

A sure way to freeze to death is to be wrapped up in yourself.

MISSIONARY PREMILLENNIAL BIBLICAL BAPTISTIC THE SOWER

The Baptist Examiner

Paid Circulation In All States and Many Foreign Countries.

"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 18, NO. 26 RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, JULY 30, 1949 WHOLE NUMBER 582

Should I Join The Catholic Church?

C. K. RAND,
Assistant Superintendent
Baptist Rescue Mission
New Orleans, La.

There are people today that are asking themselves this question. With all the skillful propaganda in books and on the screen any nominal Protestants have asked themselves this question. Let us look at the benefits that the Roman Church offers.

Their Persuasive Position
The Roman Church is open all ready to admit the faithful. There they can enter the immediate presence of God. On their altars the form of the Holy Sacrament Christ Himself is ever present. So their churches are in

reality the houses of God. God has chosen to use the sacraments of His Church to communicate to men. The only Church that has these seven sacraments is the one true apostolic church. Jesus Christ Himself instituted the priesthood. Peter was the first pope. The powers passed from Peter to all other popes. No mention is made of who was the true pope when there were two and even three popes at one time. 1. The priests can forgive sins in the power invested in them at ordination. They are superior men and have the right to do what they please and are only accountable to the Bishop. Here is the idea expressed in their own words, "Where in

heaven is such power as that of the Catholic priest . . . One time only Mary brought the heavenly child into the world, but to the priest does this not once but a hundred and a thousand times, as often as he celebrates (the Mass). . . . In all this, Christ the only begotten Son of God the Father, is yielding to his will." 2.

1. Urban VI (1378-1389) and Clement VII (1378-1394).
 2. Pastoral Letter of Cardinal Katschthaler, Archbishop of Salzburg (Feb. 2, 1905). Cf. Carl Mirbt, Quellen Zur Geschichte des Paps ttums (Tubingen; Mohr, 1911), P. 401.
- The Roman Church teaches
(Continued on page four)



"Behold a sower went forth to sow." — Mt. 13:3

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." — Psalm 126:6

The Origin Of Mormonism

By C. H. Shafer
Blackfoot, Idaho

In order that we may obtain an idea of the atmosphere in which Mormonism originated, let us look for a time at the life and habits of the Smith family.

Joseph Smith, Sr., and Lucy Mack were married in Tunbridge, Vermont, January 24, 1786. From here they moved to Randolph, then back to Tunbridge, next to Royalton, then Sharon, where Joseph, Jr., was born. Then back to Tunbridge, and from here to Royalton, Lebanon, New Hampshire, and then back to Norwich, Vt. From here they moved to Palmyra, N. Y., in 1816. Joseph, Jr., was then past 25 years old.

Much may be said as to the prophet's occupation during these twenty years. One notation, however, will suffice: County Judge Daniel Woodward Winsor, Vt., says that while Joseph was near there the elder Smith was engaged in hunting "Captain Kidd's treasure," and that he "also became implicated with one Jack Downing counterfeiting money, but escaped state's evidence and escaped the penalty."

From Mother Smith's diary we learn that he was a Universalist, later a Methodist, and that he had visions, but that she did not accept his change of heart. Mother Smith's family were, however, very efficient in the art of seeing visions. Her father, Solomon Mack, while suffering with

rheumatism, "saw a bright light" and thought he heard a voice calling to him. Her elder brother, Jason, became a "seeker," who in those days believed that a devout person could obtain all the gifts granted in Christ's and the apostles' days. She tells us that when she was very ill, she promised God that she would serve Him if she was restored to health. She then heard a voice telling her that her prayer would be answered, and the next morning she was better. Again, she prayed for her husband's soul and saw a vision of his real conversion. Her sister, after being an invalid for two years, was "borne away to the world of spirits," where she met the Saviour and was delivered a message from Him to be delivered to some of her friends. She was also healed.

The history of Joseph, Jr., the prophet, pertaining to his early life, contains, in the main, recitals of his indolence. This can best be set forth in the words of Mr. Tucker, a man who knew him at this time, in his book, "Origin, Rise And Progress of Mormonism," page 16: "At this

period in the life and career of Joseph Smith, Jr., or 'Joe Smith' as he was universally named, and the Smith family, were popularly regarded as an illiterate, whiskey-drinking, shiftless, irreligious race of people — the first named, the chief subject of this biography, being unanimously voted the laziest and most worthless of the generation. From the age of twelve to twenty years he is distinctly remembered as a dull-eyed, flaxen-haired, prevaricating boy — noted only for his indolent and vagabondish character, and his habits of exaggeration and untruthfulness. Taciturnity was among his characteristic idiosyncrasies, and he seldom spoke to anyone outside of his intimate associates, except when first addressed by another; and

then, by reason of his extravagances of statement, his word was received with the least confidence by those who knew him best. He could utter the most palpable exaggeration or marvelous absurdity with the utmost apparent gravity. He nevertheless evidenced the rapid development of a thinking, plodding, evil-brewing mental composition — largely given to inventions of low cunning, schemes of mischief and deception, and false and mysterious pretensions."

It was during the time described here that "Joe Smith" became quite famous with his "peekstone" or "crystal-gazing." Of this his father had this to say: "Joseph happened to be where a man was looking into a dark stone, and telling people therefrom where to dig for money and other things. Joseph requested the privilege of looking into the stone, which he did by putting his face into the hat where the stone was. It proved to be not the right stone for him; but he could see some things, and among them he saw the stone, and where it was, in

which he could see whatever he wished to see . . . The place where he saw the stone was not far from their house, and under pretense of digging a well, they found water and the stone at a depth of twenty or twenty-two feet. After this, Joseph spent about two years looking into this stone, telling fortunes, where to find lost things, and where to dig for money and other hidden treasures."

There are many stories of his escapades with this and other "stones" that I cannot repeat here. One paragraph from "The Story Of The Mormons," by Linn, will be instructive. "Certain ceremonies were always connected with these money digging operations. Midnight was the favorite hour, a full moon was helpful, and Good Friday was the best date. Joe would sometimes stand by, directing the digging with a wand. The utmost silence was necessary to success. More than once, when the digging proved a failure, Joe explained to his associates that, just as the deposit was about to be reached, someone, tempted by the Devil, spoke, causing the wished for riches to disappear . . . Joe even tried on his New York victims the Pennsylvania device of requiring the sacrifice of a black sheep to overcome the evil spirit that guarded the treasure. William Stafford opportunely owned such an animal, and, as he puts it, 'to gratify my curiosity,' he let the Smiths have it. But some new 'mistake in the process' again resulted in disappointment. 'This, I believe,' remarks
(Continued on page four)

Mused Uncle Mose

Hit a ole ahgumit: De man say de woman led 'im into sin, an' de woman say, Well, he 'us jis' a-settin' 'roun' doin' nuttin'.

The First Baptist Pulpit

"THE BACKSLIDER"

"I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him." —Hosea 14:4.

There are two conversations that give rise to the message which I preach to you today.

