

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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## Was Jesus The Divine Son Of God?

By L. D. KENNEDY, Pastor  
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The Bible admonishes us to "magnify" the Lord Jesus Christ. We think of magnifying as enlarging. When in the science laboratory, we put a small animal, such as the amoeba or paramecium, under a microscope, we magnify it. Now we do not really alter the size of what we are observing, but by aid of these optical lenses the specimen becomes visible to the human eye, so that we can better understand its construction, make-up, etc.; and have a broader and deeper knowledge of it.

This is what is meant by magnifying Jesus. We cannot actually enlarge Him who is before and above all, and by whom everything that is was made. We cannot alter His nature, power, stature, or domain. But we can enlarge our own knowledge of Him whom to know aright is life eternal. Let us look at Him and examine Him through the powerful lens of the Word of God before which, all things are laid bare.

**Scriptures Undeniably Assert His Deity**

Modernists stumble over the accounts of the virgin birth as given in Matthew 1:18-24 and Luke 1:26-35. And knowing something of the Hebrew law of betrothal will make even more impressive the fact that Jesus was conceived before Mary and Joseph were married. In ancient Israel a betrothal (or engagement) was very binding. Since a contract was signed by the two parties which could only be voided by divorce, the boy and girl were often referred to as husband and wife. Yet the marriage vows were not said until a year had passed since the signing of the betrothal contract. During this year the boy and girl lived apart; and when they were allowed to see each other, it was usually under the watchful eyes of a chaperon.

Joseph was not the father of Jesus. When he learned that Mary was with child, he was deeply upset. No doubt this greatly blighted his dreams and plans for the future. As he tossed upon his bed, he must have wondered how this Jewish maiden whom he loved could

have so painfully deceived him. He wondered who the child's father was. But because of his love for her, Joseph could not bear to make public what he thought was Mary's shame, for then she would have suffered serious consequences under the Jewish Law. So he determined to put her away privately.

Finally Joseph fell asleep, and "the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost." And Joseph was obedient to the heavenly vision.

**Jesus Affirms His Deity**

It is worthy of note that when Jesus referred to anyone as his father, that one was always God, not Joseph.

No one has ever argued more strongly the deity of Jesus, than did He Himself! "I and my Father are one." (John 10:30). "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father." (John 14:9). In John 8:23-24, Jesus stated to the Pharisees that He was not of this world, but that He was from above. Moreover He charged them that they would die in their sins if they did not believe this. (Woe unto the Pharisaic Modernists of today!)

When Jesus was taken from the garden and brought before the high priest, the latter asked Him: "Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" Jesus knew that an affirmative answer would bring down the wrath of the Sanhedrin upon him, and that it would cause him to be charged with blaspheming God. But He must answer truthfully, so He said: "I am." "And they all condemn him to be guilty of death."

In Harry E. Fosdick's book, "The Peril of Worshipping Jesus," he sets forth the audacious claims that Jesus never

commended any for worshipping Him. I wonder what he thinks of the account in Matt. 16:13-17. When He asked Peter whom he thought Him to be, Peter worshipped Him in his great acknowledgment that "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus did not rebuke Peter, but on the contrary He blessed him! When Cornelius worshipped Peter, the latter said: "Stand up; I myself also am a man." When Peter worshipped Christ, the latter said: "Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona; for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven."

And as still further proof, Jesus made known the Father's wish "That all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He that honoreth not the Son honoreth not the Father which hath sent him." (John 5:23).

Harry Rimmer once asked a certain minister why he did not believe this doctrine because Matthew and Luke were the only writers in the New Testament who mentioned it (which is very incorrect), and because Jesus Himself never



The First Baptist Church of Russell, Kentucky, gives you a most cordial invitation to attend the Thanksgiving services at 8:30 o'clock Thursday morning, November 23, 1950.

## The First Baptist Pulpit

### "SOME CROWNS FOR THE BELIEVER"

"Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward."—II John 1:8.

In the Bible, salvation and rewards are clearly distinguished. However, beloved, they are confounded by casual readers of the Bible. Furthermore, the majority of the so-called preachers confuse salvation and rewards.

