

# It's Time For Southern Baptists To Choose Sides

By W. B. Davidson  
Tampa, Florida

Obadiah 1:11.

Obadiah's message was directed against Edom, the descendants of Esau. The Lord pronounced a curse upon Edom (Malachi 1:4). Esau represents the worldly or fleshly while Jacob represents the spiritual man. We read in Galatians 4:29, "But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now."

The Lord charges Edom, Esau's descendants, with persecuting Jacob's descendants. Consider what the Lord says to Edom: "In the day that thou stoodest on the other side—even thou wast as one of them." Edom was numbered with the persecutors, robbers, and murderers of Jacob's descendants, because he stood on the other side—the wrong side.

In our text we find four things for our consideration; namely, choose the right; champion the right; condemn the wrong; and come to repentance.

A person who refuses to choose the right or who fails to separate himself from the wrong is a transgressor.

A person who knows the right and is afraid to champion it is a coward.

A person who condemns a matter should have something better to offer.

With these remarks let us now consider the matter of:

## I. CHOOSING SIDES:

"Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide."

Every person must make his own choice: "... choose ye this day whom ye will serve..." (Joshua 24:15).

Jesus says: "He that is not for me is against me..." (Matthew 12:30).

Every person is responsible for choosing the right side of a question. The responsibility to choose sides and the responsibility to choose the right side are equally important.

Edom stood on the other side—the side of the wrong—and was counted as an evil doer. It appears that Edom just stood

by—made no protest, offered no objection to the evil being done to Jacob and God counted Edom an enemy of Jacob.

## TO MAKE NO DECISION IS TO BE NUMBERED WITH THE TRANSGRESSORS.

When Jacob's enemies came to murder, pillage, and carry away captive, Jacob's property and people, Edom made no protest, offered no assistance to Jacob; therefore God numbered Edom with the enemies of Jacob.

Edom became an enemy of truth and righteousness by refusing to take a definite stand for the right.

## II. CHAMPION THE RIGHT:

It is not enough to choose the right, we are to champion the right. We are to defend the right and expose the wrong.

When Jacob was being robbed and enslaved, Edom should have come to his aid. But Edom did nothing to help, but rather lent aid and comfort to the enemy.

Edom was guilty of helping the ungodly, and loving them that hated the Lord; and wrath

from the Lord came upon him (II Chronicles 19:2).

James reminds us that "To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17).

For a person to know what is right and then refuse to champion the right makes him a sinner.

## III. CONDEMNING THE WRONG:

"Ye that love the Lord, hate evil..." (Psa. 97:10a). God's people are commanded to hate evil. Edom should have hated the pillage, the murder, and the captivity of Jacob by his enemies. Did he? No, Edom stood by! He offered no protest, he did not seek to help Jacob. He tried to be neutral.

Edom did not take as much as a shoe string from Jacob. He never lifted the weight of his little finger to afflict Jacob, so far as the record goes; but God numbered Edom as one of Jacob's enemies because he failed to protest or offer any resistance to Jacob's enemies.

## IV. CALLING FOR REPENTANCE:

Edom showed no evidence of repentance. He manifested no willingness to change his attitude towards Jacob's enemies. He seemed to be willing for conditions to continue as they were—he would just stand by; do nothing, just let Jacob's property and people suffer.

There was a great need for Edom to repent, lest sin be his ruin.

## THE APPLICATION:

There is a present-day application of Edom's conduct toward Jacob and his enemies. God surely requires His people to protest against evil practices. Consider Ezekiel 33:8-9, "when I say unto the wicked, etc..."

What about James 4:17?

Are Baptists justified in their continued silence concerning the methods used by the Cooperative Program in expending the money sent to it by Southern Baptist churches?

Should Baptists continue to support the Cooperative Program, when it includes the work of modernism and the Federal (Continued on page three)

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

# The Baptist Examiner

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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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## Things Christians Are Not Called To Do

By ROY MASON  
Tampa, Florida

Same is true in the cause of Christ.

Some church members want to do the things they are not told to do, and others don't seem to want to do anything. It is hard to figure out which of these two classes constitute the greatest hindrance. Suppose a person should go to work for a certain company—the very first thing he would need to know would be the nature of his duties. For that person to jump in and do things unauthorized for him to do, might be actually harmful, and to loaf around and do nothing would certainly be of no profit.

We are always fearful when people come and join our church from a highly organized church where everybody is kept busy "doing something." When such persons have the "activity" or the "talking" bee in their bonnet, they are almost certain to become dissatisfied and leave our church sooner or later. No amount of conversions or missionary effort or anything else will satisfy them. What they want is not results—they want to see wheels go 'round. They would be better contented in a church loaded with heresy, and (Continued on page four)

## WHAT WOULD YOU THINK...

of a soldier, away from home, who vociferously claimed to dearly love his wife, but who would not read her letters to him? Or what would you think (Continued on page four)

## SCANTLAND WRITES

Corydon, Ind.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I moved here last Feb. 1st and I was shocked to find no Baptist church in this county. I found an old Baptist church building out 6 miles, 30x45 feet. It was deeded to the Baptists years ago but they have had no regular services there for 40 years. I have been preaching 4 and 5 times a week over the county in schoolhouses, homes and in the courthouse. I have found about 30 Baptists. We plan to organize a church in July. We are trying to raise enough money to fix up the old church. It will cost 500 or 600 dollars. We have \$160 and are getting the lights in this week.

I thought you might be interested in this great missionary field. If I could get thirty churches or individuals to give 10 or 20 dollars each we could get the building in good shape. If you would care to mention it in your paper or before your people, I believe the Lord will (Continued on page four)

## The First Baptist Pulpit

### "HOW TO BE PERFECT"

"For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."—Heb. 10:14.

I think, beloved, from this text and from other texts which I shall read to you in abundance, that you can see from the Word of God how you can be perfect.

I

## THERE IS NO PERFECTION IN THE SINNER.

Before a man is saved there is no possible perfection about that individual. I should not

need to say it, yet, beloved, over and over again I find it increasingly necessary to repeat statements that people should have grasped long ago. Therefore, I insist that there is no perfection in the individual who has never trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour, who has never yet come to a knowledge of the Son of God as his Redeemer. In fact, the Word of God, in contrast, tells us exactly the opposite.

"As it is written, There is NONE RIGHTEOUS, NO, NOT

ONE: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is NONE THAT DOETH GOOD, NO, NOT ONE."

—Rom. 4:10-12.

"For ALL HAVE SINNED, and come short of the glory of God."—Rom. 3:23.

"But the Scripture hath concluded ALL UNDER SIN, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them (Continued on page two)

## You'll Only Receive One More Issue Of This Paper After This One If You Fail To Send In The Coupon On Page Four

Beginning with the issue of July 15, announcement has been made in each issue as to the revision of our subscription list, as follows:

Feeling certain that there are many now receiving this paper who do not care for it, and furthermore, acting in the interest of economy, we are revising our mailing list effective as of August 5, 1950.

Sometime ago our office was broken into and many personal items were destroyed. At that time our entire mailing list was stolen. Accordingly, we do not know when any subscription expires and many doubtlessly are receiving the paper whose subscription has already expired.

In this issue and in the next will appear on page four a coupon. Fill out one of these and mail it to us before August 5. I regret to have to ask you to do this, but it is the only way we can bring our mailing list up to date.

If we fail to hear from you by

August 5, of necessity your paper will be stopped. We will assume that you do not care for it any longer and thus discontinue it. We don't want to lose a single subscriber, and we urge everyone to immediately cooperate with us.

It will only cost you 3c to do this whereas it is costing us many dollars weekly to proceed as we are. I want to continue my weekly visits to your home, but unless I hear from you by August 5, I must assume that I am an unwelcome guest, and I won't come to see you any longer.

Please send in your coupon TODAY!

## A REAL REVIVAL

NOW, IF ALL...

