bardwell, Ky.	13.67
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.	35.00
North Side Baptist Church, Mayfield, Ky.	41.32
North Side Baptist Church, Mayfield, Ky.	41.74
Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.	90.00
Grace Baptist Church (B. T. U.) Base Line, Mich.	4.69
Grace Baptist Church, Base Line, Mich.	68.08
Lillian B. Kirk, Kermit, West Va.	24.00
Mrs. C. M. Barger & Mrs. Nina Barger, San Angelo, Tex.	20.00
Mrs. C. E. Meek, Louisa, Ky.	2.00
Elder L. M. Smith, Liberty, Ky.	20.00
Miss Maude Hunt, Franklin, Ky. (for Parrotts' trip)	1.00
Ralph Chick, Marion, Ky.	47.25
J. H. Kain, West Cape May, N. J.	5.00
Rev. William M. Kretschmer, Grayson, Ky.	16.00
P. B. Dirks, Arlington, Wash.	6.00
Wade Daugherty, Monticello, Ky.	10.00
R. E. Murphey, Castor, La.	2.00
P. L. Hendley, Farmington, Ky. (for Don Thomas' bldg.)	2.00
J. S. Reynolds, Chattanooga, Tenn.	5.00
Luther R. Upton, McLeansboro, Ill.	15.00
Mrs. Lillian Barker, Covington, Ky. (for Parrotts' trip)	5.00
Vorice K. Ward, Kermit, West Va.	10.00
Marie P. Ganz, Columbia, Ohio	1.00
Mrs. Ella L. Evans, Gladewater, Texas	4.00
Total	\$1489.80

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

Elder Z. E. Clark
Box 202
Cannelton, Indiana

Native Missionaries

His return home leaves six native missionaries at work in Brazil without him there to lead and guide. Surely these Brazilian Baptist preachers need the prayers of all who read this that they may carry on faithfully. It will be several months before Brother Billy Parrott will be on the field and then a year before he will have the language well enough to carry on. What a great opportunity and privilege Billy has before him. May the God of all grace lead him all the way. Now that Brother Brandon is home and under medical care he needs your prayers daily before the throne of grace. It is our great opportunity as well as responsibility to support him as long as he lives and I am sure all will say amen to that.

Different Now

Things are different now than

they were when Brother Brandon went out to Brazil 25 years ago. Now there is air mail, then there was none. Now there are vitamins that can be bought to give one the proper balance for the body, then there were none. Now food is there and much easier to get than it was then. He has broken the brush and the path has been worn smooth for those who will follow. God grant him great grace and heal his body and give him more years of service is our prayer.

A LETTER FROM
MARGUERITE HALLUM

Iquitos, Peru.
August 13, 1948.

We received the checks for August and also the MISSION SHEETS last week and appreciate your promptness. Father has sent the one for Don Thomas on to him. Mother and father

A THRILLING STORY AS TO NATIVE
WORKER, WALTER FERNANDES

Walter Fernandes is a Brazilian evangelist working in the city of Manaus and associated with our mission since the first of the year (1948). Doctrinally he is sound and extremely outspoken as to the evil in the land and especially among the people of the Lord Jesus. He is one of the early converts in the work at Coary, having been saved and baptized there. The doctrines that seem to be a part of him he learned there. When the church at Coary went into the convention in 1938, he was one of the two who refused to make a part of either the church or the convention and soon afterwards he came to Manaus. He joined a church here soon after coming but all the while has been an undesirable member and has carried the name of "Brandon's Disciple" ever since. His zeal for doing the Lord's work right has made him many friends and also many who are not friendly. He had no school advantages at all, and learned to read after being saved, but he is one of the few I have known who presents the doctrines correctly, with ease and without embarrassment in the home or on the street corner or in the church, with or without preparation.

