

There is still joy in Heaven over every sinner that repents.

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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## "GOD'S MAN IN GOD'S PLACE"

L. W. BECKLEY  
Norwalk, Ohio

Through more than a quarter of a century in the gospel ministry this writer has witnessed the almost ceaseless changing of pastors in churches far and near. He has observed various procedures adopted by ministers and churches to effect desired relationships with respect to pastoral fields and pastoral personnel. The occasion for writing upon the subject is born from a sense of the seriousness of the whole matter, so important in the Lord's service.

### God's Order Ignored

We find ourselves with the deepening conviction that altogether too often ministers of the gospel make shipwreck of the guidance of God with respect to a new field of service, and churches ignore the faithful

ministry of the Holy Spirit in "calling" a new pastor. Not that either ministers or churches would choose deliberately to sidestep the divine pathway, but through inattention to Scriptural principles, an unspiritual state of heart, the persistent demands of the flesh, and the tendency to follow a precedent, man devised means are resorted to without question.

How many pastoral misfits, divisions among the people of God, and wasted years of powerless service might be avoided, if ministers were taking their orders from God, and churches were concerning themselves with men of GOD'S CHOICE rather than men who measure up to human standards. If it be true (and it assuredly is) that God is willing and able to lead His people, then the happy, fruitful, God-honoring pastorate should be the rule, with few, if any, exceptions. Someone ob-

jects, perhaps, that this is overlooking the fact that we are still in the flesh, and that it is putting the standard too high. But God's standards are never too high. We object to His standards only because we are unwilling to leave our own level.

### The Gospel Ministry a Commission

At the very outset we must remind ourselves that the gospel ministry is a *commission* and not a *profession*. The distinction is simple: a profession is a self-chosen vocation; a commission is a vocation imposed by another.

This character of the minister's calling is basic. All that follows concerning his guidance in God's service is rooted in this fundamental fact. If the minister will ever keep in mind that he is a *commissioned* man he will be spared many a misstep (Continued on page two)

## "WE THANK THEE, LORD!"

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER really has something for which to be thankful and from the depths of my soul, I praise God for His goodness.

Well, here's the story: A good while ago, we began to print "Mission Sheets" as a regular monthly feature of this paper. Since Bro. Overbey is secretary of Baptist Faith Missions and lives in Detroit, we put the words "Detroit, Michigan" at the top of the first page of Mission Sheets, along with the date. The local postmaster and the postal inspector at Ashland, Kentucky, overlooked this wording, when they approved and accepted the paper for mailing. For all these months, I've been sending the paper forth monthly containing the Mission Sheets, not knowing I was violating postal laws. Several weeks ago the postal department in Washington notified me of my error and said that I would have to pay additional postage on all papers heretofore mailed containing Mission Sheets. When we estimated what I owed the government, it looked like the deficit of some million dollar corporation — as the postal department said I owed them over \$4600.00.

That would be a lot of money if I had it and not having any of it, it looked like a mountain. I presented the matter to our

church and we prayed publicly and definitely about it. God heard and moved upon the Washington authorities, so that they forgave the entire amount. I didn't have to pay one penny, although they did request a change in the heading of Mission Sheets for the future as you will note with this issue.

Thus, I say with the Psalmist, "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." — Ps. 103: 1, 2. How good God is to this unworthy preacher!

A short time ago, a large Campbellite church here in Eastern Kentucky ran into a similar difficulty in mailing their paper. They took the matter up with their congressman in Washington and asked him to settle the matter for them. He secured a compromise settlement and they paid a part of the debt. I took the matter up with God and didn't have to pay anything.

Moral: It is better to depend on God than to depend upon your congressman.



Give every man a clean heart and an open Bible and the result will be a Baptist civilization.

## AMILLENNIALISM ANSWERED

Briefly this system teaches:

1. That Christ is now on the throne of David.

2. That O. T. prophecies relating to Israel were either:

(1) Fulfilled in O. T. period,

(2) They were forfeited by Israel through disobedience, or

(3) They are now being fulfilled spiritually or are to be

fulfilled thus to "spiritual Israel" or to an elect Jewish rem-

nant now being called out.

3. That Rev. 19:11-21 symbolizes not the second coming of Christ, but the fall of the

pagan Roman empire of 466 A. D.

4. That Rev. 20:1-6 is being fulfilled now or has been fulfilled already.

5. That there will be a general resurrection and a general

judgment.

The complete and conclusive answer to all this is found in —


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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

Russell, Ky.

—  —

A MARVELOUS BODY

If there are a thousand miles

of blood vessels in my body, if

there are 1,500,000 sweat glands

on its surface, if my heart

beats for a single day were

concentrated into one huge

prob of vital power, it would

be sufficient to throw a ton of

iron 120 feet into the air" then,

since it has already beat 3,000,-

000,000 times since I was born,

and has lifted what would equal

the weight of 600,000 tons, if

my nervous system controlled

by a brain that has 3,000,000,-

000,000 nerve cells of which 9,-

000,000 are in the cortex or

covering of the brain alone, and

in my veins the are 3,000,000

white corpuscles and 180,000,-

000,000 red ones — then it's

some job for an amoeba to evo-

(Continued on page two)

## Why Every Christian Should Join A Church

ROY MASON  
Tampa, Florida

There have been thousands of professing Christians who have never united with any church. Often people make a profession during revival meetings and are never baptized and never join a church. What would you say to a person who failed to see any reason for joining a church? Let us examine some reasons for church membership:

Because Christ expects us to become church members. We do not find any examples of people becoming Christians back in New Testament times and refusing to become church members. Acts 2:41 tells us that the three thousand who were saved, were baptized, and of course they were baptized into the Jerusalem church.

Because Christian people need to be joined together in an or-

ganization such as the church. This enables them to associate with people who have common hopes, aims, ambitions, etc.

Because a church is an organization designed to reach out after others who are not Christians. No other institution is set for the conversion of the lost, or the spread of the gospel.

Because the church that Jesus built is the only organization in this world that is of divine origin. All other institutions and organizations are of human

### Mused Uncle Mose

Dey teachin' a new book down at de chu'ch called "Deacons dat Deak." I ast deacon Sidebottom why he ain' tendin' de class, an' he say, "Ain no use o' me goin', I ain' nevah larn to deak yit."

founding. How utterly insignificant are all human organizations in comparison with this one founded by our Lord. Yet some professing Christians give preference to a club or lodge over their church.

Because the church holds such a place in the affections of Christ and in the thought and plan of God.

Read Ephes. 1:22 and Ephes. 5:25. It is not said of any other institution that "Christ gave Himself for it."

Because Christ's church is the agency which He originated to carry on His work in the world. No club, no lodge, no man-founded church, no other organization of any kind has His authority to carry on His work.

Because it is the church that has preserved the Bible, and has kept Christianity alive thru the centuries. We would be in rank heathenism, without God

and without hope, were it not for what churches have done in spreading the gospel.

### Objections People Raise Against The Church

They say that there are hypocrites in the church. There are. But there are more outside. There will be no hypocrites in the church that shall be finally presented before Christ. (See Ephes. 5:27). Where shall all the hypocrites spent eternity?

People say that there are so many different churches, and how can they know which one is the right one to join? We might ask these questions: Is it worthwhile to study to find out? Can one find out? How can one determine which church is the right one?

People say that they can live just as good out of the church as in it. Some questions: How many ardent soul-winners have you ever known that took that attitude? How much do such people do towards advancing the Lord's cause in the world? (Matt. 7:20: "By their fruits ye shall know them.")



