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# 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 Mary Assumed Into Heaven Bodily After Her Death?"

By WENDELL ZIMMERMAN  
Kansas City, Mo.

(The following is condensed from a sermon preached Sunday night, November 5, 1950 in Kansas City Baptist Temple by Wendell Zimmerman, editor of "Waves of Grace").

This past week in the city of Rome, Pope Pius XII announced a new dogma to the Roman Catholic world. The statement as issued by the Vatican was: "The immaculate mother of God, Mary ever Virgin, when the course of her life on earth was finished, was taken by body and soul into heaven." An explanation and definition explained that the Catholic church now believes Mary was assumed into heaven, both body and soul, shortly after her death.

One of the Bishops in Kansas City made this statement: "He (the Pope) has declared in the infallible voice it is a fact, divinely revealed, the body of Mary was assumed into heaven shortly after her death." This new dogma may be accepted by the Catholic Church, but it is disbelieved and rejected by the entire Protestant world. I do not accept this dogma as being true because in the sacred scripture there is not even the slightest hint or intimation found, concerning such an assumption. The scriptures which I will use tonight are taken from the Douay version of the Bible which is the accepted one of the Roman Catholic Church. The last sentence in the preface of this Bible states: "The Church of Jesus Christ, by virtue of her divinely endowed infallibility, vouches for the divine origin of the Sacred Scriptures, and as such we respectfully, but confidently, submit them to the public."

The Catholics claim to believe in the divine origin of the Word of God and from their own scriptures I want to show how this new dogma proclaimed this week by the Pope is unscriptural and inconsistent in the

light of God's Word. The entire teaching concerning the "Assumption of Mary" is based upon three false premises.

The first false premise this new dogma is based upon is the belief of the Catholic Church in the infallibility of the Pope. The Pope is not infallible even when speaking from the Papal Throne on faith and morals. This dogma of the infallibility of the pope was started in 1870. Pius IX was pope in 1870 when the teaching of infallibility of the pope was started. The fact that Pius IX and his council of bishops declared all popes were infallible did not necessarily make it so. From whence did they receive their authority? The Bible teaches clearly and plainly the pope is fallible. I call your attention to the Catholic Bible (Douay version) in the book of Galatians, chapter 2, verse 11 which states: "But when Cephas was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed." According to Catholic doctrine, Peter was the first pope. If Peter was the first pope, Paul states: "I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed." Now we note in the Catholic Bible under this passage of scripture where it states: "Neither was St. Paul's reprehending him any argument against his supremacy; for in such cases an inferior may, and sometimes ought, with respect, to admonish his superior." The admonishment was needed because Peter had made mistakes. Paul withstood him to the face and blamed him for confusion in the church. This is sufficient evidence to prove the pope is not infallible even when speaking in faith and morals. Therefore, since the scriptures reveal the fallibility of the pope, the dogma of the assumption cannot be accepted just because it has been announced. True Chris-

tian doctrine MUST be supported by Holy Writ.

The second false and unscriptural premise this new dogma is based upon is belief that Mary remained a virgin during her entire life. This is contrary to the teaching of the Bible. Remember I am quoting from the accepted Catholic version of the Bible. In the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 12, beginning with verse 46 we read: "And he was yet speaking to the multitudes, behold his mother and his brethren stand without, seeking thee. But he answering him that told him, said: Who is my mother, and who are my brethren? And stretching forth his hands toward his disciples, he said: Behold my mother and my brethren. For whosoever shall do the will of my Father, that is in heaven, he is my brother, and sister, and mother." This is the plain statement of God's Word. It teaches us and from the Catholic Bible that the Lord Jesus Christ had brothers in the flesh. It means Mary and Joseph, after the birth of Christ, lived together in a normal relationship of husband and wife with children being born to the union. Another proof of children being born to Mary, which if proved, absolutely disintegrates the dogma of Mary's eternal virginity and her assumption into heaven, is found in Luke, chapter 2, verse 7. I am reading from the Douay Catholic version of the Bible. This passage states: "And she brought forth her firstborn son." This indicated Luke knew the fact that Jesus was her FIRST born son and certainly it would be useless to say she did not have other children. For further substantiation of the fact that children were born to the union of Mary and Joseph after the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ I call your attention to Galatians 1:19: "But other of the apostles I saw none, sav-

