

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

Volume 17, No. 41

Russell, Kentucky, Nov. 20, 1948

Whole Number 547

False Schemes Used In Financing Baptist Churches

By Roy Mason
Tampa, Florida

Money, money, money! What church troubles come over the question of money. So much trouble comes along this line that many of the outside world raise the criticism that all churches are out for is money. And yet — can a church be run without money? Should members be unwilling to back their church financially? Does any person really love his Lord and his church when he is unwilling to help supply its financial needs? And — is it possible that God is a God of law

and order and system save in the matter of financing of the greatest institution in the world — the church? Surely not — surely He has some plan, and we ought to discover that plan. But first, let us examine some of the wrong ways resorted to in order to raise money:

The Commercial Scheme: The plan of raising money by selling old rags (rummage sales), putting on ice cream suppers, bazaars, plays, running eating places at fairs and the like. This means for a church to "shear the devil's goats in order to spare the Lord's sheep."

The Begging Method: The plan of going out over the community and begging people to give for the erection of a building, for missions, etc. This says that God and His people can't handle their work — that they must have the help of the children of the Devil. Such a plan is a shame and disgrace to Christianity.

The High-Pressure, "I'll give the first five dollars" plan: We have seen folk start off with "Now who will give five dollars?" Next, "Who will give a dollar, or fifty cents?" And the congregation was pumped and pumped and pumped, while the "pump" skreaked and groaned.

And we sometimes visit congregations to hear noted men and always there is pumping for money. Strange to say, some of the folk who do this, say lots about faith, yet no faith is shown in the matter of money, so far as we can see. We doubt that long, loud, and persistent appeals for money really get it anyhow.

The Every Member Canvass. And Pledge Ahead Method: This is considered as the "inspired" (denominationally inspired) (Continued on page four)

How A Big Indian Chief Came To Know Jesus Christ As His Own Personal Saviour

Late one afternoon in the early days of the West a Christian missionary came into a little Indian village. As the word was spread about that a missionary had come, the people gradually assembled to hear him speak. A large number of braves were present that afternoon. The chief himself, a tall, handsome, stalwart young man, was

The missionary began his sermon. He told in simple and powerful language the message of man's sin and God's redeeming grace through Jesus Christ. The people listened with marked attention. The truth of God's Word was reaching many hearts. Presently the Indian chief arose and walked up in front of the missionary. Looking him square in the eyes, he said, "Big chief give his tomahawk to Jesus Christ." The message reached his heart. Jesus was a man of peace; the giving of his tomahawk was a symbol of peace. The Indian chief then sat down in the circle of warriors.

The missionary continued to speak. The audience was eagerly listening to every word. Their souls yearned for more light as they drank in this new and unique message. As the missionary continued to speak, he noticed that the Indian chief was deeply impressed. A struggle

was going on in his soul. Again the Indian walked up to the missionary and this time laid at his feet a very valuable robe. "Big chief," he said, "give his robe to Jesus Christ." Then he returned to his seat.

The missionary continued his sermon. In a few moments the Indian chief rose again. This time the struggle in his soul had ended. He came forward and with deep emotion he said, "Big chief give himself to Jesus Christ."

Sometimes we are like that Indian chief. A little time, a little money, or some service in the Kingdom, but we withhold from God our lives. He wants us — our love, our devotion, our all. A complete surrender of our lives, and only that will satisfy our Lord and Master.

— Christian Digest

If we cannot believe God when our circumstances seem to be against us, we do not believe Him at all. — C. H. Spurgeon



The First Baptist Church of Russell, Kentucky, gives you a most cordial invitation to attend the Thanksgiving services at 8:30 o'clock Thursday morning, November 25, 1948.

Mused Uncle Mose

Hit might nig't impossible to git cooperation wha' dey ain' been no operation.

The First Baptist Pulpit

"HEAVEN CAN'T WAIT"

(Read Exodus 8:1-15)

I have four texts of scripture that I want to read to you tonight:

"And he said, TOMORROW." —Ex. 8:10.

"NOW is the accepted time, behold, NOW is the day of Salvation." —II Cor. 6:2.

"Boast not thyself of TOMORROW for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth." —Proverbs 27:1.

"Wherefore as the Holy Spirit saith, TODAY if you hear his voice, harden not your heart." —Heb. 3:7.

