

Some people spell their religion D-O. I spell mine D-O-N-E.

God Forbids It!

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"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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WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT DRINKING

or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat."

Is a Man Wise to Be Deceived By It?

Proverbs 20:1: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

God Denounces Those Given to It!

Isaiah 28:1: "Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, which are on the head of the fat valleys of them that are overcome with wine!"

God Denounces Those Who Encourage It!

Habakkuk 2:15: "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!"

It Excludes from Heaven!

I Corinthians 6:10: "Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."

A Drunken Son Was Punished!

Deuteronomy 21:20, 21: "And they shall say unto the elders of this city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard. And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear."

What Does Jesus Say About Drunkenness?

Matthew 24:48-51: "But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin to smite his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; The

Lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

God Pronounces Woe Upon Those Who Drink!

Isaiah 5:11: "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!"

What Happened to Drunken Nabal?

I Samuel 25:36-38: "And Abigail came to Nabal; and, behold, he held a feast in his house, like the feast of a king; and Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunken; wherefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light. But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. And it came to pass about ten days after, that the Lord smote Nabal, and he died."

What Happened to Drunken Elah?

1 Kings 16:8-10: "In the twenty and sixth year of Asa king of Judah began Elah the son of Baasha to reign over Israel in Tirzah, two years. And his servant Zimri, captain of half his chariots, conspired against him, and he was in Tirzah, drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza, steward of his house in Tirzah. And Zimri went in and smote him, and killed him, in

Mused Uncle Mose

Some 'visitin' brudder slip in late las' Sunday wile Pahson in a weavin' way, an' he sudden like holler Amen! Boy, hit purt nigh scaiah de livin' daylight's out'n ev'body!

the twenty and seventh year of Asa, king of Judah, and reigned in his stead."

What Happened to Drunken King Benhadad of Dasmascus?

I Kings 20:16-21: "And they went out at noon. But Benhadad was drinking himself drunk in the pavilions, he and the kings, the thirty and two kings that helped him. And the young men of the princes of the provinces went out first, and Benhadad sent out, and they told him, saying, There are men come out of Samaria. And he said, Whether they be come out for peace, take them alive: or whether they be come out for war, take them alive. So these young men of the princes of the provinces came out of the city, and the army which followed them. And they slew every one, his man; and the Syrians fled; and Israel pursued them: and Benhadad, the king of Syria, escaped on an horse with the horsemen. And the king of Israel went out, and smote the horses and chariots, and slew the Syrians with a great slaughter."

What Happened to Belshazzar?

Daniel 5:3, 4; 23, 30: "Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them. They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone. But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified: In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chal-

deans, slain."

What Did Paul Say to King Felix?

Acts 24:25: "And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time: when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee."

What About Noah and His Sons?

Genesis 9:21-23: "And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without. And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness."

What About the Final Results?

Proverbs 23:20, 21; 29-35: "Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh: For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty; and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags." Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like an adder. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things. Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. They have stricken me, shalt thou say, I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not; when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again."

"If you want plenty of poverty, plenty of pain, plenty of sorrow, plenty of shame, plenty of broken heads and hearts, Hopes doomed and sealed—be a drunkard." —Selected. —From the Gospel Messenger, Gendreau, N. Y.

The Golden Rule Foundation reports that two-thirds of a nickel is the daily offering of the American public to God. In 1932 the American people were giving 5.3 per cent of their total income to the church. In 1939 the income declined to 2.56 per cent. By 1945 it was down to 1.6 per cent, and now it is at an all-time low of one per cent. As prosperity has increased, Americans have given more and more to the government in taxes and less in tithes and offerings to God.

New Divorce Reason

A 55-year-old woman in Cleveland, Ohio, recently was granted a divorce because "her husband is a teetotaler, and when she gives an evening drinking party, he retires to his room to read the Scriptures and pray, refusing even to drink with her guests."

This man is very fortunate in being relieved of the burden of such a worldly companion. Divorce, however, is not the answer to such incompatibility. This woman needed to be born again.

First Baptist Pulpit

"GOD AND THE EXPERTS"

"This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."—Acts 4:11, 12.

This text is taken out of Simon Peter's sermon to the Sanhedrin, growing out of the first persecution that Jesus' infant church underwent. If you will read carefully those first few chapters of the book of the Acts, you will find that these preach-

ers wrought a miracle of unusual importance in giving a new lease on life to the man who had been laid at the Gate Beautiful for a number of years unable to walk. When they made this man completely whole, it made the Jews, the elders, and the rulers of the people unduly furious. As a result, they had the preachers arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin for trial. When they were put on trial, Simon Peter preached the sermon to them that we have just read.