The SLEEPING members wake up, (Jonah 1:6; Eph. 5:14).  
The LUKEWARM fire up, (Rev. 3:15-16).  
The DISHONEST confess up and pay up, (Rom. 13:7-8).  
The DISGRUNTLED sweeten up, (John 15:9-12).  
The DISCOURAGED cheer up, (John 14:1-6).  
The DEPRESSED look up, (Psalm 121).  
The ESTRANGED make up, (Gal. 6:1-2).  
The GOSSIPERS shut up, (Matt. 5:11-12).  
The HYPOCRITES clean up, (Matt. 13:13-20).  
The BACKSLIDERS pull up, (Hosea 11:7; 14:4).  
The DRY BONES shake up, (Ezek. 37:1-10).  
The TRUE SOLDIERS stand up, (Eph. 6:10-17).  
The CHURCH MEMBERS pray up, (2 Chron. 7:14).  
THEN WE CAN SAY WE HAVE HAD A REAL REVIVAL!

—First Baptist Informer



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ments are made.

"How To Be Perfect"

(Continued from page one)  
that believe."—Gal. 3:22.

"Wherefore, as by one man  
sin entered into the world, and  
death by sin; and so death pass-  
ed upon all men, for THAT ALL  
HAVE SINNED."—Rom. 5:12.

I tell you, beloved, there is no  
spiritual perfection in the man  
outside of Jesus Christ. Every  
once in a while I hear some-  
body speak of some unsaved  
person who possibly is an indi-  
vidual of good morals, and it  
will be said that that person is  
a good man, or it will be said  
that he is a good-hearted man.  
Let me tell you tonight, there  
is no man good, there is no man  
good-hearted, there is no good  
about any of us until we are  
saved. Sinner friend, I would  
impress it upon your mind to-  
night that there is no possible  
perfection about you until you  
come to know Jesus Christ as  
your Saviour.

We have a remarkable illus-  
tration of this in the experience  
of Jesus with the rich young  
ruler. This rich young ruler  
came running to Jesus, saying,  
"Good Master, what shall I do  
that I may inherit eternal life?"  
Jesus enumerated to him the  
commandments, to which he re-  
plied, "All these have I observ-  
ed from my youth." Jesus knew  
that he hadn't. The Son of God  
knew that this man had not  
kept all of these command-  
ments. He knew that the man  
possibly thought within himself  
that he was perfect. Jesus used  
one of these commandments as  
a test for him, and said to him,  
"Go thy way, sell whatsoever  
thou hast, and give to the poor,  
and thou shalt have treasure in  
heaven: and come, take up the  
cross, and follow me." Im-  
mediately this rich young ruler  
showed that he had even been  
violating the first of these com-  
mandments, for he loved his  
gold more than he loved his  
God. That gold which might  
have become a golden key to  
unlock Heaven for him, became  
a golden bar that shut fast the  
Kingdom of God against his  
soul. Even though he boasted  
of his perfection, and though he  
told our Lord that he had kept  
all of the commandments, when  
Jesus tested him, it was found  
that he hadn't even kept the  
first commandment, that he was  
far from perfection in the sight  
of God.

Beloved, if Jesus had put him  
to the test on everyone of the  
commandments, the results  
would have been the same. The  
same is true with you tonight.  
The same is true with every  
person within this world. If  
He were to put you to the test  
regarding the commandments  
of the Lord, there isn't an indi-  
vidual but what would be proven  
a law-violator, a law-break-

er, concerning everyone of the  
commandments of Almighty  
God. I tell you, beloved, there  
is no such thing as perfection in  
the sinner, even though the sin-  
ner may claim it.

I have been amazed in the  
years of my ministry as to how  
many people whom I have met,  
who have claimed that they  
were living perfectly, even  
though they were unsaved. It  
seems impossible, yes, utterly  
impossible, that any individual  
could be so muddled spiritually  
and could be so Biblically con-  
fused as to believe that he was  
living perfectly in this life, yet  
I have met dozens of persons  
who thus claimed that they  
were perfect, and that they had  
no need of God nor salvation.  
Brother, sister, I tell you to-  
night, in the light of the Word  
of God, such an individual is to  
be pitied, for there is no perfec-  
tion in the sinner.

II

THERE IS NO FLESHLY  
PERFECTION IN THE PRO-  
FESSING CHRISTIAN.

Even though you are saved,  
your flesh is just as far from  
perfection as it was the day be-  
fore you were saved. To tell  
you the truth, there isn't a sin  
in this world that you aren't  
capable of committing, other  
than sinning against the Holy  
Spirit. The only sin that a  
Christian can't commit is the  
unpardonable sin—the sin  
against the Holy Spirit. Your  
flesh is just as far from perfect  
as it was before you were sav-  
ed. Listen:

"For that which I do, I allow  
not: for what I would, that do  
I not; but what I hate, that do  
I. If then I do that which I  
would not, I consent unto the  
law that it is good."

—Rom. 7:15,16.

Isn't that your experience,  
Christian friend? Why, beloved,  
there isn't a person here to-  
night that would dare to say  
that his experience is different  
from the experience of Paul.

You may remind me of the  
fact that one of your neighbors  
went to a revival meeting and  
got the second definite work of  
grace, and another got bap-  
tized by the Holy Spirit, and  
that a third got baptism of  
fire, and a fourth got the  
baptism of tongues. You may  
tell me how these individuals  
say that they do not sin and  
that they have positive fleshly  
perfection. Beloved, when you  
have gotten through with all  
that you have to say, I'll fall  
back on the Word of God, when  
Paul says:

"For I know that in me (that  
is, in my flesh), dwelleth no  
good thing: for to will is pres-  
ent with me; but how to per-  
form that which is good I find  
not."—Rom. 7:18.

Beloved, you may believe  
what your neighbors say if you  
please, but I am taking what  
the Word of God says; and  
when I fall back on the Word  
of God, I am brought face to  
face with this fact, that there is  
no fleshly perfection in the pro-  
fessing Christian.

Listen to Paul's own experi-  
ence, when he says:

"O wretched man that I am!  
who shall deliver me from the  
body of this death?"

—Rom. 7:24.

As I have said many times,  
beloved, there is an underlying  
Oriental picture for this text.  
One common method of punish-  
ing a criminal was to chain a  
dead body, or corpse, unto the  
body of a live man, so that the  
face of that corpse was next to  
the face of the criminal and the  
feet of the corpse were chained  
to the criminal's feet. Every-

Aquaint NOW thyself  
with God and be  
at peace :  
thereby good shall  
come to thee"

JOB. 22:21



"Therefore being  
justified by faith  
we have peace  
with God thru  
our Lord  
Jesus Christ"

ROM. 5:1

PEACE AT LAST

where that that prisoner went  
he had to carry with him that  
corpse, and it always meant  
this, that the stench of the pu-  
trifying body of flesh usually  
brought death to the individual  
that carried that body of death  
about with him.

I tell you, beloved, Paul look-  
ed upon his own spiritual con-  
dition something like this, for  
he said, "Who shall deliver me  
from the body of this death?"  
Paul looked upon his flesh as  
a dead body that his soul was  
daily carrying about.

Brother, sister, whether you  
realize it or not, your flesh to  
your spirit is as obnoxious and  
as repulsive and as much a  
hindrance as it would be for  
you to have a dead body chained  
to the body in which you live  
from day to day. There isn't  
any fleshly perfection for a  
Christian. A Christian has no  
more possibility of fleshly per-  
fection than an unsaved man  
who has never trusted in Jesus  
Christ.