Sometime ago I stood just out on the corner from our church building and talked with a preacher of another persuasion. I asked him, in the course of the conversation, if he didn't believe that there would be some rewards for saved people

when they got to glory and he told me that we would all be on the same plane of equality in Heaven. This was his reason, that it would take all the works that any of us could ever do to take us into Heaven and there wouldn't be any left whereby we could be rewarded.

Of course, beloved, any man who believes in salvation by works would naturally believe as this so-called preacher said he did. I imagine that there are hundreds and thousands of such preachers who confuse salvation and rewards, and the result is that many, many thousands of church members are confused on the subject of salvation and rewards because of their own casual reading of the

Word of God and false teaching that they have received from the pulpit.

Let me show you a few Scriptures whereby you can see how these two great truths are linked together.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." — Eph. 2:8-10.

Any man who reads this passage of Scripture naturally realizes that we are not saved by our own works. At the same

We Wish You

A Most

Thankful

Thanksgiving



WE INVITE YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US

NOVEMBER 23, AT 8:30 A. M.

suggested such.

Rimmer asked the man to tell then what he did preach and teach.

"The Sermon on the Mount" the man replied.

In order to show this minister how absurd his conclusions were, Rimmer startled him by answering that he did not believe Jesus ever uttered a word of the Sermon on the Mount.

The minister, very astonished, now asked Rimmer to explain what he meant. The latter drove his point home when he reminded the minister that the Sermon on the Mount was mentioned only by Matthew and Luke. Of course Harry Rimmer is a firm believer in the virgin birth. He made this statement in order to show the deceived minister that one might as well deny the Sermon on the Mount as the Virgin Birth.

After closely questioning men who deny the deity of Christ, I have found that in each case the one questioned denied the inspiration of certain or all of the Holy Scriptures. And each time I wanted to cry out and ask who had made them a judge or a divider of the Word of God. If I did not believe what the Bible teaches about the virgin birth, I would not believe ANY of the Scriptures were inspired! If Christ's words about His deity are not to be trusted, then surely none of His teachings are safe to be

followed. Modernism is nothing but Infidelity in its early stage.

**Pre-Existence Proves His Deity**

By "pre-existence" we mean that Jesus existed before He was born in Bethlehem. He, like the Father and the Holy Spirit, has been from all eternity. Although this is a familiar teaching in the Bible, many of God's own people have given little thought to it.

Hear John's testimony to the pre-existence of Christ, who is the Eternal Word (Gr., Logos, Expression of God). "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him and without Him was not any thing made that was made." (John 1:1-3). Then in the 14th verse of the same chapter John clearly speaks of the Incarnation (ie., the pre-existent, eternal Son taking upon Himself flesh or a human body): "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth."

Paul in Colossians 2:15-17 states that Jesus Christ who created everything, existed Himself before creation: "Who is the image of the invisible God, the first born of every creature: for by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers; all things were created by him, and for him: and HE IS BEFORE ALL THINGS and by him all things consist." This great truth is further set forth in Hebrews 1:1-8. In these verses it is worthy of note that the Father addresses the angels as spirits but His Son as God!

(Continued on page four)

## APPRECIATED LETTER

Dear Brother Gilpin:

Greetings in the Name of Him who loved us and loosed us from our sins in His own blood!

As we approach the Thanksgiving season, I am sure many will give thanks for the timely ministry of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER.

May God give you many more years of faithful service in both your oral and printed ministry.

Yours in Gospel Bonds,  
L. D. Kennedy  
Ripley, Tennessee

## NEVINS' TRACT

A number of our readers have requested that the article "Why I Am A Baptist And Not A Roman Catholic," by Eld. William Nevins (TBE 9-2-50), be reprinted in tract form.

This I am glad to do, and if there is sufficient interest in such a venture, I shall be happy to print a large number for free distribution.

This new edition will cost in the neighborhood of \$125.00. Is there some one of our readers, who would like to underwrite

(Continued on page four)



It is our own faults we most condemn when we see them mirrored in others.

## THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN — EDITOR

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### WHY THE LETTER OF THIS PAGE

At the Thanksgiving season for years, I have sent a letter to our readers, telling them of God's blessings for the year, and reminding them of our needs in carrying on our printed ministry.