Sometime ago I picked up a man who was a Baptist but not a member of this church, who was living here in this town, or at least nearby, yet he said he wasn't living for the Lord. It was an evident fact that this was true, for even the day I was talking to him he had been

drinking — not a great deal, but at least he had been drinking. As I talked with this man, he said, "Brother Gilpin, a backslider is the most miserable person in this world. I am not at home in your company nor in the company of any other Christian. At the same time, I am not at home with the crowd that I have just parted from this morning." That is keen, sharp thinking, and it is true — just as true as the Word of God itself. A backslider isn't at home in any company.

The second conversation which

gives rise to this message is something of this nature. One Sunday night not so long ago I used the term "backsliding" in one of my messages. A day or two later an individual who chanced to be here on that Sunday night, stopped me on the street and said, "Brother Gilpin, I was surprised at what I heard you say last Sunday night. I didn't know that Baptists believed in backsliding." I said, "Brother, if they don't, it is about time they came to believe in it, because they've been prac-
(Continued on page two)

CHOICE BITS

A determined soul will do more with a rusty monkey wrench than a loafer will accomplish with all the tools in a machine shop.—Rupert Hughes.

Some men make a success of everything except their own lives.

OUR DEBT

Our debt as of July 6, 1949, is \$2879.24. During the past week, the following contributions have been received:

W. B. Curnutte,	
Louisiana, Ky.	\$10.00
Stewart,	
Rockdale, Ohio	1.00
W. G. Croft,	
Plant City, Fla.	5.00

(Continued on page four)

Some people have itching ears that need to be scratched with God's wire brush.

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"THE BACKSLIDER"

(Continued from page one)
ticing it for the last two thousand years."

These two conversations give rise to my message to you today.

I

WHAT IS A BACKSLIDER? I can be mighty brief at this point. I can tell you so quickly that it won't take any time at all to discuss this part of my message. Listen:

You may be one yourself and when I give you this definition you will know immediately as to who is a backslider. Beloved, a backslider is a saved person who has fallen into sin, maybe into gross sin or perhaps mere coldness of heart. In God's sight gross sin and coldness of heart are identical. There isn't one bit of difference.

We have a lot of examples of backsliders in the Word of God. I am satisfied that Noah was a saved man. I know that he was, for the Word of God says that Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. Any man who has come to receive the grace of God is saved. I don't care whether he is a member of this church or whether he is a member of any church at all. I don't care how he has been baptized or whether he has been baptized at all. If he has become the recipient of the grace of God, that man is saved and he is a child of God and on the road to Heaven. Noah was a saved man but he backslid. He got drunk.

Sometime ago a man of this church got into bad company. His wife called me and said, "Brother Gilpin, I am heartbroken. Our home is suffering greatly. We are humiliated. I don't feel like I could ever come back to the house of God." She told me all this before I knew the reason why. When I went to her home, there was her husband, a member of this church, who was as royally drunk as any individual that I ever saw in my life. Beloved, I won't tell you how I dealt with that man, but God restored that individual and God raised that man up and whipped him to death, because of his falling into sin. Like Noah he backslid when he got drunk.

Lot backslid. There isn't any doubt about Lot's salvation. He is up in Heaven now looking down on this First Baptist Church of Russell, and he knows that I am talking about him. He knows I am holding him up as an example to you of a backslider. There isn't any doubt as to his salvation for the Word of God refers to him as "just Lot," meaning, beloved, that he was a justified man. The Bible refers to him as a righteous man. No man can be justified by faith and no man can have received the righteousness of God as his covering without being saved. Lot as a saved man, backslid. He got into the city of Sodom. To be sure, he didn't move there

within one day's time. The Word of God says that he pitched his tent toward Sodom. I imagine that the next time that he moved that it was just a little easier for him to move a little closer to Sodom. After a while we find Lot living in the city of Sodom—one of the big men politically. We find him as one of the city leaders. There wasn't anything wrong with Lot living in Sodom. The wrong was that Sodom came to live in Lot, and Lot became a veritable backslider. It isn't wrong for us to live in Russell, yet it is definitely wrong for Russell to live in us.

Abraham was a backslider. He had a pretty wife and he didn't want to lose her. When he neared the country of Egypt, he said, "If they find out that you are my wife, they are apt to kill me and take you. Let's play the 'little brother, big sister' act. I'll be the little brother and you be the big sister and we'll pass off as brother and sister and I won't be killed." He didn't say it in so many words but you know little brother gets a lot of nickels and dimes and quarters when big sister is having a beau. I think that Abraham had in mind that little brother Abraham might get much of the wealth of Egypt if Sarah just played her part as big sister properly. You may say: "Brother Gilpin, is there any wrong with a man doing something to save his life?" Not necessarily, beloved, but Abraham did wrong. He lied about his wife. You say: "It wasn't so terribly wrong because she was his half sister." Was she? Prove it. That was just a whole lie because she wasn't his half sister, actually she was his niece. Abraham backslid, lying about his wife.

I often think of the words of the poet, when he said:

"Oh, what a tangled web we weave,
When first we practice to deceive."

Moses backslid. He backslid because of his temper. Once God told him to strike a rock and water would come from it. He did it and God sent the water from the rock. At a later date God told him to speak to the rock and water would flow from it, but Moses evidently had gotten up on the wrong side of the bed that morning. He was mad with that rebellious crowd which he was leading through the wilderness. Chiding them for their rebellion and quarreling at them because of their rebellious disposition, he took his shepherd's staff and came down across the rock once or twice in disobedience to the Word of God. Water came from the rock, but Moses had sinned. He disobeyed God. He failed to take God at His Word. He sinned and he backslid when he lost his temper and struck the rock.

Simon Peter backslid. You find him one day, saying, "Though all men deny you, I'll never do so. I'll die with you." In order to prove the sincerity of his statement, when an enemy came to arrest Jesus, he drew his sword and cut off the man's ear. Simon Peter meant business, but he didn't know what metal he was made of. I've heard Christians say, "I wouldn't do thus and so." Beloved, you don't know what you will do until the time of testing comes. You don't know whether you will stand up for the Lord or whether you will fail Him. You may think you know. Simon Peter thought he knew, but he didn't. I see old Simon when they arrested our Lord—following afar off. After awhile he stands around with the enemies of our Lord and warms his hands at the enemies' fireside. Presently a little girl said, "You

are one of His disciples." Simon Peter started lying. Three times individuals accused him of being a disciple of Jesus Christ and three times Simon Peter lied. Finally, when it got so hot for him that he couldn't do anything else, he had to prove to them that he wasn't a Christian and he started cursing just in order to prove to them that he was a he-man—he wasn't any sissy following Jesus Christ. Beloved, Simon Peter backslid when he cursed and denied his Lord.

Joseph of Arimathaea was a backslider, though he buried the Lord Jesus Christ. Who was Joseph of Arimathaea? The Word of God throws in just one little descriptive epithet concerning him. It says, "A disciple, but secretly for fear of the Jews." Beloved, any man who is a secret disciple is a backslider to start with. If you are a child of God, you ought to come out openly for our Lord. You ought to align yourself with the church that our Lord Jesus Christ built. You ought to follow your Lord in baptism. You ought to take your stand for Jesus Christ and stand up for the things of God.