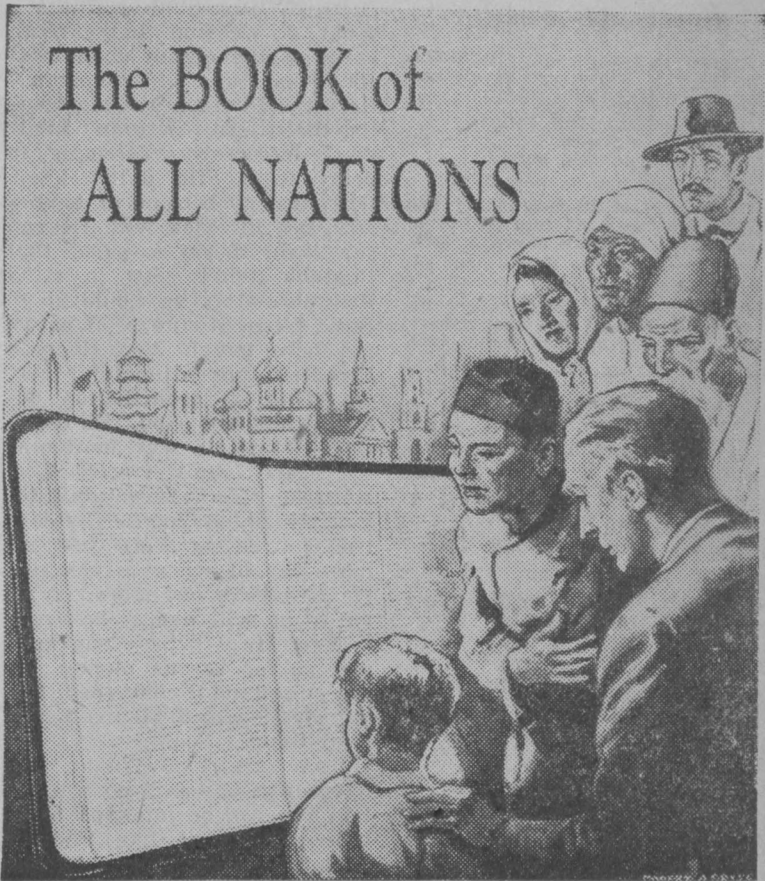
If there are any moviegoers in the house tonight, you will doubtlessly know where I got my subject. I don't go to the movies. I don't think any child of God has any business whatsoever to go. I don't think, brethren, that it is becoming any Christian to ever attend the movies. I don't know of anything in this world that will cause an individual to lose the joy of his God-given salvation more than by a continuous contamination on the part of the world by way of the movies.

I say, brethren, I don't go to the movies but sometime ago there was a movie shown by the title "Heaven Can Wait." Now, don't misunderstand me, I didn't

slip around to the back door to see it. I don't know about what was shown on the inside, but in some manner I saw an advertisement of it. The title struck me forcefully: "Heaven Can Wait." I don't know what was in it, but I rather have in mind, judging by the title only, having not talked it over with anybody who saw it, I rather have in mind, beloved, that it was a portrayal of this theme: Live for the world; enjoy the pleasures of life; partake of every pleasure you can count on so far as material pleasures are concerned. Take those things now and let Heaven wait. My idea (Continued on page two)

SHAM CHRISTIANITY

Lady Dorothy Nevill in her account of the Walpole Family, says that her father, Lord Oxford, was invited to become president of the Norwich Bible Society. He replied, expressing his surprise and annoyance, "I have long been addicted to the gaming table. I have lately taken to the turf. I fear frequently I blaspheme. But I have never distributed religious tracts. All this was known to you and your society, notwithstanding which you think me a fit person to be your president. God forgive your hypocrisy. I would rather live in the land of sinners than with such saints." — Dublin Evening Telegraph.



Do You Doubt? If So, Then Read This For Definite Assurance As To Your Salvation

ELDER C. D. CHICK
Marion, Kentucky

Text: "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." —I John 5:12.

The Gospel of John 20:31 reads: "These things are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God; and believing ye might have life through his name."

In the epistle he speaks to those who have been saved and may have doubts as to their salvation, these words of assurance: "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life." —I John 5:12.

This one chapter sets forth eleven clear and unmistakable reasons why one in doubt may take courage and journey happily along the road of life.

Verse 1a. "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God." This is not a historical belief,

but an act of the inner man—a soul experience. If you have believed with your heart "you are born of God," this means that God is your Father and that you are God's son. One who is born can never be unborn. God never ceases to be; therefore never ceases to be your Father.