### BUDDA IN YMCA

Lawson YMCA in Chicago has held a full-fledged service of worship of Budda in the ballroom of the YMCA. Minister Norman H. Camp reports that in visiting the Y recently he ran across a full-fledged meeting for the worship of Buddha being conducted by the Y. He explained that a statue of Budda with flowers and fruit were a part of the worship and that a professor from the Northwestern University, a Japanese, led in the incantation.

When Mr. Camp made objections, the chairman of the board of directors of the Y defended the meeting and the worship service on the ground that "this is a free country and everyone has religious liberty." — Exchange

## The First Baptist Pulpit

### "IN A LION'S DEN WITH JESUS"

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee . . ." — Isa. 26:3.

No one individual in all the Scripture illustrates the truth of my text quite like Daniel. Daniel was no unknown man. He had served as a statesman thru the reign of two preceding kings and under each of these kings, he had been advanced to a position of high prominence. He had served as a statesman under Belshazzar and under Nebuchadnezzar; and the interesting thing, beloved, was that under each of these God had blessed according to our text. In the days of Nebuchadnezzar and in the days of Belshazzar, God had

certainly kept him in perfect peace in spite of all the turbulent experiences through which he had passed.

After the fall of Babylon, Media-Persia became the world-wide empire with Darius on the throne; and it is interesting to notice that Daniel was still blessed of God even though there was a change in the government, and even though a new country came into power and a new king came to be the reigning monarch of the world. In spite of all the changes, Daniel was still blessed of God and our text still holds true as to his experience. So much did God bless this man, Daniel, even in the change of government, that

we find Daniel to be the leading man in all the empire. To be sure, the king set up 120 princes, or satraps, and over these he placed three presidents with Daniel over these three to report directly unto him so that we might say Daniel occupied a position in the country of Media-Persia similar to that which the secretary of state occupies today within our nation. I say, beloved, under all three of these kings — that is Belshazzar, Nebuchadnezzar, and Darius — and under both of these kingdoms — that is Babylon and Media-Persia — through it all, Daniel's life surely illustrates my text, "Thou wilt (Continued on page two)



# THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN—EDITOR

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## GOD'S MAN IN GOD'S PLACE

(Continued from Page One)  
and many a regret.

### Commissioned of God

Being commissioned implies that someone has commissioned him. That Someone is God. He is not a minister because he chose a calling, but because God chose him, and enabled him for a particular ministry. Paul speaks of himself as being divinely separated from his mother's womb to be a preacher of the gospel (Gal 1:15, 16). He says he preaches the gospel under necessity, and "woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel" (I Cor. 9:16). He knew he was called of God. Such also should be,—nay, will be, the conviction of every truly called gospel minister. No man should be "ordained" or otherwise encouraged to publicly preach the gospel when it is evident that he "entered a profession" rather than having received a commission from God.

### Master and Servant

Being commissioned, the gospel minister is placed in relationship to God as a servant to his master. Such relationship implies certain responsibility on the part of both parties. On God's part as Master, it implies explicit direction; on the minister's part as servant, it implies implicit obedience. If the servant were always to bear in mind this fundamental rule of guidance, knowing the will of God with reference to place of service would be greatly simplified.

### Practical Applications

Now, growing out of this basic truth of the minister's commission are some very practical applications:

1. He goes where he is sent, not where his own desires dictate.

This is always the way with a faithful servant. It is the way with the commissioned man of the military. It is the way surely with the private soldier.

"Theirs not to ask the reason why,  
Theirs but to do and die!"

And in the last analysis, this is exactly the way with the servant of God who is committed to implicit obedience to his Master.

But how insidiously our human desires intrude! How often an earnest servant of the Lord loses his spiritual poise and interprets some personal desire for a bettered condition as the divine signal to move into a new field. All too often a higher "salary," a better parsonage, a finer church edifice, a more aggressive people, nearness to loved ones, or some other advantage, constitutes an "unmistakable call" to the new field! Imagine Paul or Peter or John changing pastorates on such a

call.

It is held by some that every move by a pastor should be to a "larger" work. Each move should be a "promotion." But it should be remembered that "that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God" (Luke 16:15). A servant of God, following his own desire and counsel, may move into a "larger" work, but actually he takes a smaller place in the plan of God.

True promotion is always of God and sometimes may take on the appearance of that which is quite contrary to man's estimate. Philip was abruptly taken from a large and successful ministry at Samaria to minister to one black man in the desert! If Philip had any notions about the advisability of such a shift of location they are not recorded, and they certainly were subjected to the will of God, for "he rose and went" (Acts 8:7). God said, "Move." That, and that alone, is sufficient reason for the servant of God to move to a new field.

Jonah followed his own desire when he boarded the ship for Tarshish. But Jonah took a lively whipping for it at the hand of the Lord. Many another servant of the Lord has gone to Tarshish when God wanted him at Nineveh. Like Jonah, sooner or later he has had to endure accommodations in a submarine hotel for a season.

*This message may be had in tract form and will be mailed free to anyone who will write the author, 23 Grove Avenue, Norwalk, O.*

2. He need not apply for a pastorate: God will show him the new field of service when He wishes to use him elsewhere.

It is an all too common practice for gospel ministers to write to pastorless churches, asking for consideration as a "candidate." The would-be "candidate" has been feeling that he should "make a change" and if the church in view wishes, would be glad to come and preach for them some Sunday. Something of his background, training, experience, and size of his family is given, with the assuring word that above all else the will of God is humbly sought. This writer is frank to say that as far as he is concerned such application on the part of a minister almost invariably serves as evidence that the applicant is not the God-appointed man for the field. We are well aware of the fact that such a position will find very little favor with a host of sound gospel preachers. But until we have sound, Scriptural evidence to the contrary, we feel held by this conviction.

There are several reasons why the gospel minister should not take it upon himself to effect a change in his field of labor.

For one thing, it would seem to be going ahead of God.

"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass" (Psalm 37:5).

(Continued on page four)

## IN A LIONS DEN WITH JESUS

(Continued from page one)  
keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee."

However, beloved, though Daniel was being kept in perfect peace, he had some enemies. These 120 princes and these three presidents became enemies of Daniel. I expect envy and jealousy entered into it to a great extent in view of the fact that he was the leading man

in all the land of Media-Persia. It is possible also that because Daniel stood for the things that were right and would not allow dishonesty, that doubtless he had to call the hand of these 120 princes many times and probably on account of this they became enraged at him and desired revenge. I am not sure just what motive prompted them. Certainly it was envy or jealousy or revenge or doubtless all three; but, nevertheless, prompted by one or more of these motives these individuals came together to conspire against Daniel. It was rather interesting the way they went about the conspiracy for the Word of God tells us that in order to conspire against him, they observed him, but they couldn't find anything wrong with Daniel except in the way in which he served his God. So after having observed him for a period of time and not being able to find anything whereby they could accuse him except in the manner whereby he served his God, then it was that they hit upon the most ingenious plan that the Devil ever invented to get rid of an individual. They went to the king and said, "All the princes, the presidents, the counselors, the captains and your chief men have held conference together and we have decided it is wrong to pray to anybody, either man or God, except to the king; and therefore, we want you to make it a royal decree that for thirty days no one will be able to pray to any man or to any God except to you, oh, king." Of course, beloved, this naturally inflated the "ego" of King Darius, and his flesh immediately was susceptible and he fell in with the temptation that was thus presented. What man is there in his unsaved state, but what would like to have a whole empire looking upon him as god and praying unto him as god. Naturally, King Darius immediately acceded with the result that he established it as a decree and made it an ordinance and sealed such with his own ring.