I suppose that there isn't a  
week that goes by but what I  
meet some individual who tells  
me that he is perfect. There  
was one man who made a pro-  
fession of faith several months  
ago, so he said, who told me a  
few days ago that he had gone  
far beyond what I have attain-  
ed unto in nearly thirty years  
of Christian experience. He  
said that in just a few months'  
time he had gotten rid of his  
fleshly nature and that he had  
never had a temptation nor an  
unholy desire in these months  
that he had been saved. Be-  
loved, the Lord Jesus Christ  
saved me when I was seventeen  
years of age and I have tried to  
serve Him ever since. That man  
in seven months has gotten far-  
ther by his profession than I  
have in nearly thirty years  
time. You may believe him if  
you wish, but I am going to be-  
lieve the Word of God, when  
Paul says, "For I know that in  
me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing."

III

WE HAVE A PERFECT  
SAVIOUR.

Though there is no perfection  
in the sinner, and though there  
is no fleshly perfection in pro-  
fessing Christians, we do have  
a perfect Saviour. Would to  
God that I, in my imperfection,  
might paint for you a verbal  
picture of the perfection of my  
Lord. Jesus Christ, beloved, is  
positively perfect in every par-  
ticular.

"I was cast upon thee from  
the womb: thou ART MY  
GOD FROM MY MOTHER'S  
BELLY."—Psa. 22:10.

There never was but one that  
could make that utterance and  
that was Jesus Christ. You  
couldn't say it, and neither  
could I, that from the hour of  
birth God had been first within

your life and mine. I know that  
there isn't a person here who  
could say that from the very  
moment of his birth that he had  
lived a perfect life before God,  
but, beloved, Jesus Christ could  
say it. I thank God tonight that  
I can say that there is a per-  
fection in the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul makes it  
clear that Jesus Christ is per-  
fect, for we read:

"For he hath made him who  
knew no sin to be sin for us,  
that we might be made the  
righteousness of God in him."

—II Cor. 5:21.

The Apostle Peter declares  
the same to be true, for he says:

"For as much as ye know that  
we were not redeemed with  
corruptible things, as silver and  
gold, from your vain conversa-  
tion received by tradition from  
your fathers; But with the pre-  
cious blood of Christ, as of a  
lamb WITHOUT BLEMISH  
AND WITHOUT SPOT."

—I Pet. 1:18,19.

"For such a high priest be-  
came us, who is holy, harmless,  
undefiled, separate from sin-  
ners, and made higher than the  
heavens."—Heb. 7:26.

Manufacturers desire to state  
that the product that they  
manufacture has never been  
touched by human hands and  
therefore isn't contaminated,  
and thus is perfect. We are all  
familiar with that slogan—  
"99 44/100% pure." Beloved,  
I have something better to of-  
fer to you in Jesus Christ. When  
I hold up the Son of God to you  
in contrast to the sinner man  
who has no perfection and in  
contrast to those of us who are  
professing Christians who have  
no fleshly perfection, I am glad  
that I can say that the Lord  
Jesus, whom I offer to you as  
Saviour, is 100% perfect and  
pure in the sight of God.

IV

ALL CHRISTIANS ARE  
SPIRITUALLY PERFECT.

The sinner isn't perfect and  
even those of us who are pro-  
fessing Christians are not per-  
fect in our flesh, but, beloved,  
we have a perfect Saviour, and  
because of our perfect Saviour  
all Christians are spiritually  
perfect in the sight of God. Lis-  
ten to my text:

"For by one offering he hath  
PERFECTED for ever them that  
are sanctified."—Heb. 10:14.

I am glad that by that one of-  
fering at Calvary, Jesus Christ  
has perfected us forever. I am  
glad, beloved, that that is my  
experience, and I am glad that  
it is yours, that is, if you are  
saved. You don't feel perfect  
and you aren't perfect in your  
flesh, but brother, sister, if you  
are saved, then God looks down  
upon you and sees you made  
perfect because that perfect  
Substitute, Jesus Christ, has

given Himself as a sacrifice for  
your sins and died in your  
stead.

This helps us to understand  
the Scripture when Paul says:

"For he hath made him who  
knew no sin to be sin for us,  
that we might be made the  
righteousness of God in him."

—II Cor. 5:21.

This would tell us that God  
took our sins and put them over  
on Jesus Christ, and now God  
takes Jesus' righteousness and  
puts it over on us, so that the  
Son of God went to Calvary  
bearing our sins and we go  
about every day bearing the  
righteousness of the Lord Jesus  
Christ. I am glad that when  
God sees me, He doesn't see  
me as a dirty, filthy, repul-  
sive sinner that I am in my  
flesh; rather He sees me made  
perfect in the Son of God, His  
own blessed Son and my Sav-  
iour.

We have another Scripture  
which tells us the same truth.  
Listen:

"We know that whosoever is  
born of God sinneth not; but he  
that is begotten of God keepeth  
himself, and that wicked one  
toucheth him not."

—I John 5:18.

Beloved, your flesh hasn't  
been born of God, for it is just  
as capable of sinning now as it  
ever was, but that new nature  
that God put inside of you the  
day that He saved you—that  
new nature has been born of  
God and it sinneth not. My  
new nature is just like the Holy  
Rollers say their old nature is  
—perfect in the sight of God. I  
wish my flesh were as perfect  
as my spiritual nature. The day  
that I saw the truth that my  
Saviour at Calvary died for my  
sins, that as a perfect Substitute,  
who never sinned, He went to  
Calvary and gave Himself as a  
Sacrifice for me—the day that I  
saw that truth I was saved and  
my perfect Substitute covered  
me with the robe of His own  
perfect righteousness, so that  
now I have not only a robe of  
perfect righteousness but I have  
within me a perfect spiritual  
nature, the nature of God Him-  
self. Beloved, I am glad that  
my new nature is perfect in  
Him.

Don't you want to be perfect?  
Thank God, I am perfect. I  
have already told you that I am  
not perfect in the flesh, but, be-  
loved, I am perfect in that new  
nature that I received the day  
that my perfect Saviour became  
my Redeemer. I tell you to-  
night, every saved man is al-  
ready made perfect in the Lord  
Jesus Christ.

Beloved, I have a perfection  
that is going to last forever. The  
Holy Rollers say that they are  
perfect today, but that they  
may sin tomorrow. That is the  
most inconsistent religion that  
(Continued on page three)



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Through Missionary Efforts Of Brandon  
The Light Is Left Burning In Brazil

By J. F. BRANDON

In my reflections over the past I am prone to become weary and discouraged. But as I walk out over the broad grassy meadow in the late afternoon of today, old memories returned and seemed to invigorate my soul. When we lived in Codajaz many years ago, the people were stirred in a great interest in the Gospel. They attended the preaching services in our home and the homes of others every night for many months, until in fact there was no one in all the community that had not heard. After the church was organized and well under way in the work of the Lord, there was an interest created among the young people in learning to read and the Bible was chosen as the text book. My wife's contribution to this was far more than my own. After returning from three months journey up river, I was surprised to see the progress they had made. Many had learned to read from attending these reading lessons of the Bible in our home. But learning to read was not the principle blessing, for as I recall it now, every one who learned to read was sooner or later converted. While in Manaos a few years ago I met some little children in the home of one of the missionaries. I ask them who they were and when they told me, well did I remember

that their mother had learned to read there in our home and was later converted. Their mother and father were both dead and they were being cared for in the home of the missionary because they were so bright and spiritual. However small, not over 15 years of age, yet they were advanced in the Scriptures having been taught by their mother in the Sunday School in Codajaz. Long before that however, we had a men's Bible class in our home every morning, where the Scriptures were studied and then the Lord was sought in prayer by those taking part. As I recall, the victories won in prayer were not a few. The Lord endeared Himself to us there and those men got the habit of daily Bible reading and prayer. On one occasion while on a journey, the boat stopped at a small port in a lake not far from Codajaz. This was many years after we had moved from Codajaz. A man embarked, it was late in the afternoon and as night drew near the man sought to be alone. That I would not have noticed if later he had not reappeared with his Bible in hand looking for a quiet place to read it. Later I sought him for conversation. He did not recognize me, for I was much fleshier than I had been in former years. He sighed as he spoke of those good days in

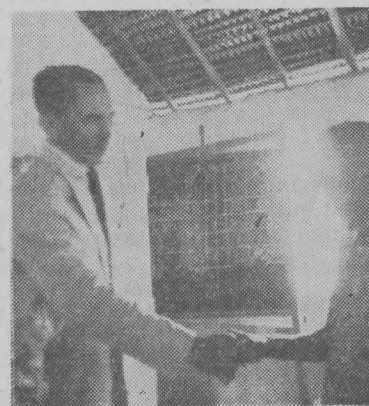
(Next page, Column Three)

PICTURES OF WORK  
IN BRAZIL

This man and wife were saved in a meeting in a home. They are waiting baptism.