Verse 1b. "Every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him."

1 John 3:14: "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren."

Think of someone whom you have good reasons to believe is saved, yet has ugly ways. Can you love him because he is your brother in Christ? The writer has two brothers much older than he, whom he never played with as boys, yet he loves them not because of association, but because we are children of the same father and mother.

Do you love people because they are born of God? If so, you are saved and safe.

Verse 2 "We know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments."

The test as to whether we love God is to love our brethren in Christ and to keep God's commandments.

Love is not a sickly sentiment (Continued on page four)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN—EDITOR

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

Editorial Department, RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, where communications should be sent for publication.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE
Per Year in Advance.....50c
(Domestic and Foreign)

Send Remittances to Russell, Ky.

Entered as second-class matter May 11, 1941, in the post office at Russell, Ky., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Paid circulation in every state and many foreign countries.

Subscriptions are stopped at expiration unless renewed or special arrangements are made for their continuation.

FREE TRACTS

If you want a real tract to hand to your unsaved friends, write Bro. C. C. Borders, of Elizabethtown, Kentucky and ask for a copy of "Good News." It is a splendid tract, but may I suggest it is always proper to include postage.



Be sure to attend the Thanksgiving services at 8:30 Thursday morning, November 25, at the First Baptist Church of Russell, Kentucky.

"HEAVEN CAN'T WAIT"

(Continued from Page One)

about it may be a million miles from the theme, and some of you worldly church members who go to the movies may be able to set me right after services are over as to whether I have guessed right as to the subject matter of that movie. I say, some of you worldly church members may be able to do so. Brethren, I have in mind that is about what was the theme of that movie.

Be that as it may, when I saw the advertisement of it, I said that is an idea for a sermon. In all probability the movie magnates that produced it had in mind take your fill of earthly pleasures; take all that this world has to offer; get all the sensual satisfaction out of this life and remember, Heaven can wait. I come to you tonight, brethren, with just exactly the opposite thought—Heaven can't wait. THIS IS THE FATAL MISTAKE OF MANY INDIVIDUALS in that they say either outwardly or else by their action, Heaven can wait! I say that this is a fatal mistake.

That was the mistake that Pharaoh made. If you will read carefully from this 8th chapter of the book of Exodus, you will find that Pharaoh was encountered by the presence of God through God's man, Moses; and in that contest between God represented by Moses on one hand and Pharaoh on the other, when the frogs came up over the land, that the country was polluted thereby. There were frogs in their kneading troughs, there were frogs in their ovens, there were frogs in their beds, there were frogs, beloved, all over the land so that one could hardly step without stepping on frogs here and there. Finally, when this plague became so severe Pharaoh asked Moses to pray to God that the plague of frogs might end. Moses in conversation with Pharaoh said,

"When shall I do so, and if I pray God in your behalf, when will you allow God's people to go free?" Immediately Pharaoh spoke as we find in the tenth verse of the eighth chapter of Ex., "and he said, tomorrow." Brethren, Pharaoh was mortgaging the future. He didn't know what tomorrow was going to bring forth. He didn't know what was to become of tomorrow, but his idea was, Heaven can wait. I am satisfied that Pharaoh didn't have in mind that ultimately he would go to Hell. I am as sure of it as we are here tonight that Pharaoh expected that ultimately there would be a reconciliation between him and God. He didn't realize that he was hardening his heart fatally toward God. He said, "Tomorrow," but tomorrow didn't come. His idea was Heaven can wait. Just one more day of sensuous pleasure. He will have one more day in which he will live as he wants to live. He will have one more day so far as his money and power as king is concerned. Tomorrow he will think about spiritual things.

I am sure, beloved, that there never was a man who went to hell because he intended to go there. But, just like Pharaoh men say, "Tomorrow." I am satisfied that there is not a man in Hell tonight who deliberately and purposely decided he would spend his eternity in hell. I am sure that every man in Hell tonight is there because he said, "Heaven can wait. I will live for this world. I will get more pleasure. I will have a good time. I will enjoy all that the flesh has to offer. I will take all the world can give and after a while I will turn to the Lord, Heaven can wait." My brother, sister, it was a fatal mistake on the part of Pharaoh and it is a fatal mistake tonight for any man or woman in this house to say openly or by action, Heaven can wait.