Can you imagine such a country as that? Through the act of these individuals who hated Daniel, all connection between Babylon and the throne of grace was severed for thirty days time. As a result of their conspiracy against him all helpless, dying, thirsty, soul-hungry individuals in Media-Persia were shut off from the throne of grace. What a spectacle! For a whole month the youth of Media-Persia was to be helpless before temptations. For a whole month widows and orphans were to be at the mercy of their oppressors without a way of appeal. For thirty days property was to be at the mercy of the thief. For thirty days sinners were to die unforgiven, unable to call upon God. Surely the Devil never devised a more cunning scheme to get rid of a man of God than the Devil devised in this instance with the road to Heaven blocked and with all communication between Media-Persia on earth and Heaven suspended.

However, brethren, there was one man in that land who went on praying. It didn't make any difference how many presidents or captains and counselors advised the king to shut off the medium of prayer, Daniel went on praying. It didn't make any difference how often or in what manner the king had made this decree even sealing it with his ring so that it couldn't be altered. Daniel went on praying. In fact, beloved, Daniel defied the king; he defied the presidents and the counselors; in reality he defied the whole realm rather than be unfaith-

ful to his God. I say, beloved, he continued in his prayer. It had been his habit to pray three times daily with his face toward the city of Jerusalem, and that beloved, is in keeping with the Word of God, for in the days of Solomon, God told Solomon to tell the people that when they were carried captive that they were to turn their faces toward Jerusalem and pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Daniel was doing exactly what God had told Solomon years before the captivity began. Now Daniel goes to his knees three times a day with his face toward Jerusalem, with his window wide open, with the enemies of Daniel looking on and observing him in prayer. Thus Daniel continued praying in defiance of a king and realm.

I have an idea, beloved, that those plotters congratulated themselves upon the fact that they had actually seen Daniel at that open window in prayer; that they said to themselves that Daniel's doom was just as good as sealed already. Accordingly, they told the news to the king. They said: "Oh, King Darius, live forever. There is one man in your realm who doesn't obey your commands. It's that Daniel who is of the captivity of the children of Judah and he does not respect your laws. You said that no one was to pray to man or God for thirty days, but Daniel has prayed to his God three times today." For the first time the old king saw the subtlety and the craftiness of this group and realized what they had planned. He now saw that he was a victim of their subtlety and that he himself had sealed the doom of his trusted counselor and most valued citizen, Daniel, a man of God. The Word of God tells us how that King Darius labored all that day trying to save him. He didn't close his office at two o'clock or four o'clock, but the Word of God says the king labored until sundown trying to find some way to save Daniel. But, brethren, that law, that royal law of Media-Persia was unalterable even by his own royal veto so that even though Darius might have desired to save the life of Daniel, he couldn't even veto his own royal law. And when he could not find any way whereby to save his valued counselor, he took him to the lions' den personally and said, "Daniel, your God will take care of you."

Just how much he believed his own words I don't know, but it is a fact that the words of this king became the truth and God did actually take care of Daniel. I can see the two in contrast that night. Daniel in the lions' den and Darius in his palace. Old Darius walks the floor. He fasts. He doesn't enjoy those dainty dishes that have been prepared for him as king. There is no concert; there is no music that night. When they would play on instruments of music for him that night, he waves them aside. He has no time for the entertainment of the flesh, but rather he sets himself to fast and hope that God somehow will spare this man Daniel. I can see him all through the night walk the floor and pace backward and forward, wondering what has happened to his man Daniel. What a contrast! Daniel lay down and went to sleep. What a contrast! While the king is awake, his servant sleeps. While the king walks the floor and fasts, his servant Daniel reclines and rests with the harmless lions all around him.

When the morning came, just as soon as it was the beginning of day, the old king went to that den of lions and with a voice that I am sure trembled, looked over and said: "Daniel, has your God taken care of you

through the night?" And rather imagine he was just a little bit surprised when a voice came from that den saying: "O king, live forever. My God sent an angel and shut the mouths of these lions." Perhaps you may wonder if I believe literally that God sent an angel to shut the mouths of those lions just as it is written? I don't put a question mark about any portion of this Word of God and brethren, I believe literally what Daniel said was true. I think when Daniel spent that night in the lions' den that an angel shut the mouths of those lions. They suffered from, we might say, an angelic lockjaw that night. They couldn't even open their mouths. They were harmless so far as Daniel was concerned. His God took care of him.

Well, the king had acted according to the law. He had lived up to the law, but, God, my brethren, has gone beyond the law. The king did what the law demanded. He put Daniel in the lions' den, but God took care of him in the lions' den. There is no reason in leaving him there forever. He has done what the law demanded; and can now take him out, and Daniel is immediately brought out of the lions' den safe and sound. When the king finally realized that these individuals were merely plotting against his most valued friend, he had every one of those 120 princes, the three presidents, the captains, the counselors and his wisemen along with the wives and children brought and thrown into the lions' den where they were destroyed. Why? God was not in that lions' den then. God was in that lions' den the night before. God was right there to take care of His man. The morning after, it was just man, and the beasts had mercy. The night before it was man, beast, and God, and God moved in mercy.

I would like for us this morning, having noticed that story, reading it and then retelling it fully to you, — I would like for us to notice some of Daniel's characteristics.

### I

HE WAS A JEW IN FOREIGN LAND. I say, brethren, that Daniel was a Jew in foreign land. It looks like Daniel, away from home in a foreign country, might obeyed the edict of the king. Brethren, most folk will promise when they are away from home even if they are at home do so when they are at home. No so with Daniel. It didn't make no difference. He was away from home and in a foreign land, made no difference. He was loyal to God. I am reminded of Scripture: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service. Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." — Rom. 12:1-2. This is an old adage that says: "What is in Rome do as the Romans do." The world would say to Daniel

(Continued on page three)

## WHO MADE THIS MARVELOUS MACHINE?

(Continued from page one)  
lute himself into that complexity, I grant! It sounds to me more like the work of God. The Psalmist wrote: "I praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." — Psalm 139:14. — W. B. Riley.



MISSIONARIES  
IN BRAZIL

J. F. Brandon  
Miguel Ibernnon  
Cicero Bicipo  
Maio Dutro  
Eufrazo Soraes  
Francisco Santiago  
Walter Fernandes

(Portuguese Language)

Missionary Department

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. Mt. 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)



Miguel Ibernnon, the pastor of the church in Cruzeiro do Sul, baptizing near the church at Morapirango. Thus the work goes on. Souls are saved and then baptized scripturally.

BRANDON'S LETTER  
AS TO BRAZIL WORK

(A letter from John Brandon advises that the condition of Brother Brandon is about the same, that some days he seems to be better and some days not so well. Brother Brandon was taken back to the Baptist Hospital in Memphis again in October for another check up. He has received news from the work in Brazil from the native pastor at Cruzeiro which he passes on for all to read).

Benton, Ky.  
October 31, 1948.