Three women recently saved. The old lady on the right is the one who took her crucifix off and threw it on the ground.



An eighty year old man who was saved, shaking hands with the pastor. The Sunday School report is on the black board. Brother Santiago has known this man for 45 years and he is getting feeble.



This is another picture of the 80 year old man that was saved. The glare through the window caused the other picture of him shaking hands with the pastor to be blurred.

This Brazilian Letter Shows Lawrence  
Smith Is Really At Work For The Master

Manaos, Brazil  
June 17, 1950.

Dear Brother Overbey:

Today I received the \$200.00 draft dated June 13, number 6188 to be used for our trip to Cruzeiro do Sul for which we thank the Lord and you all. I am still waiting for the checks for the salaries which haven't come yet. The mail service for the last two months has been very bad for unregistered mail. Brother Hardy the Southern Baptist Missionary has been receiving his mail regularly. All official mail is registered. On the 15th we received a letter from mother and dad dated the 5th. To date I have received eight letters, which I calculate is all up to June 13th. We haven't as yet received the letter from Verna's aunt, written last month. The workers here in the Post Office are very careless with the regular mail. If I go to Cruzeiro do Sul by air I will have to go alone, for I don't think Brother Santiago will go by plane now. My trust is in the Lord and for this I am not afraid. I know He is with me always because I am in the center of His will, and when I pray and let Him lead, the result is always to His honor and glory. We may (the Lord willing) go in a launch to Cruzeiro do Sul. The Southern Baptist missionary has a launch that he doesn't use; he has quit making trips into the interior and we may be

able to rent it for around what it will cost to go on the boat. It will take only about half the time to go by launch. The steamboats, with paddle wheels in the back, go very slowly and stop every place to load and unload freight. There is some difficulty in making plane connections in Porto Velho. We can't make reservations here because the plane doesn't come here. If there happens to be room on the plane alright, if not we would have to wait two weeks for the next flight. There are only two flights a month.

## GOOD REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to give the report for the month. It seems that every month we are doing better with the help of the Lord. Our attendance is getting higher each month for the Sunday night service and also for Sunday School attendance and also for offerings. The weekly services at night are about the same. For the month there were three baptisms, eight professions, thirty-five services held and an average of thirty houses visited each day. Forty persons talked to and twenty-five Gospels given out and five tracts given out. All these numbers represent the average for each day for the past month. We all keep an account of our work to see how much we are doing. Some days it rains and other days we have personal business. (Next page, Column One)

Mission Checks For June Stolen And  
Forged, But Money Will Be Recovered

On May 31st we mailed the salary checks for June to the Missionaries to Brazil and Peru. We made a mistake and put the checks for Peru in the envelope addressed to Brother Smith in Manaos, Brazil. Then we put the checks for Brazil in the envelope addressed to Brother Hallum in Iquitos, Peru. Brother Hallum received the wrong checks and immediately returned them and we mailed them on to Brother Smith in Brazil. Brother Smith did not receive either the wrong ones or the right ones. The money is

sent in New York drafts similar to cashiers' checks. We notified the bank that the drafts had not been received and were perhaps stolen. The banker called us and said that the drafts had been cashed and returned and asked us to come in and see the signatures on them. They made photostatic copies and it was easy to see that the signatures were not real but forged ones. The bank is preparing affidavits for us to send for the missionaries to sign so that we can get our money back. Since the letters were sent by air mail, it seems that they were stolen in the post office in Manaos and then forged and sold on the open market to a man wanting American dollars. Other checks are being mailed to the missionaries so that they will have their salaries and not have to wait until we are refunded for the forged checks. Many and varied are the experiences in mission work. It will be interesting to know who is caught, if he is, and what is done with him for stealing mail and forging checks in Brazil. If we learn we will let you know in this paper.

HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT  
GUIDES IN MISSIONS

LEE RECTOR  
(Now In Glory)

In every truth honoring Church, the mind of the Holy Spirit is the mind of the body. I so assume in this article. In presenting this study, I assume that the Lord in His Word has supplied us all needful information on the character and (Next page, Column five)

Missionary R. P. Hallum, Working Alone In  
Peru, Needs Consecrated, Godly, Helpers

Brother R. P. Hallum, missionary in Peru for the past 15 years needs help. In fact Peru needs hundreds of missionaries. It is a hard job. It is a job that is one of sowing and waiting patiently for results. There are many places that have never heard the Gospel. Brother Hallum is quiet and unassuming and I often think that none of us really appreciate him as much as we should. In our opinion he's one of the Lord's choicest servants. He is sound to the core and a hard worker. He just keeps working at the job without a let up, day after day and as you read his reports you will notice that from time to time, here and there, one to three, four or more, trust the Lord Jesus as their Saviour. It seems to us that one of the greatest privileges that a young missionary could have, would be to go to Peru and profit by the great experiences of this man of God. In making a comparison, picture a young missionary going out without any one there to meet him and help him in the language and customs of the

people. Then picture in your mind a missionary going out and having R. P. Hallum to meet him and help him and advise him from his vast store house of experience. May it please the Lord to call some young couple to Peru to help Brother Hallum and carry on after he has to lay his armor down for departure to be present with the Lord.

## TWO APPLICATIONS

We now have two applications from preachers wanting to go to Alaska as missionaries, and from two preachers wanting to go to Brazil. Pray for these Brethren and that the Lord will send them if they are called by him. Also pray that the Lord will lay it on the hearts of the pastors and churches to give to send them out and support them. The ones who give are the ones who should pray. Pray that the Lord will enable you to give more and that He will lead others to give.



## 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.

## Smith Letter

(Preceding page, Column five)  
One old man 80 years old was saved last Sunday. He gave a wonderful testimony saying that he regretted that he hadn't received the Lord when he was young. The picture taken in the church shows him shaking hands with the pastor, Brother Santiago. This picture is not so good so I took another. Note the blackboard shows an offering of 102.44 Crs. which is the highest I have seen. Last month a young couple accepted the Lord in a night service in a home. The old lady on the right in the picture of the three was going to the store to buy meat on a Sunday morning and as she passed by the church, something (she said) told her to go in. So she went in and stayed through the service and when the pastor gave the invitation she accepted the Lord as Saviour. When I went to take her picture, she had a little cross tied around her neck with a string, she jerked the cross off and threw it on the ground saying she didn't have any more use for it now, that she was trusting the Lord to save her. For these experiences we praise the Lord.

## TEACHING AND PREACHING

Last Monday I began teaching the Evangelists and pastor the New Testament. They have been begging me to do this for some time now, but I tried to put it off until I returned from Cr. do Sul. We study in the mornings and have the afternoons to work in evangelism. It is the hottest part of the day but more people are at home.

## PREACHES FIRST SERMON

The first Sunday in June was my first time to preach a sermon in Portuguese. I surprised myself. The Holy Spirit was assisting me in the message and in the language. The text was John 19:19. "JESUS NAZARENO REI DOS JUDEUS," Jesus of Nazareth King of the Jews, the first written words of the New Testament. May the Lord continue to bless you in your work and be with you in your labors in Lexington.