The response has always been gratifying and we have come to depend upon our readers for this special financial help, without which we could never have gotten along.

The cost of mailing such a letter is tremendous. Several thousand three-cent stamps really cost money. In addition there is the cost of envelopes, paper, printing and addressing of envelopes. You can readily see that it costs us several hundred dollars for such a mailing.

This year, due to taxes we've never had to pay before, increased costs of paper, and higher wages, we are more hard pressed financially than ever in the history of the paper. Frankly, we don't have the money with which to mail our usual Thanksgiving letter.

Therefore, we are printing our letter in this issue, with the prayer that God will bless it and us as He has blessed us in the years gone by. We've never needed your help more than we need it now. May it please God to give us a most liberal offering this year!



### "The Believer's Crowns"

(Continued from page one)  
time, the Word of God definitely declares that we are created in Christ Jesus for good works. This would show us, beloved, that our salvation is not of works and yet at the same time there is a place for works in the life of the believer. The Word of God says that we are not saved by works but that we are saved to produce good works. That ought to show us that there is a tremendous difference between salvation and rewards.

Let's notice another Scripture:

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which



Let your Thanksgiving really be with giving this year. If you believe in the ministry of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, we invite you to share its responsibilities.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE TWO

NOVEMBER 11, 1950

# An Open Letter To All Our Readers



Dear Friends Of The Baptist Examiner:

Greetings in the name of Jesus and praise to God for His goodness to all. As this Thanksgiving season approaches, I bow my head in gratitude, knowing that "every good and perfect gift cometh from above."

I thank God for all the material benefits He has given us. We are blessed far greater than we deserve. How each of us should thank the God who cares for every sparrow, in view of the necessities of life He gives us every day.

I am thankful for a year of rich blessings in the church of which I am pastor. As many of you know, I am in my twenty-second year as pastor of The First Baptist Church of Russell. How marvelous to be pastor of a great church which loves God's Word!

I am thankful for THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Many have been its enemies through the years, and yet God has wondrously blessed its ministry in saving the lost and edifying the saved. Many times the encouragement hasn't been too great, the difficulties have been numerous, and defeat seemed inevitable. However, I thank Him that He has kept the paper in the mails and thus blessed our editorial efforts.

I am thankful for the host of loyal friends who have stood with me with their prayers, financial support, and encouragement. Moses had an Aaron and Hur to hold up his hands. I've had many to thus help me.

However, we are in need this year as never before financially. The largest deficit we've ever had now faces us. I am hereby asking all our friends whom the Lord has prospered to give as the Spirit of God directs toward our publishing work. Let me personally urge you to be extraordinarily generous now, as we need your gift to carry on. The high cost of living has limited in their giving hundreds of people with medium or small incomes who have heretofore been most faithful. Increased paper cost, unexpected taxes, and higher wages have wrought havoc with us financially this year. Will those of you whom God has prospered make up for the limitations of others and our extra costs at this time?

We feel that there are many readers who could lift the entire amount of our deficit, and never miss the money. May I ask you to send a gift commensurate with the blessing you have received in order that our publishing work may be carried on to the fullest. Only a comparative few will support the ministry of this paper. Will you be one of the few?

In Jesus name, I pray that you may have a most thankful Thanksgiving, and that you'll enable us to do likewise by your gifts.

Yours, Forever In Him,

John R. Gilpin

made in the Word of God between salvation and rewards.

Let me remind you who are saved, that some day you and I and every saved person are going to stand in the presence of our Christ Who died to save



Wouldn't it be a good time now to plan what you will give this paper by way of a worthy Thanksgiving offering this year?

us. We are going to stand there for the purpose of receiving our rewards. We have a remarkable Scripture in this respect.

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may re-

ceive the things done in his body, according to that he has done, whether it be good or bad."—II Cor. 5:10.

The context shows that He is talking to saved people and only to the redeemed, and He says that all the redeemed are going to stand at the judgment seat of Christ to receive the things done in his body. The Greek word that is used for the basis of this Scripture is the four letter word "bema." "Bema" was the place where the ruler or the judge of the Olympic games sat, and after the contestants who had participated in running and jumping and other athletic events had finished the contest, they would appear before the bema to receive the prizes that were given out to the winners of the various athletic contests.