Sound In Doctrine

Some brethren can't answer his arguments for right living and sound doctrine and for that reason become offended. Others who refuse to repent become offended because of the frankness of his speech, while others are made happy because of his courage in announcing the truth and trusting the Lord for results. Before going further let me speak of his early life and the life of his father. His father was what is called a "Congasario," that being a class of the toughest, most violent mountaniras, usually coming from the State of Cerea. These men claim that they encounter the devil

are away this week for a brief rest. They went down river to the home of another missionary family. It is about 45 minutes by plane and they will be coming back Monday. There is a Brazilian plane that comes up once a week and this mission station is a scheduled stop so they took advantage of these good traveling facilities. Sometime back you mentioned the need of an organ for the Parrotts. For these damp climates a Bihorn is the only make that will resist. They make them especially for the tropics. I am enclosing their address for what it is worth to you. They have always given a discount to missionaries if handled through official channels. We have been using one for 12 years and it is still in good shape in spite of taking it on the river trips, etc.

Pictures of the Work

I have acquired a 16 mm Eastman movie camera second hand. I have been waiting and considering getting one for some time but there is so much red tape for anything costing over \$40.00 that I have been puzzled as to how to go about it. I have not been able to get any film for it yet and may have to wait to get some sent by air from the States. I hope I will be able to learn to use it well enough to have a worthwhile collection by the time we have a furlough. I am glad you are able to use the pictures sent so far and if you have any other suggestions as to what you would like to have, let us know.

Yours in His Service,
MARGUERITE HALLUM.

face to face and fight with him with clubs and knives. One of these men attended the service at Cruzeiro do Sul for years and his daughter and son-in-law were converted but he never made a profession of faith. He told me of many of his experiences which were interesting and very real but I am unable to agree with him in much that he said.

Walter's Father

When Walter's father came from Cerea he was employed as one of the largest Brazil nut exporters and lived on the plantation above Manaus about 50 miles. He had no other occupation than to kill the men who his boss judged worthy of death. That included the poor who worked for him gathering nut and who fortune had favored and they had money on deposit with the owner of the place. There was much involved, before the day of settlement the boss would send the "Congasario" to encounter the man who the forest and kill him and his body in some place. When the man failed to appear it was much, generally talked that a tiger had eaten him or a snake and the matter was settled unless the "Congasario" chose to follow the truth about the matter, and to tell the truth would embarrass him too much. It would thus include his political enemies that happened to be in those parts and to protect him in case he was attacked.

Killed Many Men

Before his death he told Walter he had no idea how many men he had killed, but he had killed eleven on his own account, that is to say, no one paid him to kill those eleven. I guess there were so many of the others that he lost count. I knew Walter before he was converted. They moved to Coary just after the death of his father and in a short time the work of the Spirit was accomplished. I do I remember his early life as a believer and the conversion of his mother and the rest of the family. One must endure much for the sake of the elect who exercise much patience with them.

Nine Years

It had been nine years since I had seen him until I returned to Manaus in January (1948) and it is an inspiration to me to hear him preach the gospel and work among the unbelievers, winning them to the Lord Jesus. He and the pastor (Francisco Santiago) have not missed a day since the beginning of our new work here the first of February (1948). Now is married and has one child, a boy. Now that the church is organized we hope for him to do some work near Manaus. There are some communities near where he is well known and wants to visit them with the gospel. Thus we hope to have work begun in other places soon as the Lord may lead.

A Man of Prayer

Walter never went to school. He learned to read following his mother about, yet he has an amazing vocabulary and speaks very well indeed. A person like this certainly has many difficulties to overcome that others know nothing of. His message is what these sinners need, so far as is doing a noble work among us. We hope the one who sustain him will be encouraged to pray for him all the more. We come together every morning for prayer before we enter in on the day's work. I think it is a good plan for some church to support him. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

J. F. BRANDON

"RELIGION IN THE HOME"

(Continued from Page Two)

who does not know Jesus Christ yet, — I would remind you that every individual who has not yet been saved is a lost, Godless pagan. I mean to say to you, beloved, that every man and woman within this town who has not received Jesus Christ as his Saviour is in the sight of God on the same plain as the Godless pagans of heathen lands who have never yet heard the gospel of Christ. Concerning these Godless homes of this town who are purely pagan in every particular, is there any difference in their homes and your homes? Let me repeat my question. Is your home any different from the Godless, pagan homes of this town?