Sincerely in His Service,  
Lawrence Smith

P. S. I paid each of the workers all but 200 Crs. of their salaries and wired them "Guarda faulta"—look forward to receive the rest when it is received for this month. Only two words in Portuguese and 13 in English to say the same thing. The young people are meeting every Tuesday and I am teaching them to sing. We have already begun to sing specials in the church services and they are learning fast. A month ago there wasn't a one that could sing anything but the tune, but now each one sings his part well. You can hear all four parts clearly. There is so much to report that it is nearly impossible to write a short letter. I am praying for a police guard while I am away. It costs 50 Crs. a month or less than two dollars. The police force has a special department for night guarding.

The pastor's daughter and

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JUNE 1950

Liberty Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio .....	\$ 21.12
Raiford Baptist Church, Raiford, Fla. ....	5.00
Tabernacle Baptist Church, Lewisburg, Ky. ....	50.00
Bellview Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky. ....	31.00
United Baptist Church, Muncie, Ind. ....	10.00
Liberty Point Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky. ....	31.66
Micanopy Baptist Church, Micanopy, Fla. ....	5.00
First Baptist Church, Stilwell, Okla. (By C. Lewis) ....	10.00
Oak Baptist Church, Royal Oak, Mich. ....	88.24
Macedonia Baptist Church, Ripley, Tenn. ....	10.00
South Side Baptist Church, Winter Haven, Fla. ....	55.00
Oak Grove Baptist Church, Hazel, Ky. ....	72.63
North Ballard Baptist Church, Wickliffe, Ky. ....	50.00
Liberty Baptist Church, Central City, Ky. ....	7.22
Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla. ....	31.90
Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla., (Hope Bible Class) .....	50.00
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky. ....	35.00
Loveland Baptist Church, Loveland, Ky. ....	10.00
Cleaton Baptist Church, Cleaton, Ky. ....	50.00
Madison Street Baptist Church, Rochester, Pa. ....	5.42
Big Creek Baptist Church, Wayne, W. Va. ....	7.50
Big Creek Baptist Church, Wayne, W. Va. (Jr. Class) ..	2.50
Fenton Road Baptist Church, Flint, Mich., (B.Y.P.U.) ....	5.00
Fish Springs Baptist Church, Carderview, Tenn. (Jr. Class)	5.00
Fish Springs Baptist Church, Carderview, Tenn., (Intermediate class) .....	6.00
Fish Springs Baptist Church, Carderview, Tenn. ....	9.50
Edmond Dempsey, Johnson City, Tenn. (Through Fish Springs Baptist Church) .....	4.00
New Hope Baptist Church, Dearborn, Mich. ....	25.07
Park Hill Baptist Church, Pueblo, Colorado ....	75.00
South Union Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky. ....	12.00
Ahava Baptist Church, Plant City, Fla. ....	45.00
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Hickory, Ky. ....	15.71
North Side Baptist Church, Mayfield, Ky. ....	38.58
Second Missionary Baptist Mission, Pennington Gap, Va. ....	2.27
First Baptist Church, White Plains, Ky. ....	15.00
Repton Baptist Church, Repton, Ky. ....	18.50
Seven Springs Baptist Church, Dycusburg, Ky. ....	23.77
South Side Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky. (B.Y.P.U.) ....	6.25
South Side Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky. ....	52.00
First Baptist Church, Russell, Ky. ....	75.95
Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich. ....	79.50
Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich., (for Church Building at Manassas) .....	28.00
Grace Baptist Church, Base Line, Mich (B.Y.P.U.) ....	2.87
Grace Baptist Church, Base Line, Mich. ....	45.80
Boyd's Hill Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky. ....	35.00
Second Baptist Church, Marion, Ky. ....	14.23
Second Baptist Church, Marion, Ky., (Adult Ladies B.T.U. Class) .....	6.55
Maranatha Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Mich. ....	13.81
Friendship Baptist Church, Lincoln Park, Mich. ....	26.40
H. L. Chadoin, Titusville, Fla. ....	20.00
T. G. Smith, Tallulah, La. ....	25.00
R. E. Murphey, Castor, La. ....	5.00
Mike M. Bailey, Hood River, Oregon ....	3.00
J. H. Kain, West Cape May, N. J. ....	10.00
Linwood M. Williams, Baltimore, Md. ....	5.00
Leslie Stephens, Whitley City, Ky. ....	5.00
Luther R. Upton, McLeansboro, Ill. ....	10.00
Miss Maude Hunet, Franklin, Ky. ....	5.00
Edith Mehaffey, Philadelphia, Pa. ....	5.00
B. R. Matheny, Clendenin, West Va. ....	5.00
Karl Sabiers, Los Angeles, Calif. ....	.65
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$1,424.60</b>

As the Lord leads you, send all offerings for mission work to the Treasurer of this Mission. It is best to send by check or money order. It is not safe to send cash in envelope. Place your return address on the corner of the envelope. Address:

Z. E. CLARK, Box 215, Cannelton, Indiana

another girl are working for us and are going to stay with Verna while I am away. Barbara Jean and I are getting along fine but Verna is having digestive trouble and can't eat much at a time without it hurting her. We are going to the doctor pretty soon. Last Sunday in her Sunday School the teacher made a statement that was wrong and Verna shook her head and when the teacher was through talking she ask Verna what was wrong and Verna explained that baptism is a picture or symbol and could not take away sins, etc. She gave the example of the thief on the cross who was saved without baptism. I have spent an average of two-thirds of each day working with Brother Santiago. You can know all the words of a language and still not know how to talk. Talking in a language is done by using words in a conversation and hearing them used, one can learn by hearing as well as by seeing. Most of the learning has been by hearing and that is the best way to

get the pronunciation correct.

Today is the 20th. Yesterday Al told me that he had not received his check for this month either. Al said that sometimes the Catholic priests influenced Catholic workers in the post office to throw away the regular mail of the "Protestant" missionaries. They can't get away with the registered mail that way. They tell me that it is very important that all important mail be registered. (Will register all letters in the future. Editor). The Catholic natives next door jabbed a stick into our big turkey gobbler and killed him. I cut him open and found it. They also stole our pig that Brother Santiago gave us, but it got out and came back. Not until last week have they been doing anything like this.

L. M. Smith

## Brandon Letter

(Preceding page, Column two)  
Codajaz and attended a Bible

school in the home of an American missionary. The story was complete as it was and I did not make myself known to him. Further along, when we were living in Coary, the men in the morning had a Bible study followed by prayer. The most of these men were newly converted and all of them later had a number of years of their lives consecrated to preaching and doing personal work. I recall eight in regular attendance, with half a dozen others who would attend when possible. We would take the Bible doctrines, such as: "Salvation by grace," "Salvation of the believer," "Repentance" and such doctrines. Then all the Scriptures in the New Testament that dealt with these subjects were sought out and memorized together with the chapter and verse. Our studies were complete and the Lord blessed our efforts wonderfully. Just a few years ago while sitting in a meeting of the State Convention in Manaus, one of the leading preachers from the south was discussing the Scriptures to a house filled with people. He failed to remember the verse he wanted to quote, when to his surprise and to others too, one of these brethren, now a preacher who was sitting near the front, arose and quoted the verse giving the chapter and verse. No one knew his past but he and I, and he did not know that I was there at the time.

Years after our Bible school in Coary, I came upon another one of these brethren who like Demas had gone back to the world and was then a peddler of general merchandise. When we had greeted one another and I was asking him about his life, he opened up the trunks that contained his merchandise and on top was his Bible. He said I do my best to read that to everyone I sell anything to, and give them some explanation from it where they will listen. He also said, I begin each day with prayer and before going to sleep at night I thank the Lord for all His blessings to me. From there we moved to Cruzeiro do Sul where we also enjoyed a Bible class in the home. The women also came together once each week for Bible study and prayer. For many years this was our custom there, in fact there are many who are able to discuss the Scriptures with any one. These best personal workers I ever saw came out of the church in Japiim. Until today no priest finds much pleasure where they are. In trying to convert someone to your views on religion you must know beyond all doubt that you have something better than he has, and be able to prove it by the Bible by explaining it in an interesting way. After we had finished our Bible study and prayer service we would often go into the market place and begin a discussion. People would gather around and listen. I would take the lead. I would go through the New Testament presenting the lesson we had just studied. They did not know that we had just studied it together at home. Often I would give place to one of the men to lead off or come in with Scriptures and they soon gained the confidence of the people as knowing the word. There are a score or more of these people on the Jurua River today. Some of them are being paid by you through our mission, the others working to sustain themselves and families. They love the word of the Lord and will go far in defense of it. These are the lights that flicker in the midst of the forest. None of

them are smart, but they have all proved themselves capable on many occasions in guiding lost souls to Jesus Christ where they found peace and rest.