Dear Brother Overbey:

A letter dated September 13 was received not long ago from Miguel, the pastor of the church in Cruzeiro do Sul. He begins by telling of a new preaching point they are cultivating in the home of one of the brethren who lives five miles from town. This brother was sick unto death in April of this year. He was cutting rubber on one of the smaller rivers and was taken down, and as they had no way to treat him where he lived they brought him to my house. I think he was as far gone as anyone I ever saw come back. We prayed for him and the church prayed for him and we used the treatment we had at hand and the Lord blessed it. When I left Cruzeiro do Sul, he went with me aboard the boat to see me off. We asked the Lord to heal him and then make him a blessing to the work, and He did. As soon as he was able to visit among the neighbors and work up some interest, he did so, and now there is a

(Next page, Column three)

A Missionary Church

Grace Baptist Church and Pastor Malcolm Roberts of Baseline, Mich., in the Detroit River Association gave \$100.00 as a special offering in October for sending out the Parrotts. This was in addition to her regular monthly mission offering of \$68.06 to this mission. This church also has a well rounded mission work. She has a mission point in a school house near Mount Clements, Mich., where she has services each Sunday. She also gave \$50.00 to the preacher brother who has had a breakdown in health and the women gave him \$50 in groceries and \$14.00 in cash. The young people gave \$5.27 to this mission work. They gave Brother Novaez for the Mexican Mission work \$33.68 and to Brother Dennington, Kentucky mountaineer missionary, \$100. and to Brother Jacob Rosenthal \$50.00. Her total mission offerings for October were \$725.73. God does and will continue to bless any church that thus carries out the great commission. Grace Missionary Baptist Church is also missionary in practice. Her total offerings for October were \$2458.07. She reported 490 members as of August 31.



This picture shows how the work in the Acre Territory is being carried on while Brother Brandon is in the homeland sick. This picture shows those in attendance at a preaching point in a home about five miles from Cruzeiro do Sul on a Sunday afternoon.

Souls Are Saved In Peru And The Work  
Moves Forward Under Hallum's Direction

Iquitos, Peru,  
October 12, 1948.

Dear Brethren:

Your highly appreciated letter with checks enclosed reached us last Friday, October 8. Thanks. I am recovering from a severe attack of cold. You may not think that one would have colds in this hot climate but he does. The cost of passage by air from Iquitos to Manaoas and Belem at the present rate of exchange which varies from time to time, is as follows: A ticket from here to Manaoas costs \$40.00 and from here to Belem, \$68.00. One may buy a ticket to Belem and stop off at Manaoas as long as he wishes.

Plane Service Once a Week

There is plane service once a week over "Panair do Brazil" on a two motored plane which leaves Iquitos at 7 a. m. and arrives in Manaoas at 4 p. m. It makes five stops on the journey, and an overnight stop in Manaoas being going on to Belem. It leaves Manaoas at 10 a. m. and arrives in Belem at 3:30 p. m. Sometimes making one stop between but not always.

Three Saved At Mapa

The water is rising in the streams, so there is not the difficulty of low water as it was a few weeks ago. We all made a trip to Mapa on the Nanay river week before last and had a very successful meeting. There were three at least who made profession of faith in Christ as Saviour. There were about ten present who said that they were trusting in the Lord Jesus for salvation. I had planned a trip last week for another colony but was hindered by the cold that attacked me. I want to go this week.

Praying For Brandon

We were sorry to hear of Bro. Brandon's sickness and the ne-

cessity of going back to the States, and we remember him in our prayers as well as for the missionaries who are going out soon. This is all for this time. As ever yours in the Lord's service.

R. P. Hallum and Family.

One cannot help but be impressed by the letters from Bro. Hallum. He reminds one of a big work horse that just keeps pulling away. Not a lot of fuming and foaming at the bit but a steady, continual pulling of the load to be carried on. We like to picture in our minds these missionary journeys by the Hallums. We can see them get up on a certain morning with the boy, Noe Garcia, to help, and start out for the lake where the boat is tied up. Things for the journey are placed in the boat and all is made ready. Then the outboard motor is started and they move out from the shore into the deep and are on their way. They enter the Nanay River and pass small villages or colonies of people as they make the turns on the river and finally after many hours they pull up to shore and then go about inviting the people to come for a service and hear the man of God preach the Word of Life. (Next page, column 1)

PARROTT IN FLORIDA

Brother Parrott has gone to Florida for a meeting with Pastor George Boyer and the Ahava Baptist Church at Plant City. On his way he was with Pastor John Gilpin and the First Church, Russell, Ky., and Pastor John L. Bray and the Raiford Baptist Church, Raiford, Fla. The Lord willing they will be leaving for Brazil within a couple of months. Have you sent the treasurer a special offering to help send them out?

Here Is The Way Brandon Organized A  
Missionary Baptist Church In Brazil

Amonho is a village 255 miles up the Jurua River above Cruzeiro do Sul at the mouth of the Amonho River in the very foothills of the Andes mountains in the Acre territory of Brazil. This place is about 3750 miles by river boats from the mouth of the Amazon River at the Atlantic.

First of all, the people at Amonho must hear the Word of God and then believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and then be baptized before a church can be established. Before they can hear the Word of God, a preacher must take the Word to them. Before the preacher can teach to them he must be sent. He must love New Testament mission work, like the Lord Jesus commissioned His church to do Matt. 28:19-20, sent Missionary Joe Brandon to these people at Amonho. About nine years ago Joe Brandon got a small boat and made the long trip of

255 miles up the Jurua River to Amonho, stopping and preaching at the villages along the way. He arrived at Amonho and began to preach to a few people who had met to hear him. He preached night after night for several nights. He sowed the Word like a farmer sows seed. Then he returned down river preaching at the villages on the way until he again reached Cruzeiro do Sul. After making other journeys to other places and preaching in many other villages, he, after maybe several months or a year or more, made another journey of 255 miles up the Jurua and again preached for several nights to the people again. This continued until some who had heard the Word understood (Matt. 13:23) and believed on the Lord Jesus Christ. To these new believers others were added from time to time. They were baptized and became members of the church (Next page, Column five)

Treasurer Z. E. Clark Tells Of Interest In  
The Work And The Needs Of Don Thomas

Don Thomas writes to Brother Hallum that the city of Buena Vista is charging him \$288,000 for the paving of the street in front of the lot that he is building the meeting house on. He says that if this is not paid the city will attach and take the property. Brother Hallum says, "Of course, \$152.00 is so much if a few would contribute in contributing to it." He trusts that the Lord will lead those who reads this to act on it that it may be paid immediately. All funds for Don Thomas are sent to Missionary Hallum who sees that he gets them. One hundred and fifty people at \$1.00 each would take care of the matter, or fifty people at \$10.00 each. Send offerings to the treasurer. Z. E. Clark, Box 202. Melton, Ind.

Brother Clark reports that Elder C. W. Talley of Mississippi sends \$5.00 and Mrs. Nettie Estep of Tennessee \$20.00 designated for Don Thomas to help on the church building. This was sent in addition to his regular support to help him complete the church building. Bro. Clark also reports that the following offerings for sending out the Parrotts have been received in October, First Baptist Church, White Plains, Ky., \$5.00, Elder C. W. Talley of Mississippi \$5.00, Mrs. Henry Bolin of Kentucky \$7.00, Beverly and Geraldine Hahn of Florida \$2.00, F. W. Earles of Ohio \$5.00, and Mrs. J. E. Richards and Miss Katie Bullington of Tennessee \$5.00. Bro. Clark's letter was dated October 26, so others may have been received after he mailed the letter; if so, they are listed in the regular list of offerings along with these that are mentioned here.