I will give you another illustration within this word of God of a man who did this same thing. Do you remember the rich young ruler who came to the Lord Jesus Christ? The record reads:

"And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? And Jesus saith unto him, Why callest thou me good? There is none good,



In trying to show your thankfulness to God this year, why not remember our publishing work with a worthy offering?

but one, that is, God. Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother. And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth. Then Jesus beholding him, loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up thy cross, and follow me. And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved; for

A Letter From The Editor



November 15, 1948

Dear Friends of The Baptist Examiner:

Greetings in the name of Jesus and praises to God for His goodness to all! Will you join us in thanking God for the following benefits?

Thank God for peace and prosperity in America with the privilege of helping a needy world.

Thank God for freedom to worship and praise Him. Totalitarianism, the enemy of the Gospel, is operative in other places, but we still may assemble to praise the true and living God.

As I reflect thus, I am especially grateful at this Thanksgiving season that

- we are no longer at war,
- we have been spared the poverty and penalties of military defeat,
- our food is not rationed,
- our shores were not invaded,
- our factories were not bombed,
- our homes were not damaged,
- our industries are stronger,
- our factories are more productive,
- and we are enjoying the highest standards of living and income that any nation has ever known in the history of the world.

Thank God for the privilege of sending forth THE BAPTIST EXAMINER with its weekly message of evangelism, missions, and Bible doctrine. Over 13,000 copies are sent out weekly and many are the letters telling of blessings received by the saints through reading it. Thank God for many precious souls which have likewise been saved thereby.

Will you dedicate yourself anew to God at this Thanksgiving season and to service and prevailing prayer as we try to serve and minister in a lost and needy world?

We are asking all our friends whom the Lord has prospered to give as the Spirit of God definitely directs toward our publishing work. Let me personally urge you to be extraordinarily generous now as we greatly need your gift to carry on. The high cost of living has limited in their giving hundreds of people with medium or small incomes who have hitherto been most faithful. Will those of you whom God has prospered make up for their limitations at this time? Send a gift commensurate with the blessing you have received in order that this work may be carried on to the fullest.

May the God of material abundance and spiritual faithfulness be with you in the fullness of His grace in the days before you.

Yours under His precious blood,

John R. Gilpin, Editor,
The Baptist Examiner
Russell, Kentucky

he had great possessions."—Mark 10:17-22.

Here was a man, my brother, who was so moral and good that he could stand in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ and say that he had kept the law of God from his youth. As to how closely he had kept it, I don't know. As to how much of a falsehood he told Him, when he said he had kept it from his youth, I am not prepared to say. He was so good, so upright and so moral that the Lord Jesus Christ loved him when he saw him. Then the Lord put him to the test. He said, if you love me, sell everything you have, give it to the poor, and come follow me. My brother, that man's gold

which might have been a golden key to open paradise to him became a golden bar that held fast the gates of Heaven in his face and kept that man from his trust in Jesus Christ. When he turned and walked sadly away from the presence of Jesus Christ, I am satisfied he did so, thinking Heaven can wait. Some of these days he will do what Jesus said. I am sure he thought that he would go on and enjoy his wealth a little longer. He said within himself, "I will enjoy the things that money and my wealth can buy and after a while I will come and do the very thing that Christ has told me. I will go on enjoying the world. I will let Heaven wait for

a little while." That was a fatal mistake. Not one time do you ever read in the Word of God that that young man came back to Jesus Christ. Not one time do you ever see him accompanying the Son of God and the twelve apostles. Not one time do you ever find him seeking out the Lord Jesus Christ. I am satisfied that young man's soul is in Hell. A lost man all the cause he took this position: Heaven can wait, I will enjoy my wealth, I will think about Heaven some other day.

There is another illustration in this word of God of a similar man. That is the story of the rich farmer of whom

(Continued on page three)

HEAVEN CAN'T WAIT

(Continued from page two)
ad in the gospel according to Luke:

"And he spake a parable unto them saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and will build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool! this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou has provided?"—Luke 12:16-20.