Paul was a backslider in a peculiar way. He was warned by the Holy Spirit in Acts 21 not to go to Jerusalem. Paul was a valiant soldier of the Lord, to be sure. He loved his Lord and he wanted to serve Him. Zealously, Paul determined to go to Jerusalem. The prophet of God, moved by the Holy Spirit, warned him not to do so, that He would terminate and cut short his ministry. But Paul went on to Jerusalem and by so doing, went contrary to the work of the Holy Spirit. It seems strange that we would say that Paul was a backslider, but if the Spirit of God leads you to do something which is in accord with His Word (and He won't lead you to do something which isn't in accord with His Word) and you go contrary, you are a backslider.

Now having shown you these examples of individuals who backslid in the Bible, let me go one step further. No man can backslide until he has first been saved. A lot of people say that

they have backslid and actually, brother, they never did "frontslide." There are a lot of people that have made a profession, joined the church, and followed the Lord seemingly or outwardly in baptism, but they were never acquainted with the grace of God—the Spirit of God never did cut the heart to the quick. The Spirit of God never did reveal to them their awful, sinful condition. The Spirit of God never did show them Jesus Christ as a Saviour. The Spirit of God never came to dwell within them. You will meet up with these individuals and they will say, "I was saved once but I have backslid." Actually, beloved, all they had was an emotional experience. The preacher told a funny yarn and got them laughing and then told them a sob story and got them crying and then gave a mourner's bench call or some kind of an appeal, and they came down the aisle "weeping their way to Calvary," so the preacher said when he made his report of the meeting. Actually, beloved, he led them into a false profession of faith and thus never were saved. I say to you, my brother, that only a saved person can backslide.

Judas Iscariot wasn't a backslider. If you ever hear anyone say that he was a backslider, that just shows how much of the Bible he needs to study, and how little of it he has learned thus far. Listen:

"While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the Scripture might be fulfilled."—John 17:12.

"Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?"—John 6:70.

Do you think, beloved, that Jesus Christ would refer to a man that was saved as a son of perdition? Of course not. Judas never was saved. Would Jesus Christ speak of a saved man as a devil? Why it is preposterous. Instead of saying that Judas Iscariot was a backslider, he was a son of perdition. He was a devil. He was an unsaved man who got into the First Baptist

Church of Jerusalem and acted out his part in the betrayal of our Lord. He was a stranger to the grace of God from beginning to end. No, my brother, Judas wasn't a backslider. For a man to be a backslider he has to be first of all a child of God.

Let me ask you a question as I would give you a test today. Were you ever nearer God than you are now in your living, in your thinking, in your acting? Did you ever read the Bible more, and with a greater degree of profit than at present? Were you ever more concerned about lost souls than you are now? Are you today more completely absorbed in your business than in God's business? Are you more completely absorbed in the work that you are doing than in the work of our Lord? If so, beloved, you are a backslider.

Now having seen what it takes to constitute a backslider, let's go a step further.

II

WHY DO PEOPLE BACKSLIDE? Beloved, the old Adamic nature is still inside every person that is saved. The man you see when you look into the mirror still has the old Adamic nature inside of him. Listen:

"And my people are BENT to backsliding from me."—Hosea 11:7.

That is what God says. He is talking about His people—about saved people.

An old song well and truly fully expresses it, when it says:

"Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the Lord I love;
Here's my heart, oh take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above."

Beloved, why do you backslide? Because that old Adamic nature is still in you and you have a proneness to wander—to get away from the Lord, as God said, "And my people are BENT to backsliding from me."

In spite of the fact that the Holiness folk claim that their sin is gone, sin remains. Listen:

"And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil."—Luke 11:4.

This was the Lord Jesus Christ teaching His disciples how to pray, and when He gave them a model prayer, He taught them to pray, "Forgive us our sins." Beloved, who knows the most about mankind—the Lord Jesus Christ? Our Lord taught saved people to pray, "Forgive us our sins." In spite of the fact that some people claim to live sinlessly perfect, we backslide because that sinful Adamic nature continues. Listen:

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."—1 John 1:8-10.

Beloved, God's people sin. God's people have an old nature within them that causes them grief and sorrows and heartaches and many upsets along life's pathway. Beloved, God's people backslide because of that old Adamic nature that you can never get rid of as long as you are here in this world.

III

THERE ARE SORROWS THAT COME AS THE RESULT OF BACKSLIDING. If you are in a backslidden state today, then your heart will tell you that this is true.

First of all, our Lord chastens backsliders. If our Lord chastens (Continued on page three)



MISSIONARIES
IN BRAZIL

J. F. Brandon
B. E. Parrott
Mrs. B. E. Parrott
Miguel Ibernon
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)

This May Be Missionary Brandon's Last
Letter From Brazil. Read It Most Carefully

Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre
May 24, 1949.

Dear Brethren:

I arrived here (Cruzeiro do Sul) on the 10th of May, almost the hour one year since I left. A number of brethren came aboard to meet me and we came directly to the home and had a prayer. The Lord was with me all the way, if not I could not have made it for I was sick, but the infirmities of the flesh were overcome by the Spirit of the Lord who comforted me. This was the first journey I ever made when there was no interest manifest and in that respect it was hard. When there is no fellowship of the Lord, life becomes weary indeed.

Miguel Ibernon Made
Journeys

While I was away the pastor (Miguel Ibernon) has spent most of his time away on journeys with no one to take care of the preaching points (at Cruzeiro do Sul). The deacon directs the work in his absence on Sunday and mid-week prayer meeting.

You have been informed as to the journeys and they say that in the interior the work is in good order. Here, however, it is on the decline. Since arriving I have not been about much, they have called in the home and I have met with them on the Lord's day in worship, but have not been strong enough to take things over, and that is what is needed. I have received two letters from you, dated April 19 and May 2. When I arrived in Manaus the church recommended that we do not cooperate any longer with Walter Fernandes, and I am not. He had not walked upright and the church gave him a letter to another if they would receive him. We so needed a new worker for Japyni and a worker for Morapirango. These churches have sought the Lord in prayer for a pastor. This is what happened, Zacharias Numes de Abriu, lives at Japyni and has been preaching there for quite some time, but he wanted to get away to another place, so he left off and Gabriel Seriphine, who has remained (Next page, Column two)



ELD. AND MRS.
LAWRENCE SMITH

This young couple plan to go to Brazil as missionaries about March 1950. That is only eight months away and we need every bit of the time to get things in order for them to leave. We cannot buy the things that they need to take or passage for them without the money to do so. It will take about \$3000.00 or more. This could be easy if everyone who reads this would help. If each one who reads this would send only one dollar the amount would be over \$16,000.00 or five times the amount needed. We hope that all the supporting churches will send a special offering to the Treasurer.

Here's Evidence Of God's Blessings On The
Work Of Missionary Hallum In Peru

Iquitos, Peru
March 23, 1949

This leaves all well except Marguerite. She has been unable to do much for the last few days, however, she attends services here and teaches her classes. Her trouble has been her nerves, but she is improving now. I am enclosing a letter from Don Tomas Castillo, received a few days ago; you may use it as you think best. The work of the Lord goes along more or less as usual here in Iquitos, however, the attendants are ever changing, new ones come in and old ones go out. Now and then a person will tell me that they stood outside and listened to the preaching. The opposition here is greater than it used to be, but the Lord always has His ways to encourage us.