## 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.

## EDITOR OF MISSION SHEETS AND HIS CHURCH

The Editor of the MISSION SHEETS is Hafford H. Overbey, who is pastor of Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan. He has edited this paper from its beginning in January, 1942. He receives the letters and pictures from the missionaries and puts them in this paper so that all who support the work may read about it. As editor he also tells the needs, such as the sending out of new missionaries, etc., and places these needs before the people with a prayer that God will lead them to send the money to the treasurer of the mission that the needs may be fully supplied. We have hoped and prayed that all the churches who support this work would make a special offering over and above their regular offerings. Some churches and some individuals have responded. The Editor put the matter before the saints of Harmony Church and asked them to do something about it and they responded with a special offering of \$100.00. They also gave more than usual for the regular monthly mission offering and made it an even \$100 also, or a total of \$200.00 for the month of October for Baptist Faith Missions. But this is not all. We believe in home missions as well as in foreign missions and we practice it, too, then we teach the churches that we pastor to give to both. Harmony Church has extended arms to two mission points where the Word is preached each Sunday. \$20.00 was given for rent at one of these places and \$30.00 for the other. Then \$15.00 was given for Brother Novaez our missionary to the Mexican people in Detroit and other places. Then \$50.00 was given to pay the payment on the home of a preacher in our association who has had a breakdown in health. This church and pastor have been paying the payments on this preacher's home for several months to keep him from losing it. This totals \$315.00 for the month of October for missions. This church owes \$5200.00 on her building and pays \$80.00 a month as payments. In addition to this she pays her pastor well and pays other regular expenses. We often tell the saints of Harmony that if any are hurt by what they have given to come around and get it back. Someone said the way to keep a cow from going dry was to keep milking her regularly. Likewise the way to keep a church from going dry on the work of missions is to keep her giving to missions. We believe in missions and we give to missions and we teach the church we pastor to give to missions also. Harmony Baptist Church ended the association year August 31 with 120 members. Her average offerings for the year was \$71.90 per member. She is a Missionary Baptist Church in practice. The more she gives for missions the more she gives for all other purposes. Harmony Baptist Church has the box plan of giving. Her total offerings for October were \$962.76.

## HALLUM REPORTS

(Preceding page, Column One)  
The people slowly gather in and

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1948

South Union Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky. ....	\$ 18.00
South Union Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky. ....	22.50
Ryan Road Baptist Church, Van Dyke, Mich. ....	9.69
Danleyton Baptist Church, Flatwoods, Kentucky ....	13.00
First Baptist Church, White Plains, Ky. ....	12.00
First Baptist Church, White Plains, Ky. (for the Parrotts) .	5.00
First Baptist Church, White Plains, Ky. (for J. F. B.) ....	20.00
Bellview Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky. ....	10.61
Seven Springs Baptist Church, Dycusburg, Ky. ....	32.08
Seven Springs Baptist Church, Dycusburg, Ky. ....	29.82
Madison Street Baptist Church, Rochester, Pa. ....	6.50
South Side Baptist Church (B. Y. P. U.), Paducah, Pa. ....	6.36
South Side Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky. ....	48.60
Raiford Baptist Church, Raiford, Fla. ....	5.00
South Side Baptist Church, Winter Haven, Fla. ....	55.00
Agava Baptist Church, Plant City, Fla. ....	45.00
Big Creek Baptist Church, Wayne, W. Va. ....	5.00
Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla. (Hope Bible Class) ....	35.00
Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla. ....	82.90
New Hope Baptist Church, Dearborn, Mich. ....	21.62
Richland Baptist Church, Livermore, Ky. ....	37.17
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, North Kenova, Ohio ....	5.00
First Baptist Church, Coal Grove, Ohio ....	24.50
Little Obion Baptist Church, Wingo, Ky. ....	5.00
North Ballard Baptist Church, Wickliffe, Ky. ....	55.00
Liberty Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio ....	16.23
North Side Baptist Church, Mayfield, Ky. ....	39.20
Liberty Baptist Church, Central City, Ky. ....	16.83
Bible Missionary Baptist Church, DeQuincy, La. ....	12.36
Dublin Baptist Church, Dublin, Ky. ....	60.00
Second Baptist Church, Marion, Ky. ....	10.90
Cleaton Baptist Church, Cleaton, Ky. ....	25.00
Pollard Baptist Church, Ashland, Ky. ....	5.00
Eaton Avenue Baptist Church, Muncy, Ind. ....	10.00
Marinatha Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Mich. ....	10.00
Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich. ....	100.00
Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich. (for the Parrotts)	100.00
Zoar Baptist Church, Bardwell, Ky. ....	12.92
Grace Baptist Church, Owensboro, Ky. ....	6.00
Beech Grove Baptist Church, Bardwell, Ky. ....	18.85
The Port Norris Baptist Church, Port Norris, N. J. (for Parrotts) ....	40.00
Plesant Grove Baptist Church, Hickory, Ky. ....	8.30
First Baptist Church, Russell, Ky. ....	66.96
Grace Baptist Church, Base Line, Mich. (B. T. U.) ....	3.57
Grace Baptist Church, Base Line, Mich. ....	68.05
Grace Baptist Church, Base Line, Mich. (for Parrotts) ....	100.00
Oak Baptist Church, Royal Oak, Mich. ....	37.80
Seventh Street Baptist Church, Cannelton, Ind. ....	18.57
Mrs. E. H. Purdon, Elmhurst, Ill. ....	10.00
Elder C. W. Talley, Mantee, Miss. ....	20.00
Elder C. W. Talley, Mantee, Miss. (for Don Thomas's Building) ....	5.00
Elder C. W. Talley, Mantee, Miss. (for Parrotts) ....	5.00
Mrs. Leslie Stephens, Whitley City, Ky. ....	10.00
A friend in Gainesville, Fla. ....	10.00
Mrs. Henry Bolin, Clinton, Ky. (for Parrotts) ....	7.00
Mrs. Vorise K. Ward, Kermit, W. Va. ....	15.00
Mrs. Nettie Estep, Elizabethton, Tenn. (for Don Thomas's Building) ....	20.00
Charles Holsinger, Wheaton, Ill. ....	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Sego, Glendale, Ky. ....	4.00
J. S. Reynolds Chattanooga, Tenn. ....	5.00
Beverly and Geraldine Hahn, Tampa, Fla. ....	2.00
Beverly and Geraldine Hahn, Tampa, Fla. (for Parrotts) ..	2.00
A friend in Wattensaw, Ark. ....	25.00
J. W. Earles, Bidwell, Ohio (for Parrotts) ....	5.00
J. H. Kain, West Cape May, N. J. ....	5.00
Mrs. J. E. Richards and Miss Kitty Bullington, Atwood, Tenn. (for Parrotts) ....	5.00
Mrs. C. M. and Nina Barger, San Angelo, Texas ....	10.00
Mrs. C. M. and Nina Barger, San Angelo, Tex. (for Parrotts' trip) ....	10.00
Forest E. Scott and son, Junior, Grand Rivers, Ky. ....	10.00
Miss Georgia Brandon, Benton, Ky. ....	10.00
Mrs. George Dolin, Charleston, W. Va. ....	2.00
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$1604.00</b>

As the Lord leads you, send all offerings for mission work to the treasurer of the 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

take their places and a service is begun. After singing and preaching, maybe there is no response, but the Holy Spirit is working and using the Word that was preached. Then another journey is made and the Word preached again and again and then one service some who have understood, repent of their sins and trust the Lord Jesus for salvation. Still journeys are made and these newly saved ones grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus and other lost ones are saved. After pictures like these pass through our minds we like to kneel quietly and talk to our heavenly Father in the name of His Son, about the missionaries and their work. Join with us in prayer for them and the work.

## BRANDON'S LETTER

(Preceding page, Column 3)  
preaching point in his home where the church goes on Sunday afternoon to hold services.

## Two Saved in the Yard

Another letter from Miguel tells that two had professed faith in the Lord Jesus in the services held in the yard of this home. Two of the pictures I sent last week were taken at these Sunday afternoon services. (See picture in this issue—Editor). Note Psalms 118:17; 50:15; and 107:22. My experience in praying for people is when the Lord hears and heals one it is for some kind of service that will glorify Him.