Brethren, here's a man who took the same position as Pharaoh, a man who took the same attitude as did the rich young ruler, a man who took the same attitude as some of you who are here in this house of God tonight—he was living only for this world. He was thinking in terms of "I," "my," and "mine." He was thinking how he might enjoy his wealth and how that

Our Lord Jesus Christ in this sixth chapter of John had fed five thousand men, not counting women and children. After the miracle of feeding, he had preached on the subject of himself as the bread of life. Immediately, the people had scattered in every direction and after they left, Jesus looked out and saw his crowd had grown so small that finally he had a dozen men—His own disciples—about Him and he encouraged Himself by saying, "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me." Brother, I thank God tonight that there isn't one of God's elect going to Hell. I have heard preachers speak of the sinner "sinning away his day of grace," which is preposterous, for he has never had a day of grace yet. Arminians talk of empty robes, empty mansions and empty seats in Heaven. I have heard folk pray that men might be saved before that the spirit of God might be withdrawn from them. This is ridiculous. All of God's elect will be saved. Not one will be lost. If the Spirit has once begun to work effectively in the heart of that sinner, He will never, never let up until that man is saved and a child of God. Not one of God's elect will ever go to hell! Listen as I read:

"I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world and I come to thee. Holy Father keep through thine own name those whom thou has given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.—John 17:9-12.

He said in substance as He prayed that everyone that God had given him as a love gift from before the foundation of the world, that He had kept everyone of these. I thank God tonight, my brother, that it is true that God chose us in Christ Jesus before the foundation of the world; that God will see to it that everyone whom He has thus chosen will ultimately and eventually be saved and brought to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

However, I say to you tonight, beloved, there is many and many an individual who is taking the same position as Pharaoh, who is taking the same attitude as the rich young ruler or the rich young farmer. They are saying, "I will enjoy my position. I will enjoy my money. I will enjoy what the world can give. I will enjoy the satisfaction that comes to the flesh and so far as spiritual things are concerned, Heaven can wait!"

IV

Let me show you tonight, sinner friend, WHAT YOU ARE MISSING BY SAYING HEAVEN CAN WAIT. Whenever you say Heaven can wait, YOU ARE MISSING HAVING YOUR SINS BLOTTED OUT BY THE BLOOD OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. I thank God, my brother, that whenever a man trusts Jesus Christ as his Saviour, that everyone of his sins—past, present and to come—everyone of those sins are blotted out. I don't know of anything that ought to thrill a man more than to know that when he trusts Jesus Christ, that all his sins are blotted out.

"I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, the sins; return unto me; for I have redeemed thee."—Isa. 44:22.

Come to the New Testament:

"... and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."—I John 1:7.

Brethren, what a joy it is tonight to know that all my sins have been blotted out in the blood of Jesus Christ.

Let me ask you a very serious question. Would you want the world tonight to know of the sins of your life? How many individuals are there here to-



I am thankful to be able to edit The Baptist Examiner. Are you thankful for it? If so, how thankful? Your offering will be most deeply appreciated.

night that would be willing to stand on a ladder and on yonder wall, write the sins of your life that you can remember from the time that you became accountable to God—to write the sins of your life here in the presence of man? My brother, I thank God tonight that when a man comes to Jesus Christ that all his sins, the sins of yesterday, the sins of today and the sins of tomorrow, that they are ALL blotted out by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. And brethren, the man who comes to the Son of God and trusts him as his Saviour will never have, to face those sins again because they are blotted out by the blood of the Son of God. Now, sinner friend, whenever you say Heaven can wait, whenever you take the attitude of the rich young farmer and the rich young ruler, or whenever you say either outwardly or by your life, Heaven can wait, you are missing having your sins blotted out by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Again, my brother, whenever you say heaven can wait, you are missing the joy of getting a brand new nature that you have never known before. The unsaved man or woman who is here tonight has one nature. He has never had but one and will never have but one until he is saved. And that nature that you have had from the time you were born, is the nature of the flesh. It wants to do everything that is wrong; it opposes everything that is right. That nature is a nature that has led you from God and has never one time led you toward God. But, beloved, the day that that sinner trusts Jesus Christ, right then and there he gets a brand new nature—the kind he has never had before and never has known anything about.

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the DIVINE NATURE, having escaped the corruption, that is in the world through lust."—II Pet. 1:4.

Brethren, when a man is saved something of God is put inside of him. God's nature becomes a part of him so that when a man is saved, he has two natures. He has the same old nature of flesh he has always had and it will soon manifest itself, and he has that new nature of God that has been put inside him.

Oh, what a joy it is for man to realize that he is now the possessor of a two-fold nature, and the nature of God that is put inside is the nature that

is going to live, and live forever. Brethren, I am glad tonight that the day the Lord Jesus Christ saved me, He put something of God inside me. I am glad that every man that is saved has had that experience. Now, you can join the church, you can be baptized, and you will never have the nature of God put on the inside of you, but brethren, when a man trusts the Son of God as his Saviour, right then and there something of God is put on the inside, and he experiences divine nature that day. That man, who is saying tonight, Heaven can wait, I will enjoy this world—he is going on with just this one nature; he is missing having the nature of God in his life.