In the course of this sermon

Simon Peter declared that the Jews had cast Jesus Christ aside just like a group of builders might toss a stone away, refusing to use it in the process of the construction of a building.

I'd like for us to look at Jesus under this figure of a stone, not only as He is spoken of in this chapter, but as He is spoken of in other Scriptures throughout the Bible.

I

JESUS IS A SMITTEN STONE. By this I mean that (Continued on page two)

Ephesians 5:18: "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit."

Christ Cautions Against It!

Luke 21:34: "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares."

It Is a Work of the Flesh!

Galatians 5:21: "Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in times past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

It Is Debasing!

Isaiah 28:7: "But they also have erred through wine, and have drunk out of the way; the priest and the prophet have stumbled through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment."

It Takes Away the Heart!

Hosea 4:11: "Whoredom and wine and the new wine take away the heart."

It Insures Poverty!

Proverbs 21:17; 23:21: "He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich. For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags."

It Leads to Strife!

Proverbs 23:29-31: "Who hath sorrow? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright."

It Leads to Scorning!

Hosea 7:5: "In the days of our princes have made us sick with bottles of wine; we stretched out his hand with snares."

It Leads to Rioting and Wantonness!

Romans 13:13: "Let us walk soberly, as in the day; not in reveling and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, or in strife and envying."

Should Avoid Those Given to It!

I Corinthians 15:11: "But now have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater,

May I Bring My Friend?

When Dr. Walter L. Wilson was president of a large tent and meeting business, he was invited by a business friend to a party which did not seem to be quite the thing for a Christian man to attend. Dr. Wilson thanked the man for the invitation and when asked, "May I bring my friend, too?"

"Why, of course, the more the merrier!"

"By the way, Dr. Wilson, who (Continued on page four)"

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"GOD AND THE EXPERTS"

(Continued from page one)

Jesus was smitten at Calvary. Listen:

"Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and THOU SHALT SMITE THE ROCK, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel."—Ex. 17:6.

The rock that Moses smote in the wilderness is typical of our Lord Jesus Christ. Notice:

"And did all drink the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: AND THAT ROCK WAS CHRIST."—I Cor. 10:4.

Beloved, as Moses smote the rock in the wilderness and water flowed out from that rock whereby the Jews and all their cattle were watered throughout their forty years of wilderness wanderings through the desert from Egypt to Canaan, so that typifies and illustrates the Lord Jesus Christ who was smitten at Calvary.

If you will turn to the book of Zechariah, you will find that it was prophesied that Jesus Christ was to be smitten. Listen:

"And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have PIERCED, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his first born."—Zech. 12:10.

"In that day there shall be a FOUNTAIN OPENED to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness."—Zech. 13:1.

Now, beloved, let me insist that you see Jesus as a smitten stone. As Moses smote the stone in the wilderness and water flowed out therefrom, so Jesus Christ was smitten at Calvary. As Zechariah the prophet prophesied that Jesus would be smitten and that out from Him would flow a fountain for cleansing, so when Jesus Christ came to Calvary He was smitten and the blood of God flowed from the veins of Jesus Christ in order that a fountain for cleansing from uncleanness and sin might be opened in our behalf. Surely if you will observe Him as He is pictured at Calvary you can see nothing else than the smiting of our Lord. Look at Jesus with the beard plucked from His face until His face was but a mass of blood. Look at the Lord Jesus Christ as He is buffeted and smitten by His enemies until He was more bruised than any individual's body might have been. See Him as they drove the nails into His hands and His feet, and

The Church and the World walked far apart,
On the changing shores of time;
The World was singing a giddy song,
And the Church a hymn sublime.
"Come, give me your hand," cried the merry World
"And walk with me this way;"
But the good Church hid her snowy hand,
And solemnly answered, "Nay,
I will not give you my hand at all,
And I will not walk with you;
Your way is the way of endless death;
Your words are all untrue."

"Nay, walk with me but a little space,"
Said the World with a kindly air;
"The road I walk is a pleasant road,
And the sun shines always there.
Your path is thorny and rough and rude,
And mine is broad and plain;
My road is paved with flowers and gems,
And yours with tears and pain.
The sky above me is always blue:
No want, no toil, I know;
The sky above you is always dark;
Your lot is a lot of woe.
My path, you see, is a broad, fair path,
And my gate is high and wide,—
There is room enough for you and for me
To travel side by side."