Probably they have a Bible within their homes, lying there upon the parlor table. It is never read. Maybe you have a Bible in your home lying upon the parlor table and it's never read. Is there any difference? Maybe once in a while these Godless pagans go to church especially at Easter and Christmas and at funerals. Some folk, beloved, who are professing Christians, never come to the house of God as often as they should. At Christmas, Easter, funerals and a few special services. In those pagan, Godless homes, beloved, people follow the ordinary pursuits of life just like professing Christians, and the pleasures of those pagan homes are identical with the pleasures of the homes of the professing Christians. I ask you this morning: Is your home any different from the pagan, Godless homes of this town? Do they do the same as you? Do you do the same as they? Is there any difference for God between your home and theirs?

Question No. 7

DO YOU REALIZE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY BEFORE GOD IN THE MANNER OF RELIGION IN THE HOME?

Here are three verses of Scripture that I want to particularly call to your attention. I want you to notice especially what the Lord says. "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6. That does not mean that he may go astray and then come back. The Hebrew literally says that if you train him right, that even when he is old he will not depart from it.

The second Scripture: "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in Heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, VISIT-

ING THE INIQUITY OF THE FATHERS UPON THE CHILDREN unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me. And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments." Exodus 20:4-6. My brother, do you realize your responsibility before God in the light of that verse of Scripture? You and I are either the cause of blessing or curse today unto unborn generations, even down to the third and fourth generation beyond us.

The third of the Scriptures reads: "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." I Tim. 5:8. What a responsibility rests upon us! Some folk think that if they provide for their children, so far as clothing and education and food is concerned, that they have done all that God expects of them. I contend that when we have provided for the mental and the physical requirements of our children, that we have not even begun to discharge our responsibility before God, but rather our responsibility is primarily a spiritual responsibility and if we fail to discharge it, we stand indicted before God as worse than an infidel.

Surely, beloved, no individual can read these Scriptures without realizing that you, as a father or a mother, stand before God with a tremendous responsibility so far as maintaining religion in the home is concerned. Oh, brother, sister, this morning how much religion is there in your home? What a responsibility is yours to see to it that the proper spiritual and religious emphasis is placed before the membership of your family.

Question No. 8

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE SOME BEAUTIFUL HOMES WITHIN THE BIBLE? We read in Genesis: "And the Lord said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark: for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation." Genesis 7:1. There wasn't but one Noah in his generation. All the balance of the pagan, Godless heathen people around about looked upon Noah as somewhat as a "crank" but when God looked upon him God said: "Noah, you and your house come into the ark for you are the only man I have seen righteous in this generation." To me, that is one of the beautiful homes in the Bible.

Brother, it must have cost Noah something to rear three boys for God when everybody else's boys were going to the Devil. It must have cost Mrs. Noah something to stand up for

God and rear three sons when everybody else was allowing their children to go the way of the world. Oh, beloved, it hurt then, but it counted for God later on when Noah and his family were found to be the only family in all the world that God saved. That, to me, is one of the beautiful homes of God's Book.

Notice another one in the book of Exodus: "Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, in the tenth day of the month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for a house." Exodus 12:3.

This scripture carries us back to the night of the passover of the long ago when the children of Israel on the first night of the memorable passover killed a lamb, sprinkled the blood on the door post and the lintel above the doors for their security. They ate the lamb as a type of our feeding on the Lord Jesus Christ and His sustaining us from day to day. What a picture! The father, acting as a priest for the home, killing the lamb and acting in behalf of the family with his children, and his wife, gathered about at the evening hour. The lamb was killed, and the blood applied to the door. The lamb itself was cooked and eaten. What a beautiful picture! A home sheltered for God. A father doing his duty before God. A father standing for what God would have every father as head of every home to stand for — religion in the home with the proper spiritual emphasis on Jesus Christ.