A Trip Up The Nanay River

I don't think I have written you since I made the last trip up the Nanay River. A young man who attends Sunday School went with me. We left about nine o'clock and arrived at Santa Rita on the banks of the river. I

wanted to go inland to a settlement of the same name but could not get there by land. We had to go with the boat through a canyon and because of the overhanging branches of trees and crooks in the canyon we had to paddle the boat. It took about an hour to get near the place. After eating lunch we went to see about a place to have services and to stay through the night. We found a large house and the man of the house was very willing for us to stay and have services. So we visited every house in the village (caserie) and invited them to the services. I had some Bibles and Testaments and portions of Scripture. Several boys and girls can read and a few of the men. I sold about eight portions and two New Testaments and left tracts with those who could read.

Preached While It Rained

At the hour of service a rain came up and continued all thru the service but there were about 25 boys and girls and as many adults. We taught them some (Next page, Column one)



Cattle on a Barao rubber plantation in the Acre Territory of Brazil. The man in charge of the cattle is a believer and a Baptist as a result of Brother J. F. Brandon's mission work.



Rubber workers in the Acre Territory of Brazil, in the foothills of the Andes mountains. The man in the rear is smoking a ball of rubber. The one in the front is preparing a ball to be smoked and the other man is looking on.



Here the men are cutting the rubber trees. Each man will cut about 200 trees each day, then smoke the rubber making it into a ball. These men are believers as a result of the work of Baptist Faith Missions.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY

There is a great need and a great opportunity for good sound Baptist missionaries in Peru. Brother Hallum is there to help with the language and to show how to do mission work by first hand experience. Now is the time to go while the field is open and the opportunity is so great. Since Brother Brandon went to Brazil in 1923, missionaries by the scores have gone into the Amazon Valley and occupied fields that rightly belonged to the Baptists. Brother A. E. Nelson, who was a missionary in the Amazon Valley for 48 years and Brother Brandon, who has been here for 26 years, have both begged for missionaries to help and occupy the field. But Baptists who claim to be missionaries have let others occupy in many places. Now Brother Hallum tells of the need (Next page, Column one)

Don Ricardo Pleads For Missionaries

(Continued from Last Issue)

Iquitos, Peru,

There is a river that rises in Ecuador and flows southeast and empties into the Marañon (or Amazon) about 100 miles below Iquitos. There are many people living on or near this river, both white and red. This is the Tigre river. Not many years ago this region was inhabited mostly by savage Indians of several different tribes. Now according to what I have recently been told by different people, many of these Indians live on the margin or near the margin of the river and are half civilized through their contact with other people.

No Work On The Tigre River

I have a neighbor living in an adjoining house who makes trips on this river in a military launch. He also has a daughter teaching school in one of the settlements on the Tiger river. He recently told me that there is no evangelistic work whatever being done on this river, and that these people want teachers to come and live with them and teach their children. This looks like a great and open door for several missionaries whose hearts God has moved to go there. First it is necessary to teach them to read and understand the gospel and this cannot be done by merely making a visit now and then. Visits at the least must be regular. These

people are utterly ignorant of the gospel and things pertaining to the kingdom of God. The man who gave me this information tells me that the Indians are very tame and harmless so far as savagery goes and are willing to learn.

Many More Needy Places

There are many, many more needy places in this region. These fields by right belong to the Baptists, but we continually neglect these opportunities and as a result other sects go in and occupy fields, then it is a much more difficult proposition. There was a time when the Baptists had the opportunity of occupying (Next page, Column three)

BILLY PARROTT

Brother Billy Parrott is working hard on the language and attending the nightly street meetings with the pastor and hopes to be able to preach in Portuguese by the time he has been in Brazil six months. He plans to go up river to the Acre Territory on the Jurua river next spring (1950). Before he leaves Manaus, Brother Lawrence Smith and wife should arrive in Manaus so that Brother Parrott will be there to help them through customs and to get settled. This is very important. The Parrotts have a house that the Smiths can take over to live in, provided they are there to get it. But the Smiths cannot go until there is money to send them. If each supporting church would send a special offering we would have enough to buy (Next page, Column five)

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JUNE 1949

Table listing financial reports for various churches and individuals, including Bellview Baptist Church, New Hope Baptist Church, Liberty Baptist Church, etc., with amounts ranging from \$4.00 to \$28.81.

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.

the pastor and seek the Lord in prayer together about it, then act as the Spirit led. We would like for his salary to begin the first of June. The pictures (sent with this letter) are almost all from the Teja river, the journey made by the pastor (Miguel Ibernnon). Cicero Bicipo continues to make the journeys alone on the Teja. He has made it twice already and hopes to return soon. Frazio (Eufrazio Soares) is now making regular journeys in a canoe from Campo de Santano to Prolongabo, each have seven established preaching points and both report good attention and attendance. They seem animated in the work. May the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.—J. F. B. May 31st. No boat or plane so far, so will add a little to the letter already begun. Mai Duerto came in yesterday and I was glad to see him. He says that the work is prospering in Parana dos Mouros; they now have 23 believers in all. There are nine waiting for baptism, two cannot be baptized, and 12 already baptized. He has established a preaching point, "Treisi de Maio," a rubber plantation a day's journey from where he lives. I have preached there many times and found much interest. There are four baptized believers living there and two who profess faith but not baptized. I think that is a place for us in the future, the Lord willing.

Plans To Come Down River

I will go down river the first opportunity offered. I thought I might be able to visit the field but some things have happened that make it impossible. I may take a plane if I can get passage. This is low water season and boats are few and slow. There seems an increased interest at Japyni, there were two converted last Sunday, living together but not married, outstanding characters against the gospel for many years. Now with the effects of the new pastor who sought them in their home they came to the public service, confessing and accepting the Lord as Saviour. That ought to make the people happy. A man who had heard the gospel for years was taken sick and was converted on what proved to be his deathbed four days later. The church was thrilled with this. They said that his profession was wonderful. A man of position here in Cruzeiro do Sul was taken sick. He, too, had heard the gospel for years. The pastor visited him and he professed that he had been saved for some time but refused to be baptized. His profession was so inspiring the believers took courage. He said that he wanted the pastor to preach in his home over his dead body and warn them to flee from the wrath to come. The house and yard were full, the priests were furious and are doing all to hinder our work. Hope you are all well. Grace be with you all. —J. F. BRANDON.

"Don Ricardo"

(Preceding page, Column 4) ing this entire region. A Baptist missionary was the first evangelical missionary to come to Iquitos and to this region, but he left the field and no other

BROTHER BRANDON SERIOUSLY ILL

We received a telegram from Brother Billy Parrott dated June 27, 1949, which read: "Brandon very sick; urgent that he leave soon; send money at once. Faster by mail, to my address." This is all we know at the time this is being written to send to the printer (July 4). We hope that he was able to get a boat or plane from Cruzeiro do Sul and is back in Manaus where he can fly to Belem and then to Miami and then take a train to Fulton, Ky., where he will be met and taken home, the Lord willing. Pray earnestly for this servant of God. Every pastor should lead his church in prayer for him and the other missionaries at every service.