## Another Sick Man

And while I am on this sub-

ject let me say that about the same time this man was being treated that there was another case just as interesting. A believer, an old man who was never baptized because he was embarrassed by his marriage ceremony. Anyway he was dying and it seems that the Lord sent me, for I arrived at just the right moment. He was a shoe cobbler and had a large family and they were very poor. He had told his family the day before that the easiest way out of it would be to die but he hated to leave them in such poverty. He had not spoken for an hour or more and the family was gathered around him crying when I went in with one of the brethren. After talking to them about things we agreed to ask the Lord to raise him up again. I fell on my knees with my hands upon the head of the sick man, called His attention to the need of the home and asked for the health of the sick brother. The Lord heard from heaven and as we left off praying the man regained his faculties and spoke to us. We arranged him a bowl of chicken soup and then he regained strength from then on.

## Raised Up for a Purpose

One thing that interested me about this was a few days later he told his wife he knew he would get well for while he was very sick he had a vision of a man coming in and laying his hands upon his head and praying for him and as he prayed another man came and assured him that he would recover. He said that the man who prayed was Brother Brandon and that the other One was the Lord Jesus. As soon as he was able to be about he was gathering the people together to attend the services that were held near his home, one of which later gave a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. I think the above scriptures will also apply to this case. The Lord must be served. There are different ways in appealing to people, no man knows it all, we need others to help us in our work. A plan I have used many times and never saw it fail is the family gathered about the dying mother or father and cry unto the Lord for life and He will answer the same hour. I think the reason is, the family like the church is of divine origin and has a special place in the heart of God, and though not ordered as it should be, when its members cry unto him for mercy, He cannot deny Himself, He will answer and restore.

## Death To Some Others

Miguel the pastor also writes of the death of two men, both unbelievers, with whom I was associated much. One was a merchant that 20 years ago became very much interested in the gospel but was influenced by his wife to not follow. Through the years however he has been a friend to me and has shown himself many times to be concerned in my welfare. Such things make me sad because there is only one place where rejectors of the Lord Jesus must go. When they have no place for Him down here they have no place with Him up there. The other man was the owner of the hotel where I had my meals for a long time. He sent for the pastor in the hour of death but the family would not let the pastor enter the house. This man had heard the gospel hundreds of times and certainly did not call the pastor to hear, but I would say he wanted to accept the Lord Jesus as his Saviour and profess faith in Him. How much better it would have been to have attended to this in life and not wait until the death hour just to find an

unexpected hindrance.

## A Prisoner Converted

Miguel also told of the animation of the services in the jail recently where he says another of the prisoners was converted. He also tells of an excluded member of the church at Cruzeiro do Sul who is a prisoner now, a widow who was one of the first converted at Cruzeiro do Sul. She is a colored woman, but we feel sure that she is a wayward sheep. Her life for the past five years has not been worth anything to the cause of Christ, and to be sent to jail is just one of the many things that one might expect from a mispent Christian life. While in jail she attends the services and seems to be interested. He assures me that the church is praying for my health and return. He had told him in a former letter that we were expecting to have another missionary there soon and they were enquiring when to expect them.

## A Letter From Cicero Six Baptized At Amonho

Cicero Bicipo, pastor of the church at Amonho writes of increased activity in those parts. He has two well attended points where he preaches as often as possible. They are both below the village and when Miguel was up there the last time, in December, there were four people converted at these places. One place is called Mississipi where there is a waterfall and the other place is called Oriente. There are a number of believers living at each place. Cicero went down and baptized those who had made profession of faith. Then there were two more converted at Amonho and baptized there. The work seems to be reviving there. Cicero said that he would soon be on a journey up the Teja river where there is a great deal of interest. It will take him a month to go and return, and I know under the greatest difficulties possible. In that part, life at its best is hard and especially so when one is traveling up river in a canoe in low water time. I doubt if one can make the journey in one month, stopping just one night at each place. Many years ago Cicero lived up on that river and cut rubber, that was before he was saved and called into the ministry of the Lord Jesus. He was known in those days because he was so violent and fought so much. I hope he will get better acquainted with him now and come to know the better side of life through the gospel he preaches.

(To be continued in the next issue).

Sincerely,  
J. F. BRANDON

## A CHURCH IS ESTABLISHED

(Preceding page, Column two)  
at Cruzeiro do Sul. When they were enough to establish a church, they were granted letters from the Cruzeiro do Sul church for that purpose and a new Baptist church was organized.

Then if possible a native preacher is sent to preach to them and do mission work on the territory up and down the various streams that flow into the Jurua River. So after the first convert in Amonho, others were added until after six years later in February a church was organized at Amonho. Then Cicero Bicipo, native Baptist preacher, moved to Amonho to pastor the church and do mission work thereabouts.



(Continued from page two)  
 "When in Media-Persia do  
 the Media-Persians do." Dan-  
 iel fell back upon God's Word.  
 What a contrast to the most of  
 Daniel refused to be con-  
 veyed to the world even though  
 he was in a foreign land miles  
 removed from home.

DANIEL WAS NEARLY 90 YEARS

now. When the time came  
 that they put wine before him  
 and pork as recorded in the  
 first chapter of the book of Dan-  
 iel, and he spurned it, he was  
 only a boy. When that took place  
 he was just a young man, but  
 now Daniel is a man ninety  
 years of age, — a great deal  
 older than anyone in this house.  
 God this morning. The sad  
 thing, beloved, is that many  
 individuals often compromise  
 when they get into their dot-  
 age. I can think this morning,  
 brethren, of preachers who a  
 few years ago dared to stand  
 firm for the Word of God and  
 dared to stand against the cor-  
 ruption of the denomination.  
 Who today compromise, I think,  
 because of old age. Daniel was  
 ninety years old. We would say  
 he was on the shady side of life.  
 We would say that Daniel was  
 in his dotage. We would say  
 that Daniel was an old man  
 now, and would be expected to  
 stand just a little away from  
 the center in favor of the old king.  
 But, beloved, Daniel stood firm  
 even though he was ninety  
 years of age.

notice also that Daniel has  
 been honored through the reigns  
 of three great kings. He had  
 been honored in the reign of  
 Nebuchadnezzar and in the  
 reign of Belshazzar and now in  
 the reign of Darius. Under each  
 of these kings he had been  
 given the chiefest of honor.  
 Why, was it not true, beloved,  
 that Nebuchadnezzar had found  
 him to be the wisest man in all  
 of Babel? Was it not true  
 that when he interpreted the  
 handwriting on the wall for  
 Belshazzar that he clothed him  
 in scarlet, put a chain of gold  
 about his neck and declared that  
 he was the greatest man in all  
 of his realm? Was it not true  
 that under Darius he was ele-  
 vated to a position as being the  
 head of the presidents, and then  
 turned the head of the princes  
 of the kingdom? Daniel was answerable  
 to the king? I say, brethren,  
 he had been honored high-  
 ly by three great kings and  
 yet all that honor you surely  
 wouldn't have expected him to  
 give the king. But brethren,  
 there is a man who respects not  
 the presence of man. He respects  
 only the presence of God. I  
 never read this experience on  
 the part of Daniel but what I  
 am reminded that here was a  
 man who craved the honor and  
 praise of God more than the  
 honor of three kings.

DANIEL SERVED GOD CON-

Notice that 20th century men, "And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel; and there was spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?" Daniel 6:20. That is what the Lord himself said the next morning when he looked down into the lions' den. Brethren, there are mighty few prime ministers, statesmen, congressmen, law makers, and chief men in politics of whom that could be said today. How few preachers there are of whom that could be said today! How few men and how few of us who

I am afraid that most of our praying is like the praying of a girl back in college that I knew when I was in Cumberland College as a boy. She told me one day how that as she was going to bed one night, she knelt down beside her bed to pray and said she went to sleep on her knees and awakened in that position between two and three o'clock in the morning. I have thought of that many times. A lot of times, beloved, the reason we don't go to sleep while we are praying is that we are not in some soft position where we can. There is mighty little earnestness about our praying. Isn't it true, beloved, that in the majority of cases, it is something like this: "Lord bless me, my wife, my son John and his wife; us four, no more. Amen. Good night." Now isn't that the way most people pray?