## Holy Spirit

(Preceding page, Column One)  
the conduct of His Church-witness. I assume, as well as believe, that the Word of God alone can settle the way the Lord's Church does its work. I further assume that all genuine Baptists want our churches to carry on the way the Lord indicates they should.

## The Local Church, God's Lighthouse

The local church, God's Lighthouse, is the only agency the Lord has ever authorized to speak for heaven and to spread His Light, Matt. 16:19 and Matt. 18:18 and Matt. 28:19-20. Human agencies or assemblies look in vain in the Word for divine authorization to "preach the Word" and to administer the Lord's will for His Churches. The Holy Spirit, The Keeper Of The Church

The local Church was promised the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, Teacher, Testifier, Preacher, and Guide, to stand in it in the stead of our ascended Lord, John 14:16,17; John 14:26; John 15:26; and John 16:7-13.

The Holy Spirit came according to promise, and baptized the Church, and ended its members, and became its Superintendent, Acts 2:1-4. He is personally in charge of the release of the Church's light. He has ended and superintended all of the Lord's Churches from the Jerusalem Church down to the present. Thus, the gates of hell have not prevailed against it. Matt. 16:18 and Matt. 28:19-20.

It is thus clear from the Scriptures that the Lord committed the ministry of His Churches to the leadership, endowment, instruction, and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Yes, the Holy Spirit keeps the Lord's Churches. They do their work in and through Him. None should lose sight of this stupendous fact.

## The Holy Spirit Guides The Lord's Churches At Work

How does the Lord carry on His Church work today? Since the Lord changes not, Heb. 13:8, and since the Holy Spirit came to the Church to abide in it and with it forever, John 14:16-17, and since He alone has divine authority to speak for Christ, the Church's Founder and Head, John 16:3, we must conclude that the Lord carries on His work in His Churches today as at the beginning. Churches moving today as Apostolic Churches moved, can't be going wrong. Accordingly, we should follow the example set by the Apostolic Churches. The Lord shows us by example how to do His work. His program today, as yesterday, is a Church-centered and Holy Spirit-guided program.

I believe with all of my heart in churches keeping step together in missions. I believe we shall do so Scripturally, only when we subtract all human wisdom and expediency from our program, and lean trustingly on the Holy Spirit for absolute initiation, guidance, and control.

Editor's Note: Our churches could surely profit from these words of wisdom. We don't need Mission Boards, the Co-operative Program, nor any other man-made devices. We need to get back to the Word of God and the leadership of the Holy Spirit.



## "Choose Sides"

(Continued from page one)

Council of Churches? Here is the proof: From 1946 to 1948, according to the annual reports of the Foreign Mission Board, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has given to the following affiliates of the Federal Council of Churches, \$46,300.00 as follows: International Missionary Council \$9,800.00, to Student Volunteer Movement \$750.00, to Christian Colleges in China (these are not Baptist colleges) \$10,000.00, to Foreign Missions of North America \$25,750.00, making a total of \$46,300.00 handed over by the Foreign Mission Board without even consulting the Southern Baptist Convention! (While Southern Baptists Sleep—Alldredge).

Shall Baptists remain silent while the money they contribute to foreign mission work is handed over to organizations, who, if it were in their power, would destroy the Baptist churches?

How can Baptists continue to support an organization whose leaders are betraying them and delivering them over to an organization whose avowed purpose is to destroy the unity of Southern Baptist funds that were contributed to build up Baptist work?

Should Baptists support a program whose leaders take mission funds and erect "Baptist Student Centers" in our college towns and donate large sums of money to the churches in the college towns, while many parts of the State of Florida are destitute of the gospel?

According to the 1949 Florida Baptist Annual, we find the following facts and figures: Florida Baptist Convention Annual, 1949, Page 51, report on the B. S. U. house—University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, we quote in part as follows: "Finally, through gifts made by individuals and the State Board of Missions, real estate, etc., the corpus accumulation had reached \$62,560.64 by June 1, 1947."

"On September 1, 1948, the State Board voted to set aside sufficient funds from State Missions to complete the erection of the Baptist Student Center." "Expenditures on the building are as follows—total \$144,-

635.80."

The difference between \$62,560.64 and \$144,635.80 is \$82,075.16. This is the amount of mission funds used to erect a Baptist Student Union Building in a city where three Baptist churches are functioning! Why were \$82,075.16 of mission funds used to erect a house for the Baptist students when there are three Baptist churches in Gainesville? Brethren and sisters, is this Mission work? Two other Baptist Student Center buildings, are being erected at Miami and Deland at a cost of \$50,000.00 each. Is this Mission work?

On Page 53, 1949 Florida Baptist Convention Annual, under "Recommendations" we quote in part as follows:

"... In view of the needs of both Tallahassee and Deland, and with full intentions of carrying out the directive of the Convention, we recommend that we give each church \$25,000.00 counting what has already been given to each of the two churches against that stated sum: First, Tallahassee, \$13,000.00; balance \$12,000.00. Deland, first, \$13,000.00; balance \$12,000.00."

Why should \$50,000.00 be taken out of State Mission funds and given to these large city churches, who should be able to care for themselves, when there are churches over the state that are not able to build a roof over their head, nor to have full-time preaching; to say nothing about the un-churched communities in Florida.

The Baptist Home Mission Board has a reserve fund of \$800,000.00, to tide them over in case of a depression. Here are the words of the secretary, J. B. Lawrence in the March 1949 issue of "Home Missions": "We have money on hand but it is money specifically allocated and held in trust for which it is allocated. We have \$800,000.00 set up as an emergency fund, which is \$500,000.00 short of the amount recommended by the Convention. All the Convention agencies were instructed to set up adequate reserves against any contingency that might arise due to economic conditions. This fund is to prevent a debt in case there should be a depression and receipts fall off." There you have it! \$800,-

# Ideas For The Hell Box

The Hell Box is where all discarded metal—printer's mistakes and errors—is thrown, to be melted and remolded.



Popular misconceptions of religion that are deadlier than yesterday's type.

## "THE TRUE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS INVISIBLE AND UNIVERSAL"

By H. H. OVERBEY  
Detroit, Michigan

This misconception is one of the most deadly heresies taught about the church. Jesus said that He would build His church. The word church represents the Greek word "ekklesia." To find the meaning of this word we must find out how it was used and what it meant at the time that Jesus used the word. First of all Jesus did not coin the word as a new one. It was already in use and had a definite positive meaning. The word "ekklesia" in the New Testament means an assembly or congregation and neither are invisible or universal. The popular heresy of the "invisible church" is taught by those who want to place all the saved persons from Pentecost to the rapture in the bride of Christ. They don't want to join the church that Jesus built and be in the bride of Christ, but instead they want to invent an invisible body and make it to be the bride of Christ.

In the Bible we have the word church which means a local assembly or congregation as, "the church in thy house," Philemon 2; or "the church which was in Jerusalem," Acts 11:22. How can a church be invisible and be in a man's house, or in a particular city? How can a church be invisible and exclude members, I Cor. 5:11-13? How can a church be invisible and receive members, Rom. 14:1? How can one tell something to a church if it is invisible, Matt. 18:17?