The Apostle Paul took the same little word from classical Greek and by inspiration incorporated it into the Word of God. He declares to us that some day everyone of us who are in the service of Jesus Christ here are going to stand before a greater "Bema," a greater judgment seat, before the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, there to receive our rewards for the things that we have done in our flesh, whether good or bad.

In view of the fact that some day that is going to be our day (Continued on page three)



## "The Believer's Crowns"

(Continued from page two)  
perience, I'd like to remind you that when you come to stand before the Judge of all the universe, there are five different crowns that our Lord is going to hand out. I, as your pastor, might get all five. You, as a layman, can't have but four of them. One of them is peculiarly and particularly a preacher's reward. The other four are rewards that every child of God who faithfully serves his Lord might receive.

### I

#### AN INCORRUPTIBLE CROWN.

"And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you. Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an INCORRUPTIBLE. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."

—I Cor. 9:23-27.

In order to understand this Scripture, we have to go back to the verses just preceding these. Paul says that he has made himself a servant to every class of people, that he might gain every man for Jesus that he can. Therefore, if he finds a man under the law, or if he finds some individual who is weak, or some individual, on the contrary, who is strong, he adapts himself to that individual in order that he might gain that one for Jesus Christ. Notice that he says that he does this for the Gospel's sake.

Then, using an illustration, he says that in a race every man that runs does it for one purpose—that he might receive a prize, but that that prize will be a corruptible prize—one that will spoil and perish. He always says that every man who strives for mastery in regard to track events of the Olympic games has to be temperate in regard to his flesh, but having been temperate in all things, even then all he can get is a corruptible crown—a garland of flowers that shall be placed upon the lapel of the winner, that will perish and spoil and deteriorate within just a few days' time.

Now Paul says that if any man who strives to win will be temperate in order to obtain a corruptible crown, how much more should you and I, as children of God, be temperate in all things in order that we might obtain an incorruptible crown.

Beloved, this incorruptible crown comes to that Christian man or woman who controls his body in such a way that he has his flesh definitely and directly under control. Paul says, "I keep under my body," which literally means, "I beat my flesh black and blue." He was buffeting himself in his flesh that he might have an incorruptible crown after a while.

Brother, sister, I wonder how many of you have ever humiliated your flesh as Paul said he did. How many of you have ever beaten your flesh black and blue in order to keep your flesh under control? It is an easy task to beat the other fellow's flesh, but it is a hard task when it comes to beating your own flesh, and thus buffeting your body, thereby controlling your flesh in all of its appetites, in all of its lusts, in all of its

passions, in all of its desires, in all of its ungodliness.

Beloved, you and I will never gain an incorruptible crown until we learn how to control the flesh of our bodies.

### II

#### THE CROWN OF REJOIC- ING.

"For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our



Thanksgiving ought to mean the giving of money as well as of thanks. We covet your gift for the furtherance of our ministry through this paper.

Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? For ye are our glory and joy."—I Thes. 2:19,20.

In the first chapter of this same book Paul speaks about those who have turned from idols to the Lord. We read:

"For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come."—I Thes. 1:9,10.

These to whom Paul was writing had been idolaters but were now serving God and were looking for the Son of God to come from Heaven. Paul had gone to Thessalonica and had led these people from their idols to the Lord. Now in writing to them, he says that he is rejoicing because of this experience, and he calls them his crown of rejoicing.

Beloved, if you have ever had the experience of turning an individual to the Lord Jesus Christ and have seen that one turn from idols to serve God and to watch for the coming of the Son of God,—if you have ever had that experience, you can look at that individual and say, "You are my crown of rejoicing."

"And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."

—Dan. 12:3.

Beloved, maybe this doesn't mean much to you now. Now you are either interested or disinterested in the salvation of others, but throughout eternity it will mean everything to you. Maybe now you are not concerned whether the man that lives in the next apartment house with you is saved or not. Maybe you are not concerned about the man that works next to you whether he is saved or not. When you stand in the presence of the Lord throughout eternity, it will mean everything to you then.