Let me show you another beautiful home in God's Book. Read: "And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they spake unto him the Word of the Lord and to all that were in the house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his straightway. For when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house." Acts 16:30-34. Here's a home, beloved, that was united for God. They went to bed the night before with the father just a prefiguring old jailor. The night before when they retired there wasn't one ounce of the grace of God within the family. Beloved, when they got up the next morning every member of that family had been saved. What had happened? You remember how the earthquake in the night time had shaken the prison at Philippi to pieces and how that old jailor had awakened and cried out in the midnight darkness for salvation. The Lord had saved him through the preaching of the Word in the midnight hour and had not only saved him but had saved his entire family and they were all baptized and rejoiced in God. The whole house saved by the grace of God. Beloved, — that is to me a home that is beautiful.

Question No. 9

DO YOU WANT TO SEE SOME HOMES IN THE BIBLE THAT ARE NOT SO BEAUTIFUL? It is the home from whence James and John, the disciples of our Lord came. Read: "And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James and John the sons of Zebedee, and John his brother in a ship with Zebedee, his father, mending their nets; and he called them. And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him." Matthew 4:21-22. Here's Zebe-

dee, his two sons, James and John, in a ship mending their nets and getting ready to launch out into the deep and cast their nets a second time. Jesus called the two boys and they went away with Jesus leaving Zebedee and his nets. Now listen to the next Scripture concerning this home. "Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshiping, and desiring a certain thing of him. And he said unto her, what wilt thou? She saith unto him, Grant that these my two sons may sit the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom." Matt. 20:20-21. Notice, where was Zebedee? I imagine he is still back there mending his nets. Zebedee's children went away to follow Jesus. Old Zebedee still continues right there mending his nets. The next time we see that home, we notice there is an absence of Zebedee. The mother of Zebedee's children came to Jesus. Zebedee himself did not have time to do so. So far as I am concerned, beloved, this is one of the saddest homes of the Word of God, where a man is so busy looking after the material end of life that he doesn't have time for the spiritual things of God.

But let me show you another sad home — the home of David. The Word of God tells us, beloved, that he was too busy to rear his family. So busy he was that God's Book tells us when Absalom went astray that David had never talked to Absalom one time in his life. He had never said, "Absalom do not do this." He had never found time to caution, to counsel with Absalom one time. No wonder Absalom went astray. You see Absalom driving his father off the throne. You see Absalom committing adultery with his father's concubines on the roof of his father's palace. You see all the wreck and ruin which came through Absalom's rebellion finally ending by himself being hanged by the hair of his head from a tree. When you see it, my brother, you can see the whole cause. David was too busy looking after other things and had not enough time to look after his children.

Look at the home of Lot. Lot went out of the city of Sodom with his wife and two daughters. All the balance of his family went up in smoke and flames in that Godless city of Sodom and even those two daughters got out there in a cave with their father by the side of the Dead Sea and the life they lived, beloved, indicates that they had already adopted the morality and the moral customs of the city of Sodom. Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt. Talk about a sad home! A home, my brother, where all the family adopted the morals of the city in which they lived.

I wonder about you this morning, beloved. Your neighbors' children go to the picture show. Your children go too! Your neighbor's children play cards. Your children do too! Your neighbors' children go to Dreamland and to the beach. Your children go too! Your neighbors' children go to dances. Your children go too! Your neighbors' children smoke and do things wrong. Your children do too! This is just like the homes right here in God's Word. I am asking you this morning, beloved, how much religion is there in your home this morning?

God said to Hezekiah: "Set thine house in order." If I understand anything about this Bible, brethren, God is saying to you and to me: "Set your house in order." As I said, brethren, in the beginning of my message this morning, the

time to set your house in order is the beginning of a home and not when the wreck appears. How much have you got to do this morning to set your house in order? What have you to do today to set your house in order so that the religion of your home shall have the emphasis of Jesus Christ and so that the spiritual atmosphere of your home shall prevail today? I don't know, but may God help you this morning. May God help you this morning as a professing Christian to set your house in order before God today. Let me tell you of another sad home in this Bible.

It is the home, beloved, that I don't like to think about. It is a home that, to me, is an unusually sad home. It is the home, beloved, of that rich man that we read of in the Gospel of Luke. He himself had died and gone to Hell. Five brothers were "hot-footing" the road of vice and coming to the same place. You talk about a sad home. One boy in Hell and five more on the road. Brethren, the only remedy wasn't to say a prayer, for prayer wouldn't help in behalf of those that were dead, the only remedy was the law and the prophets. Abraham said: "They have Moses and the prophets, let them hear them."