In the Bible the word churches is used to refer to several local churches as, "the churches of Macedonia," I Cor 8:1. Also the word church is used as one would use the word "home" when referring to "the American home." That does not mean one big invisible or universal home. In the same sense is the word church used in Eph. 1:22-23, "the church which is his body." Just as "the American home" is representative of all the American homes, so the "church which is his body" is representative of all the local churches. Each local Baptist

church is a body of Christ and none others are.

It would be ridiculous to speak of an invisible church meeting together and having a division among them, I Cor. 11:18. John wrote to the seven churches of Asia calling them by name, and there were seven such churches in existence at that time. Why would John write to seven churches if the church is invisible and universal? If the church, the bride of Christ, is invisible then a man's wife is invisible. See analogy in Eph. 5:22-33. If the church is invisible, then a man's body is invisible. See analogy in I Cor. 12:14-26.

Mr. Scofield says in his notes at the bottom of page 1304 in the Scofield Bible: "The true church..." Now if the invisible church is the "true" church then the local churches are not "true" churches. If Christ is the true vine, John 15:1, then the other vines are not the true vines. So we will have to relegate Mr. Scofield's invisible church theory to the "Hell Box" because it is not taught in the Bible.

000.00 in an emergency fund while souls are perishing without the gospel!

An emergency fund of \$800,000.00 and what is being done for the Jews? What would they do with this money if Jesus should return? Money that should be used to preach the gospel and the Home Mission Board has it in an emergency fund to prevent a debt in case there should be a depression! Do the brethren think more of a depression than they do of the return of Jesus Christ? Do the words of Matthew 24:42 mean anything to the brethren? May God call Southern Baptists back to His Word and work.

On Pages 175-176 of the 1949 Florida Baptist Annual, we find the total salaries of the 37 workers to be \$119,000.00. Should there not be a consolidation of departments and a reduction in expenses if Florida Baptists intend to do any mission work? Remember this: before any mission work in Florida can be done, \$119,000.00 must be contributed for salaries for 37 employees! This does not include many other items of expense such as traveling expenses, etc.

The amount paid these workers is out of proportion to what these people would command in other places of business.

On Page 49, Florida Baptist Convention Annual 1949, we find that the Florida Baptist Convention has the following funds on hand:

"Our Emergency Surplus Fund."  
"As previously reported, this fund is as follows:  
United States Government Bond Fund ..... \$153,433.34  
Florida Baptist Foundation Fund ..... \$100,500.00  
Total ..... \$253,933.34"  
According to the 1947 Florida

Baptist Convention Annual, Page 27, this fund is called "Our Reserve Fund." The purpose of such a fund is said to "... safeguard the future of both work and workers as we face the possibility of lean years ahead..."

The leaders of the Florida Baptist Convention should read Matthew 6:19-20, which says: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth—but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven..."

The Florida Baptist Convention believes in laying up treasures on earth, regardless of how many souls are unsaved in Florida.

The Florida Baptist Convention desires to protect the jobs and the salaries of its workers if a depression should come. The average preacher and salaried church worker would take a decrease in salary if a depression comes, but the Convention, NEVER!

Shall Florida Baptists continue to give the Lord's money to a system that will take money that should be used to preach the gospel and build "Baptist Student Centers" which are about as necessary as a fifth wheel on a wagon? Shall Baptists give thousands of dollars to large churches in college towns to erect educational buildings; while many souls in Florida are perishing daily, and many churches have no houses in which to meet for worship?

Shall Florida Baptists continue supporting the Cooperative Program when the officials of the Convention have invested a quarter of a million dollars in government bonds which should be used to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ in the State of Florida?

(Continued on page four)

## "How To Be Perfect"

(Continued from page two)

I ever knew, for a man to be good enough today that he is perfect and can't sin, and then tomorrow he has sinned enough that he has lost his salvation. Beloved, that isn't the kind of perfection that I have, and if you are saved, that isn't the kind that you have. The Word of God says that "by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."

I am glad that I can present to you imperfect people a perfect Saviour, who is able to redeem you from all sin and who is able to make you perfect in the Lord Jesus Christ. What a wonderful Redeemer is ours, who not only saves you, but thereby makes you perfect forever, so that as long as you live, you are still perfect in the sight of God! Though your flesh sins and though your old nature is imperfect, you have a nature on the inside that is perfect, so perfect that even the Devil can't put his hand upon you. Thank God for our perfection in the Lord Jesus Christ!

May God bless you!



## HOW DO NARCOTICS

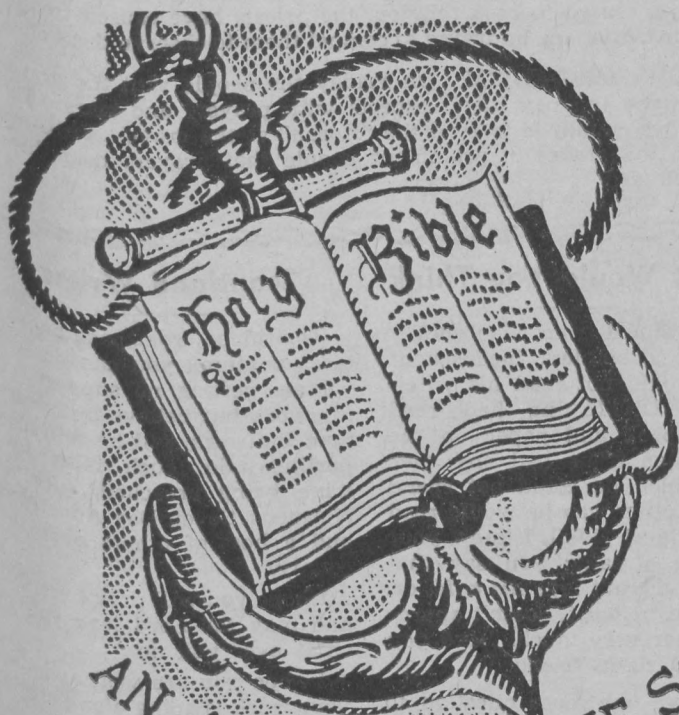
and other dope-containing products fit into the picture of the last days of this world? The Seal of God and The Mark of The Beast explains this.

CLARENCE O. BAKER  
2810 Denver Blvd.  
Pueblo, Colorado

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE THREE

JULY 29, 1950



AN ANCHOR OF THE SOUL  
BOTH SURE AND STEADFAST



## "Choose Sides"

(Continued from page three)  
HOW LONG SHALL FLORIDA BAPTISTS, YEA, SOUTHERN BAPTISTS, BE DOMINATED BY A SMALL GROUP OF MEN WHO DO NOT REPRESENT TRUE BAPTISTS?

### THE CURE:

What is the remedy for all this confusion and mismanagement and unbaptistic practices by the Convention? How can we stop this abuse; this evil? There is only one remedy—cut off the funds! Refuse to support this unscriptural machine—cut off the oil!

Let Baptists withhold their funds from these unbaptistic objects and organizations and the Convention will once more take its place as a servant of the churches, rather than try to be their boss as it has been these many years!

Baptists, while you have the opportunity to act, I beseech you to do so. While you are free, ACT, lest the shackles of a heartless machine grind you under its wheels and you become helpless to do anything about the matter!

Fellow Baptists, servants of the living God, arise and assert your God-given rights and privileges. Magnify the churches of Jesus Christ. There is no Scriptural authority for the Boards and Conventions dictating, controlling, and dominating the churches and ministers. Our Lord gives the New Testament method of doing mission work. You will find it in the book of Acts, Chapters thirteen and fourteen. If our Lord had desired another method, He would have organized the Apostles into a board, but He did no such thing. The churches were magnified in the New Testament. When a problem was to be settled, it was carried to the church (Acts 15:22). "Then it pleased the apostles and elders, with the whole church..."

When missionaries were to be sent forth the church sent them out (Acts 13:1-3). "Now there were in the church (not in the board meetings) that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said (to the church). Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away."