I wonder how many of you, as a child of God, could put your hand upon somebody else that is saved and say, "This is my crown of rejoicing." I wonder how many could say, "Brother Gilpin, I, by God's grace, led this man to Jesus Christ."

One of the best women that I ever knew in my life said to

me sometime ago, "Brother Gilpin, I couldn't put my hand on any one person that I ever lead to a saving knowledge of Jesus." I was dumbfounded, yet I rather imagine that her experience is the experience of the majority of professing Christians, and when you come to die, it will mean that you must go empty-handed into the presence of the Lord.

As the old song says:

"Must I go, and empty-handed,  
Thus my dear Redeemer meet?  
Not one day of service give  
Him,  
Lay no trophy at His feet?"

Must I go, and empty-handed?  
Must I meet my Saviour so?  
Not one soul with which to  
greet Him:  
Must I empty-handed go?"

Brother, sister, if you have never lead any man or woman to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, you are going empty-handed into God's presence.

Oh, how different it will be for that individual who, by the grace of God, has been instrumental in leading men and women to the Lord Jesus Christ! The Word of God tells us concerning this:

"And I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations."—Luke 16:9.

Here is a verse that troubles many of God's people. The word "fail" somehow causes God's people to misunderstand this passage of Scripture. The word "fail" refers to the time when you die, or when your flesh fails. The Lord is saying to us, as children of God, to use our money in such a way that when we die that those whom our money has brought into the kingdom of God, will receive us in everlasting habitations.

I am glad that our church is a Missionary Baptist church in deed as well as in name. Thank God for the opportunity I have every month of making a missionary offering. I thank the Lord in view of our coming Thanksgiving services, for the privilege I am going to have to make a missionary offering for the cause of Christ.

Listen, beloved, everytime you give money to the cause of Christ for missionary purposes and a faithful missionary leads a soul to Jesus Christ, if that man that is led to Jesus Christ dies before you die, when the day of your death comes, that one who has been led to Jesus because of your wise and Scriptural use of your "mammon of unrighteousness,"—that one is going to welcome you into everlasting habitations.

Beloved, what a joy there is in store for the man or woman of God who is a soul winner, either himself or by proxy with the use of his money! Such an individual who thus is a soul winner for Jesus will receive the soul winner's crown—the crown of rejoicing.

### III

#### THE CROWN OF RIGHT- EOUSNESS.

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

—II Tim. 4:7,8.

Notice, beloved, the crown of righteousness is the crown that goes to those that love the coming again of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let me ask you, do you love to think about the second

coming of the Lord Jesus? Would you be glad to see Jesus Christ coming in the skies again? As I ask these questions, is there something within your soul that says, "I want to see Him but I'd rather He would not come today." Oh, brother, sister, if that be true with you, you don't love His appearing.

I thank God that Jesus Christ is coming again. I don't know when He is coming, but thank God, He is coming. It is taught within His Book, and every child of God ought to be on tiptoe with expectancy for His coming. We ought to be looking for His coming—not tomorrow, but today—not an hour from now, but now. We ought to love the thought of His coming again.

I think when some of us talk about the coming of Christ and we say that we would be glad to see Him, actually all we want is an easy way out of some of our difficulties. I verily believe that the majority of us are so entangled with our own fleshly problems that beset us in life, that we would rejoice for His coming, for it would be a way out of our problems.

Beloved, you don't love His appearing if that be true with you. The man who loves the appearing of Jesus Christ is the man who wants Jesus to come just because he loves Jesus. Oh, brother, sister, do you love Him that way?

Go back to the day before you were married, when you were courting, when the time seemed so short when you were with her, and the time so long when you were away from her. My, how your heart thrilled at the prospect of seeing her!

Beloved, that is how you and I ought to feel concerning our absent Lover—the Lord Jesus Christ. Our hearts ought to be thrilled in prospect of His coming.

There is a crown awaiting those who love the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ—the crown of righteousness.



I am thankful to be able to edit THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Are you thankful for it? If so how thankful? Your offering will never be appreciated as much as it will be today.

### IV

#### THE CROWN OF LIFE.

"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."—James 1:12.

"Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

—Rev. 2:10.