Half shyly the Church approached the World,
And gave him her hand of snow;
The old World grasped it, and walked along,
Saying, in accents low,—
"Your dress is too simple to please my taste;
I will give you pearls to wear,
Rich velvet and silks for your graceful form,
And diamonds to deck your hair."
The Church looked down at her plain white robes,
And then at the dazzling World,
And blushed as she saw his handsome lip
With a smile contemptuous curled.
"I will change my dress for a costlier one,"
Said the Church with a smile of grace;
Then her pure garments drifted away,
And the World gave, in their place,
Beautiful satins, and shining silks,
And roses and gems and pearls;
And over her forehead her bright hair fell
Crisped in a thousand curls.

"Your house is too plain," said the proud old World;
"I'll build you one like mine:—
Carpets of Brussels, and curtains of lace,
And furniture ever so fine."
So he built her a costly and beautiful house—
Splendid it was to behold;
Her sons and her beautiful daughters dwelt there,
Gleaming in purple and gold;
And fairs and shows in the halls were held,
And the World and his children were there;
And laughter and music and feasts were heard
In the place that was meant for prayer.
She had cushioned pews for the rich and the great
To sit in their pomp and their pride,
While the poor folks, clad in their shabby suits,
Sat meekly down outside.

The angel of mercy flew over the Church,
And whispered, "I know thy sin."
The Church looked back with a sigh, and longed
To gather her children in.
But some were off in the midnight ball,
And some were off at the play,
And some were drinking in gay saloons;
So she quietly went her way.

observe Him as they drove the spear into His side that water and blood might flow out from His heart. See Him as He wore that crown of spiked thorns that caused His brow to be lacerated and mutilated until the body of our Lord was a matter of gore and blood. Beloved, Jesus is certainly to be described to you as a stone that was smitten at Calvary — smitten for your sins and mine. He suffered all the indignities and received all the buffeting and smiting that came to Him, and ultimately died upon the Cross

for one purpose only — that you and I might be saved from Hell. In other words, the stone that was smitten at Calvary was thus smitten to keep you from suffering in Hell.

II

JESUS IS A REJECTED STONE. If you will turn through the Word of God you will find that Jesus Christ was rejected even at birth. Listen: "And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there

was NO ROOM for them in the inn."—Luke 2:7.

He was rejected from the place of human habitation and was compelled to be born in the habitation of beasts. He was thus rejected at birth.

Jesus was also rejected when He began to preach. Listen:

"And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had

opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were

(Continued on page three)

The sly World gallantly said to her,
"Your children mean no harm—
Merely indulging in innocent sports."
So she leaned on his proffered arm,
And smiled, and chatted, and gathered flowers,
As she walked along with the World;
While millions and millions of deathless souls
To the horrible pit were hurled.

"Your preachers are all too old and plain,"
Said the gay old World with a sneer;
"They frighten my children with dreadful tales,
Which I like not for them to hear:
They talk of brimstone and fire and pain,
And the horrors of endless night;
They talk of a place that should not be
Mentioned to ears polite.
I will send you some of the better stamp,
Brilliant and gay and fast,
Who will tell them that people may live as they list
And go to heaven at last.
The Father is merciful and great and good,
Tender and true and kind;
Do you think He would take one child to heaven
And leave the rest behind?"
So he filled her house with gay divines,
Gifted and great and learned;
And the plain old men that preached the cross
Were out of the pulpit turned.

"You give too much to the poor," said the World;
Far more than you ought to do.
If the poor need shelter and food and clothes,
Why need it trouble you?
Go, take your money and buy rich robes,
And horses and carriages fine,
And pearls and jewels and dainty food,
And the rarest and costliest wine.
My children they dote on all such things,
And if you their love would win,
You must do as they do, and walk in the ways
That they are walking in."
The Church held tightly the strings of her purse,
And gracefully lowered her head,
And simpered, "I've given too much away;
I'll do, sir, as you have said."

So the poor were turned from her door in scorn,
And she heard not the orphans' cry;
And she drew her beautiful robes aside,
As the widows went weeping by.
The sons of the World and the sons of the Church
Walked closely hand and heart,
And only the Master, who knoweth all,
Could tell the two apart.
Then the Church sat down at her ease and said,
"I am rich, and in goods increased;
I have need of nothing, and naught to do
But to laugh and dance and feast."
The sly World heard her, and laughed in his sleeve,
And mockingly said aside,
"The Church is fallen—the beautiful Church—
And her shame is her boast and pride!"