I say to you, beloved friends, the only hope for your home and hope for your soul this morning is the Word of God. May God this morning reach down and save some soul. May He help some individual in this hour to realize that the only hope of any one this morning is the Lord Jesus Christ. May God bless you!



WHY SUNDAY SCHOOL?

(Continued from Page One) of the Bible, we are only following the divinely approved procedure which was practiced by the churches of the first century.

II. Because God's Word commands Bible study.

Whatever God commands we have a perfect right, as well as a weighty obligation, to do. If the Bible is clear about anything it is about the fact that God wants us to study His message to us. Someone might raise the question as to why God commands us to study the Bible. We might return the answer that God has a right to command as He pleases without being under any obligation to tell us why. However, I hardly think that He has done this arbitrarily. He has a definite, constructive reason for commanding us to study His Word. It is simply because we need to know the Scriptures.

We need a knowledge of the Bible for personal growth and development. Natural food will supply the needs of our body, but spiritual food is essential to our spiritual growth. Therefore, God says, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4). It is lack of a proper amount of balanced Scriptural diet which is responsible for the spiritual malnutrition seen in so many Christians. We need to take seriously the exhortation in II Peter 3:18, "Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

Again, we need a knowledge of the Scriptures in order that we may share such knowledge (Continued on page four)

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WHY SUNDAY SCHOOL?

(Continued from page three)
with our fellow Christians. Never should we be sponges with regard to any of God's blessings. This is especially true just here. Many are hungry for a fuller knowledge of the Lord and can come to such knowledge only through the Word. They need someone to show them the needed knowledge in the Book, and that duty weighs heavily on those who are taught in the Word. Hence the exhortation in Gal. 6:6, "Let him that is taught in the Word communicate unto him that teacheth in all things." Some such realization must have been in the mind of the apostle when he wrote, "A stewardship of the Gospel is committed unto me" (I Cor. 9:17).

Yet again, one needs to be familiar with God's Word in order to teach and train children aright. No child's education is at all complete without some knowledge of the Bible. That parent who does not teach his child the greatest Book in all the world is tragically un-

fair to his child. How can one know whether or not he is teaching aright unless he is teaching the infallible Word? These are days when there are far too many uncertain things offered to the fertile minds of youth. They need a message of certainty, and the Word of God in the hands of properly qualified teachers is the only absolutely safe message. Note again the words of our first text: "Gather the people together, men, and women, and children, and the stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the Lord your God, and observe to do all the words of this law." The writer of Proverbs reminds us: "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he will not depart from it" (22:6). Someone might raise the objection that a child cannot understand the Scriptures, therefore should not be taught them. But he can understand them! God's Word so teaches. Paul wrote to Timothy, "That from a child (Greek, 'infant') thou hast known the Holy Scriptures" (II Timothy 3:15).

If Timothy the infant could understand the sacred writings, so can children now — if they are taught them.

Finally, we need to know the Bible in order that we may use it in pointing others to the Saviour. In Romans 1:16 we read that the Gospel "is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." If the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation, then there is no salvation apart from the use of the Gospel. James 1:18 tells us, "Of His own will, He brought us forth with the Word of Truth." If the Word must be used in the salvation of lost people, how important it is that we know how to be "rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Tim. 2:15).

Therefore, in the light of these good reasons, God commands us to study His Word. Surely that is not too much for God to demand of us. I John 5:3 tells us, "His commandments are not grievous." In Matthew 11:29, 30 Jesus says to us, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke

is easy, and my burden is light." Are we studying His Word and thereby learning of Him? If not, we are not wearing His yoke.