Whenever a man says heaven can wait, he is missing the joy of becoming a new creature in God's sight.

"Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a NEW CREATURE; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."—II Cor. 5:17.

Listen, he is a new creature! That is exactly what every saved man is. He is a new creation! In the early chapters of Genesis we have the story how God created and fashioned this world. The birds, animals, beasts and everything that is in this world is of the creative plan of God. I am glad that God didn't stop creating the day he formed the world. I am glad that God has been creating individuals from that time down to this. Every time that God saves a man, we have a new creature in Christ Jesus. The man who says Heaven can wait, is missing the joy of becoming a new creature in God's sight.

I will say also, beloved, the man that says heaven can wait is missing the glorious privilege of being born again into the family of God. I am glad, brethren, that God makes people new; that he gives them a new birth. Our Lord speaks of it:

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot en-



Show your thankfulness this year by an offering equal to your blessings.

ter into the kingdom of God. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."—John 3:3-5-7.

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever."—I Pet. 1:23.

Brethren, every man who is saved tonight has been born again. Nobody will ever go to Heaven without it. You can join the church, you can be baptized, you can take the Lord's Supper, you can do the externals, you can turn over a new leaf, start over your life day by day, and go to Hell; but, brethren, the man who trusts Jesus as his Saviour—that man is born again. Brother, sister, listen to me, the man who says Heaven can wait is missing the joy right now of being born into the family of God.

As I bring this simple message to a close, may I say to that individual who is here tonight who is saved—may I say to you tonight, sinner friend, trust the Lord Jesus Christ now. Don't

say Heaven can wait. Don't live for this world in hopes that after a while you can be saved. But tonight, if the spirit is working in your heart, may you now be accepted in the beloved and now become a child of God! Jesus said, "Repent ye and believe the gospel."—Mark 1:15. I declare tonight on the authority of the word of God that any man that will repent of his sins and believe Jesus died on the cross for everyone of those sins—I declare to you on the authority of God's Word that that man will go to Heaven when he dies.

Don't try to get to heaven because of your sincerity. There may be those of you here tonight who say, "Brother Gilpin, I am sincere in what I do. I am doing the best I can." Sincerity won't save anyone. Did you read this last week in the paper of that druggist over in the borough of Manhattan, New York, who filled a prescription wrongly? A woman brought a prescription into his drugstore which called for barium sulphate. He hastily read the prescription and read it barium sulphite. Just one letter difference—instead of sulphate he read it sulphite. Just one letter difference. He filled that prescription and in a few hours that woman was dead. Barium sulphate possesses curative powers, but barium sulphite is deadly poison. They sentenced him to three years in the penitentiary. He didn't mean to kill this woman. He didn't do it intentionally. He was sincere in what he did. But there is a husband who mourns a loss of a wife and children who mourn a loss of their mother just because that druggist wasn't accurate. He wasn't right even though sincere.

You may be saying, "Well, I am sincere in what I do. I believe that I will go to Heaven if I keep the law to the best of my ability, and I live up to the ten commandments to the best of my knowledge." My brethren, it doesn't matter or make a bit of difference what you believe and how sincere you are—it will never save you. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the light," and if you miss the Way, which is Jesus, all the sincerity in the world will never save your soul.

May it please the Lord tonight to take this simple message and may it be to his own glory; that he shall in this hour quicken some dead life, make it alive and cause those of you who have been saying Heaven can wait to come out on the side of the Lord and say now: "Heaven can't wait. I am taking Jesus now to be my Saviour and my Lord."

May God bless you!



"I sure want THE BAPTIST EXAMINER to continue to be printed. It is the best paper I have ever seen."

A. C. Stogner
Evansville, Ind.

"A friend was visiting us a few days ago and by chance picked up a copy of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. She read it a few minutes and quickly asked where she might get it. Thus I am sending her subscription to you today."

Mrs. Jack Goolsby
Rainelle, W. Va.

CHRISTIANITY AND NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS COMPARED

SECTS

CHRISTIAN denominations are divided along lines of doctrine, church worship, and church government. But all true believers consider one another brethren in Christ. And the more Christians are committed to the Word of God and yielded to the Spirit of Christ the more they tend to become one in doctrine and practice.