CHURCH BUILDING NEEDED IN MANAOS

The church in Manaus, Brazil, where Brother Parrott now lives was organized by Brother Brandon one year ago on July 4, 1948. This church has outgrown the building that they began to worship in and have moved into one a bit larger, which is also too small. Brother Brandon and Brother Parrott have agreed that this church needs a new and larger building of their own. Brother Parrott advises that they have located a good lot that can be bought. He says for about \$1500.00 they can buy the lot and build a building, and if the churches will give the money that he will see that it is built and give an accounting through this paper. The members are too poor to do this themselves, but they can do the labor under the leadership of the native pastor who is an experienced builder. This would enable the church to grow and reach many more people. No doubt there will be some who will read this article who can well afford to give the money to buy a lot and build the building. It would be a great investment that would bring rewards in heaven as well as salvation to lost souls in Manaus. Send all offerings to the Treasurer, Z. E. Clark, Box 215, Cannelton, Ind.

From Sister Nelson

Thanks for sending me the notice. I do not want to miss the MISSION SHEETS. The J. F. Brandons are personal friends. We were missionaries in the Amazon Valley of Brazil for 45 years. Mr. E. A. Nelson, my husband, died in Manaus, Brazil, June 17, 1939. We pray that Brother J. F. Brandon may be able to return to the Acre. Please find enclosed one dollar to pay postage on the MISSION SHEETS. Yours in Christ. —IDA L. NELSON.

John Brandon Ordained

John Brandon, son of Missionary Brandon, who is graduating from college soon, was recently ordained at his home church, Benton Baptist Church, Benton, Ky. We pray God's richest blessing upon John as he gives a life of service in the ministry of the Lord Jesus. He is pastor of a church in Missouri.

was sent to replace him and the unionists stepped in and occupied, so there has been a state of confusion ever since among the evangelicals. There are some Irish Baptists on the coast. I know very little about them. I know of no Baptists in this part of Peru except us that are not unionists. Surely the Lord needs some true Baptists to help in this part of His field. For this we ask your prayers. Yours in the Lord, —R. P. HALLUM.

Confusion In Baptist Ranks

Those who follow the work of Baptists both South and North are aware of the confusion on every hand. The Northern Baptist Convention is gone modernistic to the core and also gone into the Federal Council of Churches. There is no hope of Northern Baptist Convention ever being sound. Individual churches may continue to come out of the convention, but the convention has gone hopelessly modern, etc. The Southern Baptist Convention is headed the same way that the Northern has gone. The Seminaries are being filled with rank modernists as teachers. Many of the southern churches now have modernistic pastors and are cooperating with the Federal Council of Churches. The rank and file of the churches in the south are still sound and are opposed to modernism, unionism and the Federal Council. But the leaders in the convention, those in office, are leading the wrong way as fast as they can. At the last meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Oklahoma City, there was a motion made regarding not having any in office that are connected in any way with the Federal Council of Churches and it would have passed had not the president of the convention persuaded otherwise.

It threw a big scare into the modernists and unionists and Federal Council of Churches crowd and the rank and file of sound Baptists lost their opportunity, which we doubt if they will ever have again. There is continued talk of a split in the Southern Baptist Convention and it seems bound to come. Many churches are not satisfied with the way their mission money is being used to support things that they do not approve of and have no choice in. As it is, a portion of each mission dollar is used to support the rank modernistic teachers in the seminaries and colleges and to pay the salaries of the secretaries and other workers who are not only in sympathy with but are connected with the Federal Council of Churches which Southern Baptists have gone on record by vote to have nothing to do with time after time. But the leaders are still determined to lead as they please, regardless of how Southern Baptists have voted. The answer to the mission problem is designation. Each church has a right to send her mission offerings to support whom she pleases without interference from anyone on the outside. Each individual Baptist has the right to designate his offerings also. Because of modernism in Baptist ranks many Baptists have supported interdenominational missions which are enemies to Baptists. They have done this because they did not know of a sound Baptist mission work. Every Baptist in the land should know about Baptist Faith Missions. It is the answer to their mission problem. It is a sound New Testament Baptist Mission Work and there are no paid bosses or secretaries to interfere with pastors or churches. Tell others about the work and urge them to support it.

Billy Parrott

(Preceding page, Column five) the equipment and get things ready for them to sail for Brazil early in 1950. Now is the time to act. The time is slipping by.

Great Opportunity

(Preceding page, Column One) and the places. Will we let others occupy these wide open field or will we send missionaries to do the work? The Lord will supply the need of all He calls to go and who go on faith God believing. We pray that those whom the Lord has called will answer the call and make plans to go as soon as possible. Why do those who profess to be called wait?

Missionary Hallum

(Preceding page, Column One) chorouses and sang a couple of hymns, read the Scriptures, prayed and then preached. I never had any better attention and seemed to have the Holy Spirit with me. I am hoping that the Lord will bless His Word. Three or four years ago I visited this place to distribute tracts and do personal work and the women and children ran and hid from me as soon as they saw me coming. I would arrive at the house and look in and it would

SPECIAL NOTICE

Brother Z. E. Clark has had to rent a larger P. O. Box. Please note the new box number on your records. The correct address is:

ELDER Z. E. CLARK
P. O. BOX 215
CANNELTON, IND.

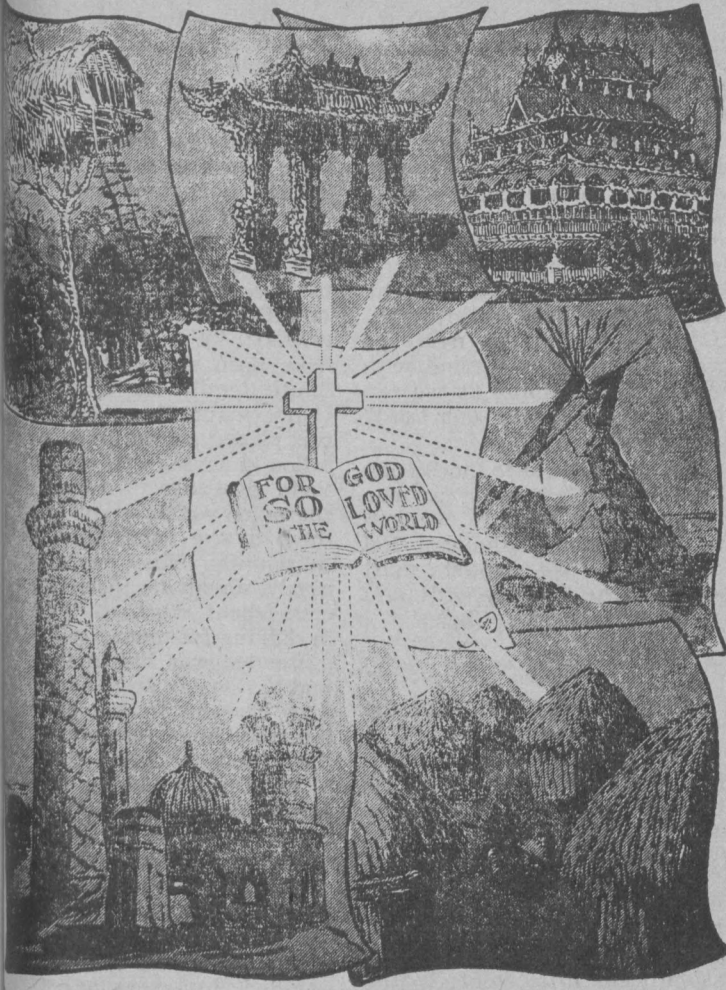
be empty. But it was different this time and several women were there and listened. These are Cocama Indians. Tomorrow I am hoping to make another trip to Mapa further up the river. The same young man is going to accompany me.