HE WAS A MAN WITH

These twenty years I have been your pastor I have made many folk mad as a result of standing for what I think is right. I can't say I don't care because I do care. I would rather have the friendship of a yellow hound dog than have his enmity. But I will go further and say this, beloved, that I would rather make you mad than make my Lord mad. I would rather push my trunk out of town on a wheelbarrow than to compromise on things that I believe to be the Word of God. Daniel refused to compromise. This man Daniel loved the Bible. In I Kings 8:47-50 Solomon had said, *"Whenever you get into a foreign country as a captive, turn your face toward Jerusalem and pray for the peace of Jerusalem."* Daniel loved the Bible well enough to do what God had said through Solomon. Brother, sister, I wish this morning that God would give us in our church men and women who love the Word of God

Listen as Paul tells of his experience: "Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear; and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion." — II Tim. 4:17. That was Paul's experience. God delivered Paul out of the mouth of the lion and God delivered Daniel. Is it interesting to see that God did deliver him. Beloved, how did God deliver him? Brethren, it was by FAITH. Read with me Dan. 6:23: "Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he BELIEVED in his God." Notice again: "Who through FAITH subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped THE MOUTHS OF LIONS." — Heb. 11:33. In this letter of the book of Hebrews Paul is telling about the great heroes of faith and he says among other things that they obtained promises and stopped the mouths of lions. How? Through faith. How did Daniel come out of that lions' den? It was through faith.

"Got any rivers you think are uncrossable?  
Got any mountains you can't tunnel through?  
We specialize in doing the impossible.  
We do what no other man can do."

Listen: "*My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths; that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee; O king have I done no hurt.*" — Dan. 622.

What angel do you suppose came down to that lions' den? He is not named but if I were to make a guess this morning I would say it was none other than the Lord Jesus Himself. I believe that as surely as we are here this morning that Jesus Christ walked with Daniel. He lay down with Daniel; He talked with Daniel; He visited with Daniel in that lions' den that night! I say, beloved, I believe Jesus Christ was with him. As the old song says:

There is never a heartache  
and never a groan,  
There is never a teardrop and

Brethren, I believe that as Jesus Christ walked with Daniel in the lions' den long ago that Jesus can and does walk with us today.

I am glad this morning that Daniel went through the lions' den. I am glad that Jesus walked with him. I am glad this morning for this truth that as Daniel walked in that lions' den and Jesus took care of him so as you and I walk through this world and are confronted with lions of all types on all sides, Jesus takes care of us today.

Brethren, did you notice the conclusion of this chapter — how God's kingdom was established accordingly — for Darius was so impressed by what happened that he sent a proclamation throughout all the land saying, "In every domain of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel for he is the living God and steadfast forever and His kingdom is that which shall not be destroyed and His dominion shall be even to the end." What a proclamation for a king to make! Brethren, it paid Daniel to go through the lions' den. It advanced the cause of Christ. Why, this old king sent out this proclamation saying: "There is no other God, his kingdom is steadfast, his kingdom shall endure to the end," as if to say: I am the king of a kingdom that will not endure, but the God of Daniel is a God of a kingdom that will endure forever. My beloved friends, look how it paid Daniel to stay steadfast to God. I have a conviction, beloved, that every time that you or I or any child of God stands up for God or takes his stand just like Daniel did for the things of our Master — I have a conviction that God's kingdom is going to advance and prosper accordingly. You may have to walk in the lions' den. You may have to be beset by lions about you, but my brethren, here is a blessed truth: The God who took care of Daniel can take care of you and as you do so His kingdom will advance as the kingdom of God advanced through Daniel.

May God help you to be faithful whether in the lions' den or outside the lions' den, and whether you walk confronted and surrounded by lions, may God help you ever to be faithful.

DECEMBER MEETING OF  
TRI-STATE BAPTIST BIBLE  
FELLOWSHIP

TIME: Friday, December 3 at  
7:30 p. m.

PLACE: The Siloam Baptist Church. Siloam is located about two miles east of Fullerton and the church is located off of the highway toward the river.

**SPEAKER:** Pastor D. B. Estep  
of Calvary Baptist Church, Cov-  
ington, Kentucky.

Everybody is invited and urged to attend.

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER  
NOVEMBER 27 1948

PAGE THREE



## GOD'S MAN IN GOD'S PLACE

(Continued from page two)

Certainly it is agreed that God's servant must be a yielded man, willing to remain where he is, or go elsewhere, as God wishes. If God calls him to no other field, or shows him his work on his present field is finished, his leading is clear. If, however, God makes him to know that his present ministry is ending, he can do nothing better than commit the whole matter into his Master's hands and then wait for Him Who never fails to perfect His own good plan for His servant by whatever means He may choose to use. It is not a signal to the servant to begin knocking at other doors. About the most difficult thing for many of the Lord's servants to do is to WAIT. But wait they must, many times, and give God time to work. Let the minister be reminded once more that God is the Master, while he is the servant, and it ill becomes the servant to run ahead of his Master.

Again, it carries the implication that God is slack concerning His leading.

There can be no question about God's willingness or ability to lead His servants. "Acknowledge Him in all thy ways and HE SHALL DIRECT THY PATHS" (Prov. 3:6). There can be no question about God's faithfulness in this responsibility whenever His people have met the conditions. But if, by one tactic or another, I must search out the proper place of my service, the question presses for an answer, "Where is my Master? Has He forgotten or neglected His responsibility? Why is it I am obliged to be doing what He promised to do?"

Suppose I am employed as a foreman by a construction contractor. He sends me to a certain locality to erect a building. When finished with that, he sends me elsewhere to do another job. It is his business to tell me exactly where I shall go and what I shall do. But suppose, after I have completed a job, I look around and begin making contacts with prospective builders to find my next job. I tell one man, for instance, that if we can agree, and it seems satisfactory to my employer, I shall be glad to come and do his work. Will my employer be pleased with my procedure? Will he not say, "Could you not trust me to assign you your work? Your next job was already marked out for you, and, as heretofore, I was ready to assign you to it."

Must not God feel something like that when His servants surrender their blessed privilege of seeing Him go before, and feel it necessary for them to pry open doors (ever so gently and modestly!) into a new field of service? And is it not saying, by implication, to those who observe the procedure, "My Master is a good Master all right, but sometimes a bit slow and undependable?"

We believe that a true servant of God will rarely, if ever, find it necessary, or deem it the leading of his Lord, to write pastor-placing bureaus, advertise through the press, apply to churches for a hearing, or seek the offices of friends in order to find the place of God's appointment. God is still able to lead. He has many marvellous ways of arranging the contacts that are necessary for effecting the working out of His plans for His servants. May it be possible that many of God's servants to-

## THE UPLOOK

*When the outlook is dark try the uplook--  
These words hold a message of cheer  
Be glad while repeating them over;  
And smile when the shadows appear.  
Above and beyond stands the Master;  
He sees what we do for His sake.  
He never will fail nor forsake us;  
He knoweth the way that we take.*

*When the outlook is dark try the uplook--  
The uplook of faith and good cheer;  
The love of the Father surrounds us,  
He knows when the shadows are near,  
Be brave, then, and keep the eyes lifted,  
And smile on the dreariest day.  
His smile will grow in the darkness  
His light will illumine the way.*

--Selected

day have allowed their spiritual hearing to become so dulled with the many noises in Christendom that the "still small voice" is an almost forgotten experience?