THE BRAHMANS are divided into one hundred and fifty castes or sects. These Brahmans claim to have sprung from the mouth of Brahm, the creator. They are the proud vampires which make life a burden in India.

HINDUISM. 1. Worshipers of Siva. 2. Of Vishnu. 3. Of female deities, such as the wives of Siva, etc. 4. Of Ganesa, the elephant-headed god of good, luck and fortune. 5. Sun worshipers. There are about 20,000 Hindu caste divisions.

BUDDHISM is much divided. In Japan alone, it has "nine principal sects and forty-two sub-sects." The Buddhism of Tibet differs greatly and is called "Lamaism." That found in Siam is still another variety.

TAOISM has fallen from the teachings of its founder into the exorcism of demons. In the execution of Taoist authority, Satan's followers are certainly divided against themselves for they are split up into many opposing clans.

"The world has yet to see a Christian wholly given up to God." — Henry Varley.

CONFUCIANISM. "All Chinese are Confucianists, as all English are Saxons." Confucianism is the basis of all religious life in China and is mixed with the beliefs of every sect and every religion. To eliminate Confucianism from China is to reconstruct the empire.

ZOROASTRIANISM. It is difficult to learn the early conditions of this religion. It held great sway in Persia for many years. The first blow was from Alexander the Great, B. C. 333. The final overthrow was by the Mohammedans in 641 A. D., who have persecuted them ever since.

THE PARSEES number so few that there is not much encouragement for dissatisfied persons to attempt to organize a new sect, as they would get no following. Parsees are strongly attached to each other, which is another unifying feature.

SHINTOISM is breaking down. Since its disestablishment, it is becoming unpopular. Numerous sects and reform movements have sprung up, some of which have borrowed elements from Christianity to assist in maintaining their hold on the people.

MOHAMMED prophesied that his followers would be divided into seventy-three sects, but there are today over 150 sects. The two main divisions are, the Sunnites and Shi'ites, and bitter is the strife between them.

LODGE HEAVEN

(Continued from page one)
"are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For everyone that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness." (Hebrews 5:12, 13).

DEFINITE ASSURANCE

(Continued from page one)
tality but a devotion that causes one to obey or render service to the object of our love, though it may carry cost and hardships with it.

"If a man love me, he will keep my words."—John 14:23.

IV

Verse 3. "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments; and his commandments are not grievous."

Are we willing and glad to keep God's commandments because they are God's commands, though it may work hardships to the flesh and the world opposes us and brands us a peculiar?

"My yoke is easy and my burden is light."—Mt. 11:30.

V

Verse 4. "Whatsoever is born of God, overcometh the world."

Are you an overcoming Christian? Are you growing in grace with the years? Are you stronger this year than a year ago? The normal Christian grows in grace. The child feeds upon milk, the grown-up on meat.

"I can do all things through

Christ which strengtheneth me." — Phil. 4:13.

When clouds are dark and lowering, burdens heavy, and enemies compass you about, let the torch of your faith flare up anew.

"This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. He that believeth the Son of God hath the witness in himself."

Rom. 8:16. "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God."



With gratitude in our hearts, may we thank and praise God this year as never before for all His benefits, remembering that Thanksgiving should mean "sharing." Are you sharing your material substance with those who carry on in the cause of Christ? Today, be thankful — and share.

We have an inner sense that we have been born again.

VII

Verse 14b. "If we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us."

Do you get an answer to prayer, or have you in the past? God answers the Christian's prayer. This does not mean that God at all times and under all conditions answers our prayers

in the way we desire. The wise parent often says "no" to the request of his child, and in case of rebellion or disobedience may not answer at the time of the request, but God hears and takes notice. He may say "no" or he may delay, that we may be enlarged, that He may give us more than we ask for.

VIII

Verse 16. "If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death."

There seems to be some very deep things in this verse that a Christian may reach through prayer, and if these things may be reached by our intercession, certainly things not so deep may be, and the blood of Christ may be brought to cover the soul of the lost. Let us pray without ceasing. Spurgeon prayed thirty years for the salvation of one man and God saved him.

IX

Verse 18. "We know that whatsoever is born of God sinneth not."

This does not mean sinless perfection, but it does mean that the spiritual or inner man does not consent to the thoughts or acts of the carnal man. However weak the flesh, the spirit

This splendid article is in tract form and may be had from the author at 10c per copy or 20 copies for \$1.00.

always cries out against and loathes sin.