Yours in the service of our Lord,

R. P. Hallum

Brandon Letter

(Preceding page, Column two) cently heeded the call of the Lord to preach went up there (to Japyni) and the church invited him to cooperate with them, so he is. The church in Morapirango called Zacharias (who left Japyni) to work with them, and he is moving there today. The money that was being paid to Zacharias is now being paid to Gabriel and the salary of Walter Fernandes is being paid to Zacharias. Brother Parrott and I agreed on this, it seems that the Lord worked it out. There is a brother in Manaus, a man of good reputation, many years a worker for the board missionary but sometime quit that work. He joined our church (in Manaus) shortly after its organization and asked me if possible to help him in finances so he could work in the gospel. He comes recommended by many and we need him in Manaus to help the pastor. It will take at least \$50.00 a month to sustain him and it will be a good investment and I would like for you all to cooperate with us in this. Brother Parrott wired me yesterday about it and I replied to take council with



"THE BACKSLIDER"

Continued from page two)
 us, naturally there is going to be some sorrow. I can remember very definitely when I was a boy when I used to get some chastenings from my parents, and, beloved, there was a lot of sorrow connected with it. I imagine that there are some of you who haven't gotten so along the way but what you can remember a hickory stick tapping tit-tat-toe around your legs. Maybe you can recall that there is a little bit of sorrow — sometimes a whole lot of sorrow that is connected with chastening.

Listen:
No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.—Hebrews 12:11.

When the Lord chastens you, it doesn't seem to be joyous, but grievous. After awhile it may yield a peaceable fruit of righteousness but when you are going through with it, it is grievous. One of the sorrows that come from backsliding is the sorrow of chastisement. If you are a child of God, you can't backslide without God chastening you.

Take Lot as a good example. He was moved into the city of Sodom by way of chastisement he lost every bit of his possessions. He had gone there to gain wealth but he lost it all. When he went to the city of Sodom he was a man of many possessions. Abraham had given him liberal gifts and largely of the herds and flocks. He went there to get more wealth and greater wealth but when he went out of the city of Sodom, he lost his wealth he had to leave it behind. He lost his wife, he lost his children, he lost his daughters, he had adopted the morals of the city of Sodom, he lost his influence, and the last thing you know of Lot is that he died in a field on the hillside near the Dead Sea. Beloved, one of the sorrows of backsliding is the chastening hand of God which previously falls upon a backslidden Christian.

Another sorrow of backsliding is the remorse of conscience which comes to a man who has backslidden. Are you backslid-

den? Then let me ask you, "Does not your conscience hurt just a little bit?" When David came face to face with his backslidden condition, we find him crying out to God. Listen:

"For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice."—Psalm 51:3, 8.

Beloved, God hadn't broken any bones, but David was just as miserable as if God had run a steam roller over him. He had backslidden and his conscience was working. There was a remorse of conscience—a sorrow by way of conscience remorse.

Look at Simon Peter. The Word of God tells us that when Simon Peter denied his Lord and punctuated that denial with profanity, that presently the Lord turned and looked at him.

"And Peter went out, and wept bitterly."—Luke 22:62.

A saved man has a consciousness of sin. If he knows anything at all about this Word of God, he knows that some things are right and some things are wrong, and when he does wrong, there is a remorse of conscience. One of the sorrows of backsliding is that of conscience remorse.

Another sorrow of backsliding is that of premature death. Listen:

"Every branch in me that beareth fruit HE TAKETH AWAY: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit."—John 15:2.

There is a lot of difference between fruit bearing and producing works. Works is what we do in the Name of the Lord. Bearing fruit is what the Holy Spirit produces in us. There are nine of those fruit of the Spirit which Paul tells us about in the Word of God. The Bible says that every branch that doesn't bear fruit, our Lord taketh away, as if to say that if a Christian who has the Holy Spirit within him and lives so for this world that he doesn't bear the fruit of the Spirit, that our Lord just reaches down and takes him home to glory prematurely. There is many a man who dies early in life who won't live for the Lord and who won't behave himself so far as this world is concerned. Those Corinthian

Christians served as a mighty good example. Their sin was a religious sin. They had observed the Lord's Supper in the wrong manner. They had had open communion. Most folk think that open communion is something that began a few hundred years with the rise of Protestantism, but open communion is an old sin — it was an old religious sin back there in the city of Corinth. There was probably a wife who was a member of the church and maybe a husband who was a member of the heathen temple and they would propose to each other, "You come with me to the love feast in the heathen temple and I'll eat the Lord's Supper with you in your church." That is the first experience of open communion that was ever known. Our Lord speaking of it says that it was an attempt to drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of the Devil at the same time. They tried it. They didn't get very far. Listen:

"For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, AND MANY SLEEP." — I Cor. 11:29, 30.

What is wrong with the city of Corinth? They have been taking the Lord's Supper wrongly. They have been practicing open communion. One of the sorrows of backsliding is that of premature death as here in Corinth which often comes to the child of God.

IV

ARE BACKSLIDERS LOST OR SAVED?

Christ died for all of our sins, not just a part of them. The day that you were saved all of your sins were laid on the Lord Jesus Christ. Past sin, present sin, future sin — the sin of yesterday, the sin of today, the sin of tomorrow — all of them were laid on Jesus Christ the day that you were saved. Listen:

"And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you ALL TRESPASSES."—Col. 2:13.

"Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from ALL INIQUITY, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."—Titus 2:14.

"The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us FROM ALL SIN."—I John 1:7.

We sing:
 "Jesus paid it all,
 All to Him I owe:
 Sin had left a crimson stain,
 He washed it white as snow."

If I were an Arminian and believed in falling from grace,

I'd tear that song out of the hymnal. I'd never sing it. An Arminian can't sing that song and tell the truth. I want to impress upon your heart that when Jesus saves a man, He saves him from all his sin. Brother, if he is saved from all his sin, that includes those sins which come into his life after he has been saved. A backslider, though he may be out of fellowship with the Lord, is still a child of God.

You say: "Brother Gilpin, I just don't believe it." Then, my brother, you are on your road to Hell and if you were to die today you would be roasting in Hell before the undertaker got your body half way to the cemetery. When a man is saved he has committed himself into the hands of God to save him from every sin of his life. That Saviour to whom he has committed himself has already paid at Calvary's Cross the price of our redemption for all sin down to the last moment on this earth. The man who believes otherwise, that is, believing in salvation by works, is unsaved.

Don't misunderstand me: Every saved man ought to live just as closely to Calvary as he can. Every saved man ought to live for his Lord. Every saved man ought to be drawn to Jesus just as closely as possible and ought to walk and work for the Lord every day of his life. My brother, when God saves a man, He saves him. He doesn't save him and then turn him loose to go to Hell. He doesn't save him and then let him get out in the world and get in sin, and then if he dies in that condition the Arminians would say that he was once saved but he lost his salvation. It isn't so. If he was once saved, he is always saved.

I grant you, beloved, that a backslider often feels that he is unsaved. The Word of God even tells us that this is so. Listen:

"But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath FORGOTTEN THAT HE WAS PURGED FROM HIS OLD SINS."—II Pet. 1:9.