Here are two Scriptures concerning the crown of life, both of which have suffering saints in view. If you will read the context as well as the text, you will find that it is talking about suffering saints—saints who are suffering for the cause of Jesus Christ, and the individual who

is faithful unto death will get the crown of life.

I imagine Paul will receive it. The 11th chapter of II Cor. tells us how he suffered. He was whipped five times,—199 stripes across his flesh. He was left for dead. He was stoned.

Beloved, there are a mighty few modern day Christians who are going to get the crown of life. Most of us instead of being soldiers ready for the battle field, are raw recruits that are just ready for "boot camp." The majority of Christians today act as though they had a one-way ticket purchased straight through to glory, and have left orders with the Pullman porter to call them when the trains heads into the yards of the New Jerusalem. The average Christian will never get the crown of life. It will only come to those who suffered for the cause of Christ.

Read about those fifty million Baptist martyrs who died in confirmation of their faith in the Dark Ages. Beloved, they will get the crown of life. Read of those Baptist preachers who were beheaded rather than practice, or allow their church to practice, alien immersion or infant baptism. They will get the crown of life. Read of those Baptist preachers who died rather than participate in Easter and Christmas and other pagan celebrations. They will get the crown of life. Read in history of these Baptist preachers who refused to submit to any doctrine or any ordinance other than salvation by grace, who sealed their testimony with their life's blood. Beloved, they will get the crown of life.

The only man that will get this crown will be the man that has suffered for the cause of Jesus Christ.

I like to think of Paul's experience in this respect. Listen:

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."—Rom. 8:18.

Beloved, the man who stands up for the things of God and suffers for the things of Christ, out yonder in eternity, he will never regret one particle his sufferings in this life, in view of the glory that shall then be revealed—the crown of life.

### V

#### THE CROWN OF GLORY.

"The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."

—I Pet. 5:1-4.

This crown is for the preacher.

I have been brought face to face with the fact so many times as to how thankless the preacher's task is. As one man said: "The first year a pastor is with a congregation the people's attitude is 'nice pussy,' the second year it is 'poor pussy,' the third year it is 'scat.'"

I think there is a measure of truth to it. How many times a preacher's position is misunderstood! How many times his stand for God's Word is misunderstood! I think not only of



# 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.

## ELECTION MEANS THAT YOU CAST THE DECIDING VOTE

By H. H. OVERBEY  
Detroit, Michigan

This is a phrase used by a lot of so-called big evangelists. Then some not so big have copied it from them thinking it to be the answer to a subject that they have never taken the time to study. This is certainly an idea for the "Hell Box" for remelting.

It is next to blasphemy against God. It puts the devil on an equal basis with God. It makes the devil's vote equivalent to God's vote, yea it makes the devil's vote strong enough to cancel God's vote. Then it puts the sinner's vote on equal par with God's vote. It makes the sinner's salvation out of the hand of God, since the devil has cancelled all God did, and puts it into the hands of a lost depraved sinner.

First of all, election is not a casting of votes. Election is a choice made by God in eternity past (Eph. 1:4) of those He foreknew. The ones whom God elected (or chose) he predestinated the means of their salva-

tion, that is, they must hear the Word of God (Rom. 8:14) and repent of their sins and exercise faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 20:21). We are told to preach the gospel to every creature (Matt. 28:19-20). That is our job as preachers. We are to preach the word without fear or favor to every person. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to use the preached word and bring conviction (John 16:8) or godly sorrow. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to regenerate or make alive (Eph. 2:1,5). It is God's work to give repentance and faith to the convicted sinner. They are both gifts, Acts 5:31; 11:18; II Tim. 2:25; Eph. 2:8.

The devil can vote against a sinner once, or twice, or once every moment of his life and it will not have one thing to do with God's election of those He foreknew. Election is a past act of God, before He ever created the first man (Eph. 1:4). Salvation takes place in time. All of God's elect will be saved, but they will not be saved without hearing the word

and then trusting the Saviour. Salvation is in a Person and that Person is the Lord Jesus Christ and what Christ begins he finishes (Phil. 1:6).