Some say: "If I believed in the security or preservation of the believer, I would take my fill of sin." If the statement is true, he who thus speaks is a lost sinner and is longing for the flesh pot of Egypt. One sin will fill the saved soul to overflowing and cause him to cry out with Paul, "Who shall deliver me from this body of death?" Sin to a saved man is like a dead human body chained to him. The Christian hates sin.

X

Verse 19. "We know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness."

The saved are not of this world. While we live in the world we do not belong to the world. We are only sojourners and, like Abraham, look for a city "whose builder and maker is God," and like the orthodox Jew who always leaves some part of his house unfinished as a sign that this house is not his home. The Christian has earmarks of faith and life that declare him to be a citizen of a far country.

There is a line of fine demarcation between the life of a Christian and of this world. Like the prodigal, he cannot feed long upon the husks of this world.

XI

Verse 20: "We know that the son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ."

A small child said to her sister when she had told her of Jesus; "Is he real? I thought He was a play-like Jesus." Many professed Christians seem to think that He is a play-like Jesus, judging by the way they live. He is real. Saved ones who departed this life fifty years ago are as real as life itself to their loved ones who remain. So is Christ to those who are born again.

CONCLUSION

If all these points are clear to you and you can say all of this is your clear, unmistak-

able experience, you are truly a mountain-top Christian. We all cannot live on mountain tops all the time. Perhaps some of us never reach the summit. But if you can place your fingers upon one or more of these and say, "I know this is true of my experience," you may proclaim with Paul, "I know in whom I



There are readers of The Baptist Examiner who could pay off our entire indebtedness. This would be a fine time to show your gratitude to God for His goodness, by thus relieving us of our burden, or at least a part of it.

have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him."

FINANCING A SCRIPTURAL CHURCH

(Continued from page one)
plan, and as indispensable to the Baptist churches of this day. Fact is, one can't be a full-fledged cooperating Baptist without the every member canvass. Confessedly it is better than these other schemes just mentioned, but it has serious faults. What are they?

God's Word says, "Bring an offering and come into his courts" (I Chron. 16:29). Under the canvass plan, a committee goes out and gets it. They plead for money and pledges from those who pay little attention to the house of worship of God.

It introduces a sort of constraint in giving. (See II Cor.

9:7). Often pressure is put to induce folk to give or pledge. "Now you are able to give as much as John Smith, so on and make a pledge at as large as his."

Pledging commits one for future, whereas the future is unknown. God's way is for to give "as God has prospered" (1 Cor. 16:2) and not as may prosper.

Pledging and budgeting short of the faith plan. It is David numbering Israel, rather walking by sight, instead of by faith.

Note: If a committee is designated to canvass the membership, it would be far better to do so with the idea of stating financial needs, laying upon hearts of all members their obligation to have part in support of the church, with urge that members compare themselves with reference to their willingness to tithe. could be done, with no sum amount asked, nor pledged sum taken.

Some Wrong Ideas About Giving

The idea that it is wrong to support a gospel ministry. hardshell groups hold this. are among the world's stupid people. I Cor. 9:14 refutes error.

The idea that it is wrong to "preach about money." It

There are three answers to prayer—Yes, No, and Wait.

God cares nothing about public opinion—the voice of people is rarely, if ever, the voice of God.

Even the woodpecker uses his success to the fact that he uses his head.

Some temptations come to the industrious but all temptations attack the idle.

"A Systematic Study Of Bible Doctrine"

By T. P. SIMMONS, Ashland, Kentucky

"A WORK EVERY HONEST CHRISTIAN CAN UNDERSTAND, YET IT IS SCHOLARLY."

The above are the words of D. B. Estep, of Covington, Ky., editor of the Watchman-Crusader. They were written of the book mentioned above.

The three things most often said about this book are that it is SOUND; that it is SIMPLE; and that it is SCHOLARLY.

Prof. F. D. Whitesell, of the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, has enlarged upon this last fact in the following words:

"It is evident that the author is no novice in theology. He shows a profound grasp of the subjects discussed, and supports his arguments by Scripture, logic, and pertinent quotations from other theologians." Again: "He has a thorough grasp of the sweep of Scripture teaching, and does not twist isolated passages to fit his own ideas; but interprets the Scripture harmoniously, and in such a way as to appeal to spiritually enlightened reason."

A FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO THE BAPTIST EXAMINER WITH EACH COPY!

\$3.00 . ORDER TODAY \$3.00

Order from
THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
RUSSELL, KY.