Many, many men have forgotten that they have been purged from their own sin. They have been so sinful, they have gotten into such a backslidden miserable state that they may even feel that they are unsaved and "hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins." Beloved, the Lord hasn't forgotten. He was the one that began salvation in you. He is the one that saved you. He is the one that worked in you through the Holy Spirit to draw you to Him in the first place. He is the one that has been working in you all the way along. He is the one that has been doing the keeping. You may have forgotten Him but the Lord Jesus Christ will never for-

get you.

I am glad that I can preach an eternal salvation. Listen:

"And I give unto them ETERNAL LIFE; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."—John 10:28, 29.

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." — Rom. 8:38, 39.

Beloved, there aren't enough devils, inside or outside of Hell to take a saved man out of the hands of God when once that man has been saved. Backsliders ought to hang their heads in shame, and that includes every one of us every day, for you and I have coldness of heart and fridity of soul every day. If nothing more, we ought to hang our heads in shame before our God and in humiliation cry out to Him for grace and mercy. I am glad that in spite of any sin and all sin, that the man who has committed himself into the hands of Jesus Christ and trusted the Son of God to save him, that man is saved for time and for eternity and he is going to Heaven when he dies because there is nothing for him to go to Hell for; for Jesus has already paid for all his sins at the Cross and has already suffered his Hell at Calvary.

V

I want to ask you a simple question in closing. *How can a backslider get back into fellowship with God?* Beloved, that is the simplest thing taught in the Word of God and yet it is the one thing that Arminians continuously stumble over. Listen:

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us from our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."—I John 1:9.

Are you backslidden today? Have you lost the joy of the Lord out of your life? Have you gotten cold in the service of the Master? Would you like to walk with Him hand in hand, a little more closely than you have in the past? Then, beloved, confess your sins to God. He is faithful and He is just and He will cleanse you from all righteousness and He will restore you to fellowship — not relationship, but fellowship. Your relationship has been the same as it was at Calvary, but your fellowship has suffered because of your sin.

Suppose one of my little girls does wrong and after she has done so, she comes to me and throws her arms around my neck and says, "I've done wrong; I'm sorry; forgive me." Beloved, I wouldn't send the sheriff and the bloodhounds out after her. What more could she do? When a child of God sins and loses his fellowship with the Lord and gets cold in the service of God and realizes that by reading the Word of God that his heart begins to be strangely warm toward God, he comes to Him and says, "Oh God, I have sinned. I confess my wrong." Right then and there that man is restored to fellowship with the Lord. God won't send chastisement and grief and troubles that otherwise might fall on him if he doesn't come back into fellowship.

Christian friend, if you are God's child, if you have lost the
 (Continued on page four)

GLAD TIDINGS

Weep not, ye brokenhearted,
 His promise is not slack.
 The Lord of our adoring
 Is one day coming back.

The gates of Heaven tremble,
 All hushed the waiting sky;
 Earth's mountains bow before Him--
 His Coming draweth nigh!

Open, ye starry heavens,
 Acclaim Him, sun and moon,
 Prepare a path of glory,
 Our Lord is coming soon.

--Martha Snell Nicholson

"THE BACKSLIDER"

(Continued from page three)
 joy of the Lord out of your life, I beg you to come to Him today. Maybe you have wronged somebody else and you are wrong with the Lord. Maybe you have some stripes to wash. If so, you had better go wash them. You may have wounds to heal up. You may have some confession to make to some man. You may have to confess to some individual that you have lied on him, that you have wronged that individual. Beloved, I beg you to come back whatever be the cost. If you have gotten the least bit cold toward Jesus, come back and walk with Him.

If I speak to one who is unsaved, who has never trusted the Son of God as his Saviour, then may the Lord help you to realize that you need Jesus. May God help you, sinner friend, to put your trust in Him who died for all your sin and trusting Him, come down the aisle and say by your coming, "I've taken Jesus to be my Saviour."

May God bless you!



SHOULD I JOIN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

(Continued from page one)
 that no person can have communion with God and therefore live the Christian life unless he eats the body of God and drinks His blood in the Eucharist. For that reason the Mass is the center of Roman Catholic worship. The Mass means that Christ dies daily on the Roman altar. Of course the book of Hebrews plainly teaches that there was just one sacrifice and it was offered once for all. (Heb. 7:27, "For this He died once.")

All members of the Roman Church surrender their individual wills to the Church. The sacramental-hierarchical church has one objective to depersonalize their members. There is no freedom for a priest or for an individual layman to have any opinion that differs with the "party line."

The People Who Join the Roman Church

Many join the Roman Church because of the pressure placed upon them when they marry Catholics. When they see their own flesh and blood going to Mass and taking the sacraments they are moved out of parental love to embrace Catholicism. Others who have not this love tie are led into the church from various backgrounds. Many of them were nothing spiritually speaking. Many are ex communists or members of churches that were only carbon copies of the Roman Church. We find that they were bewildered in this rationalistic world and were seeking a way of escape from reality. One such joined the Trappist Monks so now he will not have to even speak to any one the rest of his life. The Roman Church is eager to let anyone turn over his soul to their care. Their system is based upon the care of the soul by the church. We never read of a person who has been born again joining the Roman Church. Such a person could not obtain admission. A Christian who claims to be saved right now would not be admitted because even the pope doesn't claim to be saved. In presenting their doctrines to Protestants they claim that they do not worship Mary. Here is one of many quotations that can

FLOWING WATER

Beth Kenfield

How refreshing is a fountain
 Or a spring as we pass by,
 Crystal water flowing onward,
 Underneath the clear, blue sky.
 Thirst is quenched and life is given
 As this stream flows gently on,
 Helping everything it touches,
 Making strong the limp and wan.

Let this stream come to a stand-still,
 Watch and see what happens then;
 Living now has changed to dying,
 Rot and stench where life has been.
 Can this be the crystal water
 We saw flowing back a bit,
 What has happened to its substance?
 Gone the life it could submit.

How refreshing is the Christian
 Who is like a flowing well!
 Drinking from God's holy fountain,
 Living water to expel!
 He can give through Christ our Saviour
 Life abundant, strong, and pure,
 Giving out what he receiveth,
 Blessings that will heal and cure.

Let this Christian hold within him
 All of life's abundant flow,
 Soon he will begin to stagnate,
 And at once will cease to grow.
 Living water is outgoing,
 God will ever have it so.
 Let's not bottle up within us
 Blessings God has meant to grow.

be found among Roman Catholic teachings. From a pamphlet entitled, "To Jesus Through Mary," Benedictine Convent Clyde Mo. Sixth Edition 1946.

"Blessed Grignon says that God has chosen Mary for the treasurer, the administratrix and dispensatrix of all His graces, so that all His graces and all His gifts pass through her hand, and no gift is bestowed on man by heaven except through her virginal hands," p. 9, 10.

"When we found Mary, and by Mary Jesus, and by Jesus, God the Father," p. 18.

We could go on but it is not necessary. Roman Catholics do worship Mary, a mortal being. When a Catholic goes to confession part of his penance consists of prayers to Mary for sins against God.

Is There Salvation in the Roman Church?