The angel drew near to the mercy-seat,
And whispered, in sighs, her name;
And the saints their anthems of rapture hushed,
And covered their heads with shame.
And a voice came down, through the hush of heaven,
From Him who sat on the throne,
"I know thy work, and how thou hast said,
'I am rich,' and hast not known
That thou art naked and poor and blind
And wretched before My face;
Therefore, from My presence I cast thee out,
And blot thy name from its place!"

—Matilda C. Edwards

I have never heard an argument over who was the smallest in the church.

GOD AND THE EXPERTS"

(Continued from page two)
listened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears."—Luke 4:16-21.

Beloved, they were not only taken with consternation but they were shocked by this upstart who had grown up within their very community. Immediately they thought He had gone mad and in order to treat Him as maniacs were treated in that day, they took Him out to the brow of the hill that they might cast Him headlong and thus end His miserable existence and demented condition. Listen:

"And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that THEY MIGHT CAST HIM DOWN HEADLONG. But he, passing through the midst of them, went his way."—Luke 4:29, 30.

Jesus was not only rejected at birth but He was rejected at Nazareth—the very first sermon that Jesus preached.

If you will notice, Jesus left Nazareth and went to the city of Capernaum and there received the same kind of treatment that He had received at Nazareth. Listen:

"And entered into a ship, and went over the sea toward Capernaum."—John 6:17.

The day before He had performed a miracle whereby 5,000 men, not including women and children, were filled as a result of His feast, and then having performed this miracle of feeding, He crossed to the city of Capernaum. There the next day He preached His great sermon on the Bread of Life. Having finished His sermon, He looked around and found that only His 12 original preachers had stood by Him. Everybody else had forsaken Him. Listen:

"From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him."—John 6:66.

As Jesus was rejected at birth, as He was rejected the first time that He preached a sermon, so was He rejected in the city of Capernaum.

Certainly you would think that our Lord would have been received with open arms and welcome hearts in the city of Jerusalem, but not so. The Word of God tells us that when He came to Jerusalem where later He was crucified, that He was rejected. Listen:

"And every man went unto his own house."—John 7:53.

"Jesus went unto the mount of Olives."—John 8:1.

Every man went to his house; Jesus went out into the mount of Olives. Jesus had no house in which He could go. Nobody invited Him to their home to spend the night. Therefore, Jesus went out and spent the night on the mount of Olives.

Jesus was not only a smitten stone, but He was a rejected stone. There was never a time in His life but what the Son of God was rejected by man. He was rejected at birth, He was rejected when He preached His initial sermon at the city of Nazareth, He was rejected at Capernaum, and He was rejected at Jerusalem. In fact, beloved, His life merely fulfilled the prophetic utterance that had been given concerning Him that He would be rejected. Listen:

"He is despised and REJECTED OF MEN; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and he hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not."—Isa. 53:

"He came unto his own, and his own RECEIVED HIM NOT."—John 1:11.

Jesus Christ was not only the smitten stone, but Jesus Christ was the rejected stone as well.

III

JESUS IS A STUMBLING STONE TO THE JEWS. If you will read in the book of Romans you will find the prophecy that the Jews were going to stumble over Jesus Christ. Listen:

"Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they STUMBLERED AT THAT STUMBLING STONE; As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumbling stone and rock of offense: and whosoever believeth on him, shall not be ashamed."—Rom. 9:32, 33.

Paul thus refers to Jesus as the stumbling stone so far as the Jews were concerned. Later on, he wrote to the church at Corinth and said:

"But we preach Christ crucified, unto THE JEWS A STUMBLING BLOCK, and unto the Greeks foolishness."—I Cor. 1:23.

Beloved, Jesus Christ is not only a smitten stone at Calvary and a rejected stone, but He is a stumbling stone to the Jews.

I made mention sometime ago of an elderly Jew over in Ashland who is very devout as far as Judaism is concerned. In the course of a conversation one day I bore testimony to him concerning Jesus Christ and immediately that elderly Jew spat on the ground, in order to spit the name of Jesus Christ out of his mouth. I thought as I walked away that another Jew had stumbled over the stumbling stone of Jesus Christ.