The Holy Ghost may call a man to be a foreign missionary, but under the Southern Baptist Convention setup, the man must go before the Foreign Mission Board and the Board decides whether or not the Holy Ghost made a mistake! Unless the man is a certain age, they won't send him, God or no God! He must have certain educational qualifications, or the Board won't send him—regardless of the call of the Holy Spirit!

God may call a person to China, but if the quota is filled for China, God evidently would not know about it! The Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention would need to correct His mistakes!

When will Baptists turn back to the Word of God? When will Baptists turn from these unscriptural organizations and un-

baptistic practices, and obey God's Word and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit?

When the missionaries returned they reported to the church (not to the board) what the Lord had done with them. "And when they were come, and had gathered THE CHURCH together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles" (Acts 14:27).

### CONCLUSION:

Shall we abide by the New Testament doctrines and practices, or shall we seek to bring back the ark in a "new cart?"

There are some of you who will stand up on your hind feet and repudiate this ungodly practice or organization and a program seeking to dictate the policy of the church and ostracize those who refuse to abide by its decisions.



## Things Not Called To Do

(Continued from page one)

with practically no one saved, and doing nothing for missions, but with a lot of running to and fro, and with opportunity for "spieling," than they would be in a church that was sound in the faith, carrying on a great and fruitful ministry, but without so many wheels.

Now before we deal with the work to which the ordinary Christian is called, let us first notice some of the things to which the Lord has positively not called the ordinary believer.

He has not called the ordinary believer to the ministry. For the public proclamation of the gospel, and for the spiritual leadership of churches, God calls certain men. He never calls a woman, for the New Testament preachers were men, and the qualifications mentioned about "being the husband of one wife" is impossible for a woman. Note some Scriptures: (Ephes. 4:11-16). These men are "gifts" of God to the churches.

No person has any business preaching (in the strict sense of the term) unless he is called of God, or has some conviction that the Lord is seeking to lead

him into the work of the ministry. We don't believe in "lay preachers." We don't believe in this so-called training of young people to get up and "speak." If God calls them they will speak, and they will take training along that line. The whole B. T. U. scheme is a violation of God's holy office of preacher. It trains women to violate the Scriptures, and trains people to usurp the office of pastor and preacher.

To take to the pulpit when not called of God, is to usurp the office to which God sovereignly calls men. Do you want to know how God feels about a man taking over the functions of a ministry to which God hasn't called him? Read the following Scriptures and find out: I Sam. 13:8-14.

Neither should church members take out of the hands of those called of God, the leadership of a church. That often happens. God calls a man—sends him to a certain field, then often there are those that presume to know more about the running of the church than the man who was sent to lead. One of the chief evils of this day is that very thing—members usurping the place of the minister. If God wanted them to run things, why didn't he call them? Churches around Tampa have changed pastors constantly for years largely because of trouble raisers who wanted to take the leadership out of the pastor's hands. No other business concern has little enough sense to choose a leader or executive, then let the clerks direct the business. Read again the following Scriptures to see how God Almighty views the usurping of the place to which he has not called. (Num. 16:1-3 and 31-34; also Numbers 12:12.

He has not called Christians to be entertainers. Many a church member gets to be expert at getting up parties. "Phunology" takes the place of "theology." All such as "church work" is a perversion. A church has no commission from God to amuse or entertain anybody. (See John 2:13-17 for the purpose of the place of worship).

We shall deal with the positive side in another article.

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## CHRISTIANITY AND NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS COMPARED

### ANCESTRAL WORSHIP

**CHRISTIANITY.** The teachings of the Bible concerning the sinful, depraved nature of man and the exclusive right of God to accept worship, excludes all thought of ancestral worship. Christians are not taught to expect any communication from deceased relatives nor that they will act as mediators for them before God.

**BRAHMANISM.** The Brahman, being one of the highest caste, gains almost infinite power over Hindu minds. He poses before them as an intercessor and promises that, after death, he will act as a forerunner for those who pay proper respect to him and will pave the way for them in the world to come.

**ONLY WHEN WE DIE TO ALL ABOUT US DO WE LIVE TO GOD ABOVE US.**

**HINDUISM.** The oldest son performs ceremonies at his father's death and others a year after. Once he must perform a pilgrimage to some sacred stream or lake to burn the "pind" to his father's manes. The neglect of this may seriously offend the father's spirit and cause him to take revenge on his forgetful son.

**IF YOU DO NOT CROWN JESUS LORD OF ALL, YOU REALLY DO NOT CROWN HIM AT ALL.**

**BUDDHISM.** Ancestral worship is a worship of fear. Departed spirits are believed to have greatly enlarged freedom and increased power, and the father especially must be honored or revenge will be forthcoming. It is estimated that the Chinese spend over \$150,000,000 annually on the worship of their ancestors.

**IF GOD HAS CALLED YOU, DON'T SPEND TIME LOOKING OVER YOUR SHOULDER TO SEE WHO IS FOLLOWING YOU.**

**TAOISM.** Ancestral worship in China has caused a great desire that a boy be born in each home, because girls cannot perform this ancestral rite. The eldest son often sleeps by his father's coffin for a time after death. Ancestral worship has produced a strong family tie. Disembodied spirits are believed to have the same general wants as when living on earth, and this worship attempts to supply that need.

**CONFUCIANISM.** Ancestral worship is the real religion of China. Confucianism has been its most ardent advocate. At the father's death, the eldest son places his name on a wooden tablet which is retained in the family for one or two generations. Offerings are made to it from time to time and pilgrimages are made to the tomb.

**IF WE WANT AN INCREASE OF CHRIST, THERE MUST BE A DECREASE OF SELF.**

**ZOROASTRIANISM** did not seem to teach the worship of ancestors, but it placed those who had been remarkably successful in life upon a pedestal in the hall of fame and pointed to them as illustrious examples, for all others to follow until they to arrive at the "resting place from which nobody can turn out the occupants."

**PARSEEISM** does not teach ancestral worship. Each individual possesses only one personality from birth throughout its entire existence. The fear of departed spirits is not a distinctive teaching of Parseeism.

**IF YOUR ALL IS IN THE LORD'S HAND, WHY BOTHER ABOUT WHAT "THEY SAY?"**

**SHINTOISM.** Ancestral worship, including the performing of rites to the memory of the so-called divine ancestors of the sovereigns of Japan, is a distinctive practice of Shintoism. Since Shintoism has ceased to be a religion, the priests have caused trouble for some Christians by trying to compel them to observe these rites.

**MOHAMMEDANISM.** On Friday the people visit the graves of relatives and pay their respects with prayers and tears. The priests are employed to read the "Koran" at the grave. Visits are paid to the graves of prominent people that prayers may there be made.

### What Would You Think

(Continued from page one)  
of one a bit less inconsistent who would not read his wife's letters UNTIL he had read every book and paper on the post, then if he had any time left which he could not spend in any other way he would read her letters? Well, I know your answer already; you say that soldier doesn't love his wife, or, else, he, at least, doesn't appreciate her very much. And you are SO right, friend.

I have one more question to ask you, and I trust you'll answer it in the same honest way; will you? What about one who claims to love GOD, but will not read His letters (the holy Bible) at all, or, if at all, not until everything else at hand is read and re-read? What's your answer, my brother in Christ?

—H. Boswell in "Mirror."

### Scantland Writes

(Continued from page one)  
bless anything you can do. I am getting no support for my work but believe in a year's time the work will be self-supporting. So much false doctrine being preached, such as Mormons, Seven Day Adventists, and a host of others over the county.

I hope you will pray over this and may the Lord lead you in what ever you do.

I hope you are well and that your work is going along nicely.

Yours in His name,  
W. S. Scantland  
R. 3, Corydon, Ind.



From Gen. 3:15 to Rev. 22:3 the truth of the Lord's second coming is like a silver cord running through all Scripture.