Protestants and Catholics alike were startled a few weeks ago when they read of the expelling of four professors from Boston College for their teaching that a person had to belong to the Roman Church in order to be saved. One Jesuit priest was stripped of his priestly functions because he sided with the professors. For centuries the Roman Church has taught that there is no salvation outside of its borders. However, in the United States the Jesuits in an effort to adjust the Roman Church to our Protestant culture have taught that if a person does not know the Roman Church to be the true church then he will not be lost if he does not join it. Salvation by ignorance.

No Roman Catholic is saved in the New Testament meaning of the word. All must go to purgatory (a place of their inven-

tion), where they will suffer in fires equally as hot as hell. Here are a few quotations from one of their pamphlets.

"Assist Souls in Purgatory," by Benedictine Convent Clyde Mo. 10ed. 1942.

"Location of Purgatory. Holy Scripture does not reveal to us the location of Purgatory. But it is the general opinion of theologians that purgatory is located in the interior of the earth. . . ." p. 5.

"The least pain in purgatory is greater than the greatest suffering in this world," p. 6. So wrote the learned Thomas Aquinas.

"From the depths of purgatory day and night resound the plaintive cries of the poor souls, 'Have pity on us, have pity on us, at least you our friends, for the hand of the Lord hath touched us.'" p. 9.

Such pictures terrify the Roman Catholics; it is no wonder that they are willing to give money to the priests. These people have been raised in fear and superstition so they are easily led by the clergy. Does this religion do them any good? Well Jesus said, "By their fruits ye shall know them." In Roman Catholic dominated sections we see children selling chances on autos for the church, parents that drink, play bingo for the benefit of the church.

The reason for all of this lack of morality is the astounding fact that Jesus Christ is not presented as a Saviour. The Catholic is taught to pin his faith on the work of the Church and the saints and prayers of Mary. What then does the Roman Church have to offer? A false concept of partial salvation, loss of personality, no right to govern the church to say what shall be done with your money, slavery to idols and bleeding hearts.

How do we who have left the Roman Church feel? Will we ever return to the faith of our fathers? Often Catholics ask me that question, "It would make your relatives so happy; your mother would be overjoyed; won't you please come back?" We who have once seen Jesus and have been pardoned by Him, lifted out of the pit of misery, turned from darkness to light, we who have been saved by His matchless mercy, can never go back. No, never. We stand with Luther; God helping us we can do no other. Betray our Lord? God forbid.

The only answer to the Roman Catholic problem is for us who have the open Bible to evangelize the Roman Catholics. God loves them. We Baptists must and God helping us will win many of them for Christ.



THE ORIGIN OF MORMONISM

(Continued from page one)
 the contributor of the sheep, 'is the only time they ever made money-digging a profitable business.' The Smiths ate the sheep."

Mr. Tucker closes his chapter regarding this stone with the statement that the origin of Mormonism can be traced to this insignificant little stone. In the affidavit of Willard Chase, the man from whom Joe got this stone, he relates that he was the second one that Joe approached about his discovery of the Gold Bible. He says that Joe told him that the discovery was due to the "peekstone," making no mention whatever of an angel's visit.

The evidence along this line seems to be conclusive to any open-minded person who is willing to investigate. To sum it up, one must decide that Joe Smith, previous to the pretended discovery of the Golden Plates, was a "crystal-gazing treasure hunter"; being commonly known as the laziest man in the community, with his veracity questioned by everyone.

According to Smith's story, he saw and talked face to face with God the Father and the Son in 1820 — he talked face to face with Moroni, an angel from Heaven four different times on Sept. 21, 1823. It was here that he was told of the "Plates," and he visited the spot where they were buried and saw them the following day — he visited this spot and talked with this heavenly messenger once each year until 1827 when he was permitted to take the "Plates" home with him. During these talks on Sept. 21, 1823, the angel quoted a great deal of scripture, most of it different than it is written. It was from his quoting of the fourth chapter of Malachi that Smith learned that vs. 5, 6 referred to "Our Day," and that the reference to "Elijah" was to be fulfilled in himself. It seems to me that one upon whom Heaven was placing so much attention would have lived a careful life instead of the kind of a life we have found Joseph living. In the history above referred to he tells us that in 1825 he hired with a man named Staal, to search for a silver mine that some Spaniards had somehow lost. Mother Smith, in her account, tells us that Staal came to Joseph because he had heard of his ability to "discern certain things invisible to the naked eye." Staal had several men employed — one can readily see, from the place Smith held, something of his fame as a "gazer."

In closing I wish to give two statements. The first was signed and published by eleven of the most prominent citizens of Manchester, N. Y. "We, the undersigned, being personally ac-

quainted with the family of Joseph Smith, Sr., with whom the Gold Bible, so called, originated, state: "That they were not only a lazy, indolent set of men, but also intemperate, and their word was not to be depended upon; and that we are truly glad to dispense with their society." The second was signed and published by sixty-two of the residents of Palmyra, N. Y., (the Smiths lived in both these towns): "We, the undersigned, have been acquainted with the Smith family for a number of years, while they resided near this place, and we have no hesitation in saying that we consider them destitute of that moral character which ought to entitle them to the confidence of any community. They were particularly famous for visionary prophecies: spent much of their time in digging for money which they pretended was hid in the earth, and to this day large excavations may be seen in the earth, not far from their residence, where they used to spend their time in digging for hidden treasures." Joseph Smith, Sr., and his son, Joseph, were, in particular, considered entirely destitute of moral character and addicted to vicious habits."

I have tried to present briefly the character of the man who founded this great heresy, yes, blasphemy, known as the Mormon Church. Let us now consider briefly his story of the Book of Mormon.



OUR DEBT

(Continued from page one)

Anonymous, Troy, Ohio	2.00
Port Norris Baptist Church, Port Norris, N. J.	60.00
Mrs. Mary Davis, Austin, Texas	2.00
H. B. McClanahan, Indianapolis, Ind.	5.00
Mrs. C. E. Meek, Louisa, Ky.	3.00

This leaves our indebtedness as of July 8, at \$2791.24.

Another list of contributors and contributions will appear next week and each week thereafter (D. V.) as the Lord may lead until this obligation is completely paid.

In connection with this reduction of our debt, I am happy to add a few of the many highly appreciated letters we received the last few days:

"It's a pleasure to lend a helping hand when our friend is in need for such a worthy claim. We should all with a willing hand clear this debt at once. I am sending a small amount for the indebtedness of \$2.00."
 MRS. MARY DAVIS,
 Austin, Texas.

"I have received the EXAMINER for many years and I appreciate it more than I can tell you. I appreciate you and your determined stand against sin, and admire your courage in plain speaking and publishing the truth, regardless of the guilty person's position in the work."
 ELDER GLOYDE E. LUKEHART,
 Picher, Okla.

"I am enclosing personal check of one dollar to help you in the publication of your excellent paper. It is a valuable contribution to the religious literature of our land. I enjoy reading it."
 ARNOLD H. BELLOWES,
 West Hurley, New York.

"I enjoy THE EXAMINER and its teaching of the Word is a great help to me."
 LEON DAUGHERTY,
 Marion, Ky.

God bless our contributors and those who write us. Every letter brings encouragement.



Big churches do not make big preachers.

The Devil would have to run if he was fought instead of church members fighting each other.