In Charleston, South Carolina, some fifteen years ago, I engaged an old Jew who was in the second-handed business in a conversation. I wanted to tell him about Jesus. I had in mind from his appearance that he was an Orthodox Jew and in order to bring the conversation toward Jesus, I asked him about his education. He immediately informed me that he could speak Hebrew and a number of other languages—some ten languages in all. I thought that that was a mighty good time to hit him hard, and I said, "Brother, there is one language that you can't speak." Immediately he said, "What's that?" I said, "You can't speak the language of Heaven because you have to know Jesus Christ to talk God's language." I'll never forget how that old Jew spat some half a dozen times on the floor to get rid of that word "Jesus" from his system. Another Jew stumbled at the stumbling block of Jesus Christ.

IV

JESUS IS THE CHIEF CORNER STONE OF HIS CHURCH.

It is interesting to see that Jesus was a smitten stone at Calvary, that He was a rejected stone all through His life, and that He was and is still a stumbling stone to the Jews, but it is even more interesting to me that Jesus Christ is the chief corner stone of His church. Listen:

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."—Mt. 16:17.

Who is the rock upon which Jesus Christ built His church? The Catholics would make answer and say that the rock was Simon Peter, yet, beloved, the words, even the Greek language, is sufficient to indicate otherwise to us. When Jesus said, "Thou art Peter," He used the words for a little rock and when He said, "Upon this rock I will

build my church," He used the Greek word for a big rock, indicating that Peter was just a mere fragment of a rock while the rock upon which He would build His church was a rock of tremendous importance.

Sometime ago I was in Lexington, Kentucky, and having a little time between services I took a walk in a part of the town in which I had never been before. I saw a church building and I noticed that it said on the corner stone that "Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church." I didn't have to look inside, nor look at the bulletin board, nor look to see what kind of a cross was upon it. I knew at once that it was a Catholic church. Beloved, the church of our Lord Jesus Christ was not built on Simon Peter. He is not the rock which is the corner stone of the church. Listen:

"And did all drink the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and THAT ROCK WAS CHRIST."—I Cor. 10:4.

Beloved, the Rock upon which the church of our Lord Jesus Christ was built is the Son of God Himself. It was never built upon Peter. It was never built upon any pope. It was never built on Alexander Campbell. It was never built on Martin Luther. It was never built on any man, but the chief corner stone of the church of our Lord Jesus Christ is none other than the Son of God Himself, even Jesus our Saviour.

I'm glad that I'm a Baptist. All other churches have been built on some man. Some individual has been the chief corner stone, such as Wesley, Calvin, Luther, or Campbell. In contrast, I'm glad that I'm a Baptist since Jesus only is the chief corner stone of our churches.

V

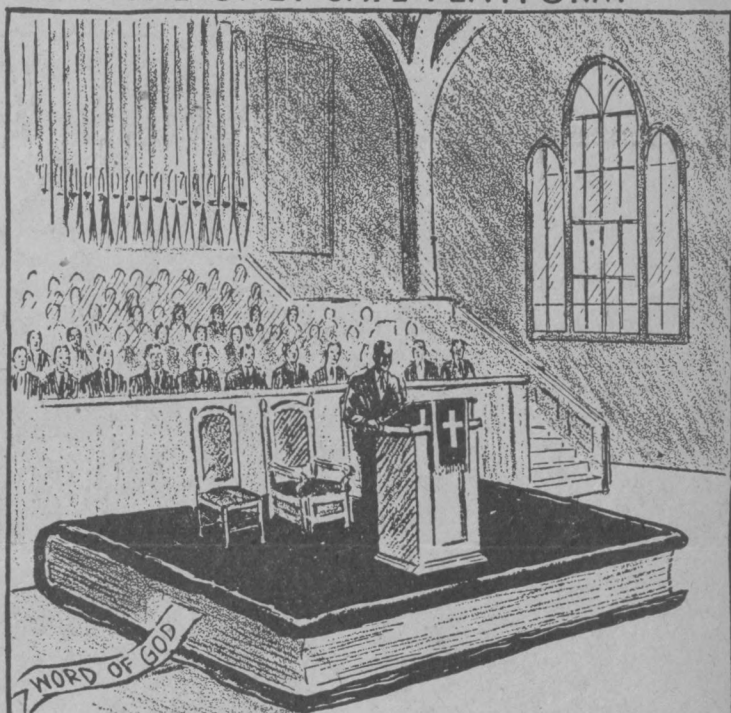
JESUS IS THE SMITING STONE OF GENTILE WORLD POWER.

In the second chapter of Daniel we have a remarkable passage of Scripture that is but little understood by the average Bible student. Listen:

"Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. . . . And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever."—Dan. 2:34, 44.