Our election is according to God's foreknowledge, I Peter 1:2, and not according to either the devil's vote or our vote. Even our belief is a work of God (John 6:29).

God's election is unto salvation, II Thes. 2:13. God's election is God's act, John 15:16, not the vote of the devil nor of a sinner. God's election is God's sovereign act, Rom. 9:15-20. God's election is God's act of sovereign grace, Rom. 11:5-7. God's election is before our birth, Rom. 9:11-12, therefore we were not present for the devil to vote against us (and the devil was not present to vote either), if he wanted to. God's elect are sure of salvation regardless of what the devil may do, vote or no vote, Matt. 24:31; Rom. 8:29, 30. God's elect will believe and be saved, Acts 13:48; John 6:37.

## "The Believer's Crowns"

(Continued from page one)  
myself but of the experiences of many preachers that have come to me by correspondence and by personal contact. I couldn't begin to tell you how many times I have sat down with a preacher and read him this passage of Scripture when he has become discouraged and feels like giving up.

Beloved, pay day is coming for the preacher. God says for him to feed the flock. Keep on feeding them and He will give to him, after a while, a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

### CONCLUSION

"Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown."

—Rev. 3:11.

Beloved, don't let anyone get your crown.

Years ago a man was handing out tracts. He became discouraged, like all Christians sometimes do. He said, "When I get through with this bunch, I am going to quit." When he handed out his last tract he was saved. That man took up the task of handing out tracts. Twenty years passed by. When these two individuals met, they compared notes and talked of their experiences. The older man remembered the words of Rev. 3:11 and said, "I have let you get my crown."

Beloved, God is going to carry on His work someway. Even if you shirk your responsibility God's work is going on. May the Lord help you to say, "Here am I, send me."

How wonderful it is going to be when the God all the universe, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, hands out to you and me the crowns that are ours for our faithfulness and service to Him! I can think of but one thing greater than that. Revelation 4 tells us how that we will take those crowns and lay them down at the feet of the Lord Jesus. Greater than receiving them will be the fact that we can give them back to Him out of love and appreciation for our Lord Jesus Christ.

May God bless you!

We are going to come to the end of the year with a deficit of at least \$1,500.00 this year unless God lays our work heavily on the hearts of our readers.



As editor, I have worked harder this year to give you a good, sound, independent paper than ever before. I can truthfully say that I've done my best. Now I must depend fully upon you and God to do the rest.

## Was Jesus Divine

(Continued from page one)  
John the Baptist was born of his mother, Elizabeth, about six months before Jesus was born of Mary. Yet "John bare witness of him and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: FOR HE WAS BEFORE ME." (John 1:15).

Jesus, Himself, plainly

preached His pre-existence: "Before Abraham was, I am." (John 8:58). "For I came down from heaven." (John 6:38). In the Garden He prayed, "And now, Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was." (John 17:5).

Nebuchadnezzar did not fully understand what he was saying perhaps, but he spoke a profound truth in Daniel 3:25: "He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God." When Nebuchadnezzar cast the three Hebrew Children into the fiery furnace, he did not take this fourth man, the Eternal Son of God, into account. Likewise the modernists of today who are discounting and discrediting the deity of Jesus shall some day dreadfully realize the peril of NOT worshipping Jesus!

### Salvation Demands His Deity

We could never have obtained abundant and eternal life through the son of any earthly man. But "thanks be unto God for HIS unspeakable gift." The atoning death and the infinite condescension of the Son of God to the Son of Man has made it possible for impotent Sons of Men to inherit the lofty estate of Sons of God! "For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself." (John 5:26).

## NORRIS LIES AGAIN

In the Detroit Free Press of October 28, there appeared a large advertisement (on the church advertisement page) including a picture of J. Frank Norris, announcing that he would speak at the Masonic Temple of Detroit on Nov. 5.

## Does 'Born Of Water' Mean Baptism?

While driving along a country lane the other day I overtook a man who was walking. I offered him a ride. He thanked me and soon seated himself beside me. I had driven only a short distance when he began to talk upon the Scriptures.

"No man can be saved unless he is baptized," said he.

"How do you know that?" I asked.

"Jesus told Nicodemus that a man must be born of water and of the spirit or he cannot enter the Kingdom of God," said he. "Where is baptism mentioned there?"