III. It turns people toward the preaching service.

Contrary to the prevalent idea about it, Sunday School and preaching are not two different services. They are two different parts of one service. If you miss one of them, you get just a part of the service for that morning. The one is not complete without the other. You probably would not like the idea of getting just one-half of a meal by eating the first part and leaving, or coming in the middle of the meal and eating just the last half. But that is what a person is doing when he misses either Sunday School or preaching. Please do not misunderstand me. It is better to get part of it than none at all; but it is so much better to get the whole meal. Therefore one should come to Sunday School and stay through the preaching service, thereby getting a good, well-rounded meal.

The Sunday School naturally paves the way for the preaching service which follows. Some impression may be made, or some work begun in a person's heart in the Sunday School class which will become a definite decision after the further work which may be wrought by the Holy Spirit through the preached Word. It may take time for the Word to bring forth results, or it may require additional application of the Word to bring the individual to see the light, repent of sin, and accept Christ as his Saviour. No doubt many are the times when it could be truthfully said, "The Sunday School teacher planted, the pastor watered, but God gave the increase." Cf. I Cor. 3:6.

IV. It presents a great evangelistic opportunity.

Always we should seek for and make opportunities to impart the Gospel of salvation to those who are lost. Our infinite God has numberless ways of opening the door of opportunity to witness for Him to those who are without Christ. One of the greatest opportunities in all the list for evangelizing the lost is in the Sunday School.

Salvation is an intelligent experience. The God with whom we have to do in salvation is infinitely intelligent. One of the greatest ascriptions of praise in all the Bible is the sublime outburst of Paul in Romans 11:33. "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out!" To make salvation a matter of mere emotional upheaval, cold and lifeless formality, or even some strange event of which we are not conscious, is to insult the intelligent being who performs the miracle of grace. The experience in which a poor, lost sinner repents of his sins and receives Christ into his own heart by faith, is the most intelligent experience in all the world!

I do not mean by this that any of us can understand all about the infinitely wonderful change wrought in our heart by the grace of God. Surely our little minds are not capable of comprehending the length and breadth and height and depth of this. It is too great for us to measure. However, one must know something of the "how" of salvation in order to receive it. In the Bible such question is raised repeatedly by individuals who were interested in being saved. Even Nicodemus asked Jesus, "How can a man be born

when he is old?" (John 3:4) When Philip asked the Ethiopian eunuch if he understood the Scripture he was reading, the man replied, "How can I except some man guide me?" (Acts 8:31). When the Philippian jailor became alarmed about his lost condition he asked how to be saved. Jesus tells us in the Great Commission, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations" (Matt. 28:19). Therefore we conclude that salvation is something which every person must know at least a little about in order to become the possessor of it.

Christian, this mighty agency for teaching the Word of God demands and deserves your best efforts, prayers, and presence. Put your best into it and the blessings of the great Author of the Book will flow and through you.

Lost person, if you are seeking the way of salvation, find it here in the Sunday School where the Book of Salvation is taught. Our principal business is to teach the Book in such a way that you may see the Saviour revealed in it. Give heed to our teachers "Who shall teach you the words, thereby thou shalt be saved" (Acts 1:14). Especially to the younger ones would we say the words of the Psalmist, "Come ye children, hearken unto me, and I will teach you the fear of the Lord." (Psalms 34:11). The word of salvation is this: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

IT FILLS, BUT KILLS

(Continued from page one)
money for that which is bread? And your labor for which satisfieth not? Hearken diligently unto Me, and eat that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness (Isa. 55:2). — The Pilgrim

Wiser Than God?

(Continued from page one)
very clever in so doing. I minister of that church, and officers, had better judge that man and dismiss him, if he cannot convert him.
God's Word says that there is a Devil. That is enough. If there were no Devil, there would be no sin; if there were no sin, there would be no judgment; if there were no judgment, there would be no need of a Saviour; if there were no need of a Saviour, the Son of God was not taken in leaving Heaven's glory and the Father's presence to come to earth to give His ransom. But oh, how we thank God that He came and died for us! For there is a Devil, there is sin, there is judgment, there is a Hell, there is the need of a Saviour, and He did die for us. Would that this poor, conceived, sinful, helpless man would be brought to his knees, and to his knees, to confess Christ as his Saviour and Lord. But we fear he comes under the judgment of Hebrews 6:4-6 or 10:26-29. — Gabriel

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