Let's go back and get the story of Daniel in this second chapter of Daniel. Nebuchadnezzar had a dream and when he awakened he couldn't recall what it was that he had dreamed. Haven't you had that experience and you wondered what it was? I preached a far better sermon last night than I can preach to you today. I preached a far greater message last night than I'll ever preach to you from this pulpit or any other. I can remember that I was preaching in my dreams and the reaction of the congregation, and how you could feel the very Spirit of the Living God, but I can't remember a single thing that I preached last night in my dream. Nebuchadnezzar couldn't remember what he had dreamed and when the prophet of God came and stood in his presence, he said, "I'll tell you of your dreams. You saw a great image. It had a head of gold; it had arms and chest of silver; it had belly and

THE ONLY SAFE PLATFORM



But the Word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you. 1 Peter 1:25

Ramsay

thighs of brass; it had legs of iron, and feet of iron and miry clay." I can see old Nebuchadnezzar now as he said, "That's right. That is what I dreamed."

Then Daniel said, "That is only a dream of history. Thou art the head of gold," as if to say that Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom was represented by the head of gold. In the line of interpretation we can believe that the arms and chest of silver was to represent Media-Persia, the belly and thigh was to represent Greece under Alexander the Great, the legs of iron were to represent the Roman empire, and the feet of iron and miry clay, mixed and mingled together, were to represent the Gentile nations down to the return of Jesus Christ. Then Daniel said, "You saw a great stone cut out of the mountain, without hands. You watched it until it rolled down the mountain little by little until it struck those feet and ground those feet and that image into powder, and it was no more." Daniel said that stone represented the Lord Jesus Christ who was born of a virgin without a human father—that that stone was going to grind into powder and break into pieces and destroy ultimately all Gentile world power.

Some folk wonder what is going to be the outcome of Russia. Beloved, I can tell you today what Russia's doom will be. I can give you a picture of it as clearly as you can see it when it is printed in the paper. In fact, beloved, I can write the story today as it will appear in the newspapers in months or years to come. I can tell you exactly the things that are going to take place as far as Russia is concerned. I can tell you that there has never been but four worldwide empires and there will never be another, until that stone that was cut out of a mountain, without hands, grinds Russia, Germany, Italy, France, England, United States, and all other Gentile empires into powder and our Lord sets up His kingdom to live and reign here within this world.

Jesus who was a smitten stone

at Calvary, who was a rejected stone all through His life, who was and is still a stumbling stone to the Jews and is the chief corner stone of His church—that Lord Jesus Christ is a smiting stone to Gentile worldwide power. Some day that power is going to come to an end and our Lord is going to reign from the city of the New Jerusalem.

VI

JESUS IS A CRUSHING STONE OF JUDGMENT TO UNBELIEVERS. Listen:

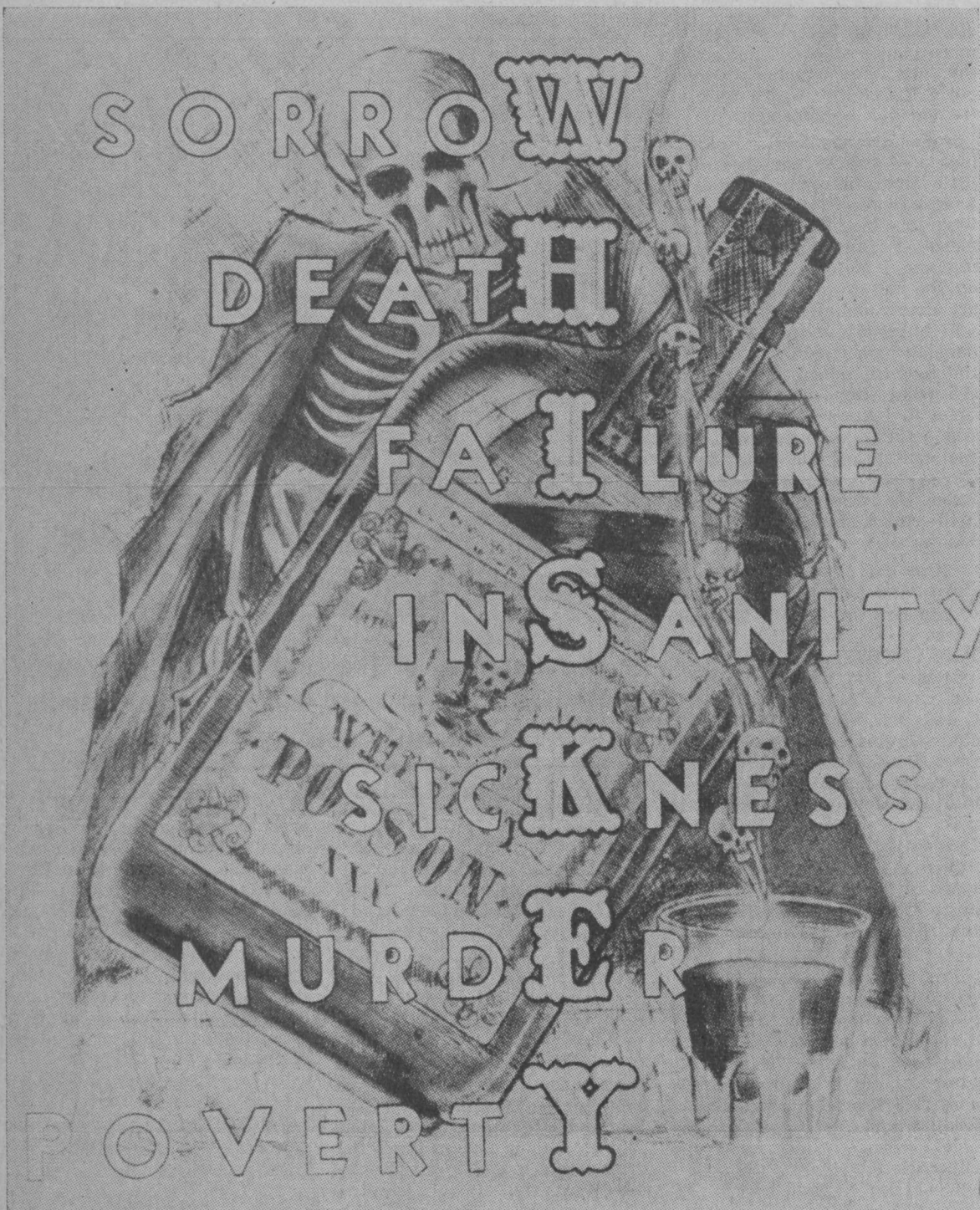
"And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will GRIND HIM TO POWDER."—Mt. 21:44.

This verse along with its context tells us of the judgment of unbelievers. Unsaved people boast about their ungodliness and about their nefarious, un-Godly deeds. Unsaved people take delight in denying that there is a God. Beloved, there is a day coming when every unsaved person is going to be ground into powder and by the power of that One whom they are denying today.

Listen to me, sinner man, sinner woman! I feel sorry for you today. You don't know what is ahead of you. You don't realize what is out before you. It is all right for you to live a life of sin now, so you think. It is all right for you to go ahead and live your life today, so you think. Sinner friend, you don't know what is ahead of you as far as judgment is concerned. The simplest description that God ever gave of the judgment is this, that Jesus is going to grind into powder the unbelievers at the judgment bar of God.

Did you ever stand by a rock quarry and see limestone cut out of a hill, then see that stone as it went through the mill and those great big rocks were cracked and broken and ground until when they came out they were just fine dust ready to be sprinkled as limestone upon the land? Did you ever look at those stone mills to be amazed at the strength of the steel of which those mills are constructed? I

(Continued on page four)



A few days ago, I was in the office of my good friend, Sheriff Bill Adkins, of Greenup, Ky. On the wall of his office was the above picture. I thought it so true and full of meaning that I asked to borrow it for this issue of our paper. My deepest thanks and best wishes to Bill.

God And The Experts

(Continued from page three)
remember the first time as a boy I saw a large limestone rock dropped down into the hopper of one of those limestone crushers. I thought surely that rock would tear that mill to pieces, but instead, beloved, the mill kept on grinding and the limestone rock was pulverized and came out as fine dust.

Brother, sister, God Himself tells us that when an unsaved man comes to the judgment bar of God, that God in Christ Jesus is going to be to that unsaved man a crushing stone at the judgment bar of God. Sinner friend, when you stand in God's presence on that day, don't say that I didn't warn you. When you come up to the judgment and you are crushed, don't say that you haven't had fair warning from God's man as to what was in store for that day.