"Well," said he, "everyone knows that 'Born of Water' means to be baptized."

"Do you mean that Jesus was telling Nicodemus that he had to be baptized?"

"Yes, sir," was the answer.

"Was there no other way for Nicodemus to be saved only to be born of water?"

"No, sir," he answered.

"Do you think that instruction applied to Nicodemus only, or to everyone else also?"

"Oh! to everyone, of course. If Nicodemus had to be born of water then all men must be born of water," he said.

"And you say that 'born of water' means to be baptized?"

"Absolutely," he answered.

"And you say that no man could be saved without being born of water?"

"That's right," he answered.

"Jesus said so, not I."

"Then everyone that was saved after that was born of water?" I asked.

"Yes," said he. "That is what Jesus said."

"Even the thief on the cross?" I asked.

I waited for an answer but, to my surprise, no sound came. I removed my gaze from the road and looked at my passenger. He was opening his mouth as if trying to speak, but could not seem to frame the words. We rode along in silence sometime and when my passenger finally spoke he said, "It looks like we are going to get a rain," and he cast his eyes at the sky.

He could not find an answer because he knew that the thief was saved without baptism. Yet he knew from his own argument that the thief who was saved in his dying hour on the cross had to be born again in order to enter the Kingdom of God. He could not deny that the thief was saved. He had stated emphatically that Jesus had made it plain that no one could be saved without being born of water. That included the thief.

There was only one conclusion. 'Born of water' could not mean baptism. He saw there was no escape, so he changed the subject.

—Willis Everman, Greenup, Ky.

Under his picture were these words:

"Dr. Norris will give the history of Temple Church from the time he came to Detroit until he resigned two years ago because of ill health. His health has been restored."

What a lie! He was dismissed as pastor only a few months ago and that by a vote of 3000 to 7.

One of his friends said concerning Brother Norris that it was a shame the way he was being treated in view of the fact that he was an old man—almost lying at death's door.

I never heard a truer expression describing any man. He has lied every place else and he will still be lying when he does come to death's door.

J. Frank Norris ought to sleep well—he lies easily.

## THE BIBLE AND NOT FEELINGS TO BE RELIED ON

I used to know a Baptist preacher in Kentucky who doted on the mourner's bench. He doubted the conversion of any person who had not been to a mourner's bench. He was a great preacher on "Know So Religion," but the "know so" was all based on feelings. He would tell death-bed stories so pathetically that they would almost make a brass monkey cry, then he would proposition his weeping crowd down to the front seats, and put on the rousements. There was no clear pointing to Jesus as Saviour. He would walk up and down in front of the mourners asking, "Is the burden gone—is the burden gone?" "No." "Then keep on mourning." And he would have some of his mourners crying almost at the top of their voices. Then when somebody got to feeling better, he was pronounced saved. All that played any part in that fellow's meetings was feelings. Then later, when one of his converts got to thinking things over, his natural reaction was this, "Am I sure that I felt good enough to make sure that I am converted?" You see, he had no assurance based on the sure and certain Word of God. And that is exactly the state and condition of all who base everything on their emotions. How different that person's attitude from that of the person who can say, "I know that the Lord Jesus Christ is mine, for I have received Him as my Saviour, and he says, 'He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.'" — Mason



We appreciate all your kind remarks as to the value of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Without these, there would be no incentive to continue the paper. Unless we get a large Thanksgiving offering, we are going to have a hard time to continue it.

## Nevin's Tract

(Continued from page one)  
the cost of this printing? Perhaps if you can't, you might give a portion of it, \$25, \$10, or even a dollar. Remember, what none of us perhaps can do singly, all of us together can do.

At the same time, let me remind you of Bro. Nevin's book "Alien Baptism And The Baptists." If you enjoyed this brief message, recently published, you'll enjoy even more his book, which is a masterpiece. Let me urge that you send in your order today for the book which retails at \$1.50.

Your advance order will make possible the printing of the book, and a contribution will immediately make possible the tract.

The law of variety which shines in the earthly exhibition of Christianity will shed its fascinations over Paradise and lend its zest to the services of heaven.