Further, it puts the ministry on the basis of a profession rather than a commission.

We have already stated that this distinction between a profession and a commission is a basic one. A professional man looks out for a good job. A commissioned man accepts appointments.

The modern practice of ministers "candidating" has all too many of the earmarks of a man seeking a job. It may be quite proper in the affairs of the present evil world for one to demonstrate his ability in a given field of service with a view to employment. But it seems impossible to harmonize such practice in one of God's servants with the fact that he is a commissioned man. What right has he to use the sacred ministry of the Word as "trial sermons" upon whose merits (in part, at least) he hopes for consideration and a possible call? What right has he to exploit his personality and capabilities over against those of other "candidates," hoping that when the vote is taken he may be the winning man? This is done in politics, but is it possible that such practice is to be found with them who are the servants of our Holy God! Alas! we fear that the evil one has craftily led many a good man into this shameful error!

As far as we are concerned, we have done with this term "candidate" as applying to a servant of God. We abhor the very idea it suggests. We are interested in seeing men of God getting the vision of their high and holy calling, concerning themselves, not with self-effected openings into coveted fields, but with their divinely given privilege of knowing and contentedly serving in God's appointed place.

Obedience to such a vision may mean a break with commonly accepted practice, but what of it? We ministers continually urge upon our hearers the divine requirement of breaking with everything that displeases the Lord Jesus. Shall we not then, as well as they, "go forth unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach?"

Finally, there is no Scripture warrant for the practice.

This is one of those things that can be found only in the twenty-ninth chapter of Acts or the fourth chapter of Titus. In other words, it just isn't in the Book. The servants of God in

the early days had not become so wise as we; they had not learned to be "candidate!"

### The Pastorless Church

Much of what has been said respecting the servant of God and his particular field of ministry necessarily implies the responsibility and course of procedure on the part of a church seeking a pastor.

Obviously, we have under consideration those churches observing the Scriptural principle of independence and congregational government. Many congregations are never faced with the responsibility of determining the identity of God's man for their pastorate; an overlordship ecclesiastical body appoints the man when a change of pastorates is deemed advisable, and the church accepts him. But a Scripturally governed New Testament church acknowledges no overlordship except that of Jesus Christ. It is with such churches we are now concerned.

We should like to briefly point out four important things to be remembered by any church seeking God's choice of a man for pastor:

1. God's man is a commissioned man.

This we have said before, in connection with the minister. But the church also should ever keep this fact in mind. It is one way of eliminating many aspirants to the pastorate. Should a man under consideration give unmistakable evidence that he is out for a position of advantage, the church may rightly conclude that he was either never commissioned of God, or that he is sadly out of harmony with his divine calling. In either case he is hardly the man God would be pleased to give to shepherd the sheep of Christ's flock. It is the church's business to be sufficiently discerning to detect such defection and drop all such men from their consideration. This principle faithfully applied would undoubtedly eliminate many men from the pastorate, but we are convinced that such elimination would be wholesome indeed to the cause of Christ.

2. God's man is not a "hired" man.

When a man feels the hand of God laid upon him for the ministry of the gospel he goes forth for God regardless of fleshly consideration. He has the assurance that he is inducted into this high calling by One Who obligates Himself to make provision for his every need. This divine provision will undoubtedly be borne to him through human channels, but he is ever conscious that the source of his

sustenance is God Himself, and he is not "hired" by any man.

What a tragedy, however, when a man of God loses sight of this divine arrangement! And what a tragedy also when a church has no higher vision than that of "hiring a preacher!"

When God gives a church a pastor, He expects to use His children of that congregation as channels of provision for His servant. But they are not "paying the preacher;" they are giving to the Lord. A church having this vision of giving to God will not be so much concerned about how much (or sometimes how little!) they can pay a pastor, but how faithful they may be to their Lord. Where such a spirit prevails no man of God, divinely led to the pastorate, will ever have occasion for anxiety over the failure of his flock to care for their shepherd.

3. God's man is not to be selected by worldly principles.

We heard an earnest young Christian man remark one time that when we are in the market for a horse we go and look him over, and why shouldn't we do the same thing when seeking a pastor? The remark was made, no doubt, with little or no serious thought as to its implications. Sizing up a horse, a car, or a piece of land, and making a selection upon the basis of its qualifications for meeting a particular need, is simply a business procedure, and may be practiced by anyone. But determining which man among many is God's chosen man for the pastorate of a given church is quite another matter. It involves the exercise of spiritual functions that are absent in the ordinary business transaction.

We believe the factor of qualification will undoubtedly enter into the Lord's leading with respect to His man. A church may be asked to consider a man whose disposition and training obviously mark him as unqualified to cope with conditions peculiar to that work. Here the wisdom of spiritually minded Christians would indicate the decision and play its proper part in God's leading. (See James 1:5).

But a careful weighing of a man's qualifications will not always mark out the will of God. Many men of God might satisfy the requirements of a pastorless church so far as its members were able to judge, but not all of them are chosen of God for that pastorate. A godly woman remarked to us one time about a man who had been heard one Lord's Day in the pastorless church of which she was a member. She, with others, had had the privilege of both hearing his sermons and being in his company during the afternoon. Her estimate of him was high, he seemed to possess just about every qualification that one could desire. Yet she was sufficiently enlightened to see that that fact, in itself, did not mark him as God's man for that church. We fear, however, that the average church attempts to determine the will of God

pretty largely upon the basis of a man's qualifications.

Another grave evil practiced by many churches is that of hearing several "candidates" and bringing their names together before the congregation for an elimination contest! How shameful indeed for any church to disrespect the high and holy calling of the ministry, publicly exploit their preferences for one man against another, create feelings against servants of God that may never die, and incur the risk of creating serious divisions in the assembly itself. This writer remembers supplanting the pulpit of a pastor in church one Lord's Day when the brother presiding whispered to him during the service, "you want to throw your hat in the ring?" (No, thanks).

May God lift our churches above such conceptions of church, its ministry, and ministers, and help us to see that act as becomes our great glorious Head, the Lord Jesus Christ.

4. God's man is to be selected primarily by a prayerful leaning upon God to indicate His choice.

This does not exclude spiritual counsel, necessary inquiry and judging of factors involved. But it does mean that above and beyond all such there must be the assurance that God is leading, that He is definitely selecting out one man for the particular field in question.

We believe that what churches of pastorless churches need, perhaps most of all, is to get their eyes off men, pulpit committees, training schools and other ministerial sources, and begin to simply, lovingly, and perseveringly lean to GOD. Whose responsibility it is to give to the churches pastors. Pulpit committees may be somewhat necessary, but the business of praying God's will in belongs to every Christian in the assembly. Until this fact is solemnly recognized and all are ed to guide our practice shall continue the many able and mistakes that go along with a church "calling a pastor."

To be as practical as possible may we suggest that it might well for a church to drop "candidate" from its vocabulary the word "candidate," assign to some responsible group the task of prayerfully engaging men of God to supply the pulpit, with no more concern as to their availability, and let the church, individually and collectively, earnestly and faithfully wait upon God in prayer asking Him to make known in some definite way when His man is before them. In an atmosphere of kind is it not likely that we would find an open way to the hearts of His people and that they eventually to unite in the man of His choice? True, it does not at once answer all questions, but we believe it is at least point in the direction of a more Scriptural, sane, and successful method of finding God's man for the pastorate.

"In everything by prayer"

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