VII

JESUS IS THE ONLY STONE OF SALVATION. My text says: "This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. NEITHER IS THERE SALVATION IN ANY OTHER: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

You go out and say that this preacher has his ideas as to salvation and that other preachers have their ideas as to salvation. Beloved, it isn't a question of ideas; it is a question of what the Word of God says. The Word of God says that the only stone of salvation is Jesus Christ. You say that you have heard other preachers say that a man could join the church and be baptized and live as good a life as possible and he would get to Heaven after awhile. Beloved, I don't care what other preachers have to say, nor do I put my words up as an authority, but I do hold up God's Word as authority and I do say that the only stone of salvation is the Lord Jesus Christ. He Himself said in John 10:9, "I am the door," not "a door," but "the door." In John 14:6 He said, "I am the way," not "a way," but "the way." Beloved, if you are depending upon your prayers or church membership or baptism, or if you are depending upon any works that you have done, you are a lost man because you have missed the only stone of salvation, which is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Would to God that I could burn this into your heart today that you might sing:

"Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Save from wrath and make me pure."

Beloved, the only way of salvation is in that Rock of Ages—that stone which is the only way of salvation, which is Jesus Christ.

In the Psalms you will find David singing of Jesus as our rock and salvation, for he says:

"He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defense; I shall not be moved. In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God. Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah."—Psa. 62: 6-8.

That little word "Selah" literally means "think of that." Oh, brother, it is something to think that the rock of our salvation is the Lord Jesus Christ. If you are standing on anything except Jesus, you are standing on sinking sand. You say, "Brother Gilpin, back yonder several years ago a preacher said for all that wanted to be saved, to come forward and pray—pray hard, pray loud and pray long. I did it. After awhile he said that we had prayed hard enough, that we had prayed loud enough and that we had prayed long enough, for us to get up, that we were saved. I did. The preacher said that all those that were saved ought to join the church and be baptized and live a good life and hope to get to Heaven after awhile. I've done it." Do you know where you stand today if that is your only hope? You stand as a lost church member in need of the Gospel of Jesus

Christ, in need of the Son of God as your Saviour.

Beloved, there is only one way of salvation and that is the fact that Jesus Christ paid your sin debt at Calvary. I've said dozens and dozens of times and as long as I shall preach I shall say dozens of times again that sin has to be paid for. You can pay for it in Hell or Jesus Christ paid for it at the Cross. The only way you can have your sins paid for in peace is to have the Son of God pay for them as your Saviour on Calvary's Cross. Jesus is the only stone of salvation. Forget about your church membership and your baptism and about the fact that you have confessed your sins to a priest. Forget all that and come with one thought in mind:

"In my hand no price I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling."

Beloved, you will go away saved—saved by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Notice one thing in closing: Peter said the experts—the builders—had rejected the Son of God. Peter said that Jesus was a stone that had been rejected by the builders. Here is a stone mason who picks up a stone and strikes it a few blows with his hammer to shape it and puts it into the wall. It has been accepted. Another stone is picked up and used in the same way. Another stone is picked up and he strikes it a few times and doesn't like it, and tosses it away to reject it. The Jews treated Jesus Christ just as a stonemason treats the stone which he rejects.

Let me ask you which side you are on today. Have you taken your stand upon the side of those Jews which rejected the Lord Jesus Christ or have you made Him the stone of salvation as far as your life is concerned? I am glad today that I can present Him to you. I am glad that I can tell you about Him today as a stone that was smitten for your sins at Calvary. I am glad as I present Him as a stone that was thus smitten, that I can tell you that when you trust Him that He will be your Saviour. God help you, sinner friend, May you leave this house of God rejoicing in the love of God and in the salvation that is yours in the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal

WHO SUPPORTS THIS PAPER AS TO OUR INDEBTEDNESS?

Do you believe in the message of this paper? Do you believe in our ministry through the printed page? Every contribution you make helps to keep this paper in the mails in behalf of prisoners, missionaries, preachers, soldiers, and shut-ins. Your support today will be most deeply appreciated.

Since the last issue of this paper, the following friends have been heard from:

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Buchanan, Ky.	
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Burns,	2.00
Buchanan, Ky.	
Mrs. Francis J. Foley, Jr.,	2.00
Hartford, Conn.	
Leslie Harlow,	1.00
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Mrs. Maurice Evans,	5.00
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This leaves our debt as of August 4, \$2531.74.

May I Bring My Friend?

(Continued from page one)
is your friend?"
"He is the Lord Jesus Christ!"
"Well," came the reply, "I don't think He would enjoy it!"
"Then," said Dr. Wilson, "neither would I."—Christian Life.

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