## Should Baptist Churches Cooperate?

By ROY MASON  
Tampa, Florida

Certainly they should cooperate. (But should not be coerced). Do we have any New Testament examples of cooperation? Yes. Note the following!

1. THE CHURCHES OF THE ROMAN WORLD COOPERATED under the advice of Paul in raising a fund for the relief of the famine stricken Christians of Judea. Note some things about this cooperation:

(1). Gifts were made willingly. (No assessments). (See II Cor. 8:3).

(2). Paul gave advice (II Cor. 8:10)—not harsh command.

(3). Gifts were to be made according to what they HAD—no quotas. (II Cor. 8:12).

(4). These gifts were carried and distributed by messengers chosen by the individual churches. (II Cor. 8:19-24).

What we call special attention to just here is the fact that the churches had the say so, and that the whole thing was voluntary. Read II Cor 9 for further details concerning this particular gift that was made.

ing James the brother of the Lord." This is a plain statement of scripture from the Catholic Bible. The preface of this Catholic Bible states they accept it as the Divine Word of God. These scriptures teach that James was the brother of the Lord, proving that Mary did not remain a virgin but that children were born to the union of Joseph and Mary.

The third false premise upon which this new dogma rests is the sinlessness of Mary. I say this premise is false because nowhere in the scripture does the Bible teach that anyone is without sin save the Lord Jesus Christ. On the contrary, again quoting from the Douay Catholic version of the Bible in Romans 3:23 we read: "For all have sinned." This means everybody has sinned. In Luke, chapter 2, beginning with verse 22: "And after the days of her purification, according to the law of Moses, were accomplished, they carried him to Jerusalem, to present him to the

Elsewhere we read the names of the messengers that traveled with Paul to Judea with the money that had been collected.

Likewise John urges cooperation on the part of Christians in financing the journeys of missionary preachers, who were not receiving — nor asking — any support of the heathen among whom they labored. (See II John 5:8).

The above instances furnish good samples of how such was carried on in the early days of Christianity.

How Should Cooperation Be Carried On Today?

1. Each church should determine the kind of cooperation.

2. Each church should determine the measure of its cooperation.

3. Boards and such should be mere agencies to carry out the will of the churches — not agencies to set the goals for the churches and to run the affairs of the churches.

4. When a convention plans a program, it should not be thought of as a Catholic thinks of the decision of a Council—as infallible.

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Lord. As it is written in the law of the Lord: Every male opening the womb shall be called holy to the Lord, and to offer a sacrifice, according as it is written in the law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Mary condemns here the dogma of her sinlessness. She was not without sin in her own sight. This is proved by the fact that although "Having known no man," having been "overshadowed by the power of the highest," and "the Holy Ghost having come upon her" and having borne a son, she came to the Temple like the other Jewish mothers forty days after the birth of the child Jesus to offer the sin offering as commanded in the law of the Lord, according to the Book of Leviticus, chapter 12, verses 6 to 8. Mary did not claim to be sinless and because of her own personal sin which she knew and felt, she offered the sin offering as commanded in the law.

In conclusion, I want to say that since nothing concerning (Continued on page four)

## TWO MORE YEARS

"The night is far spent, the day is at hand."

The British Intelligence has announced publicly that the Soviet Union, according to their own reliable sources will be ready to launch her atomic attack upon the United States within 24 months. This means we face a very serious situation. It is in the immediate realm of possibility that 50,000,000 Americans may be disintegrated in a matter of a few short minutes. That would occur in the event of a surprise "Pearl Harbor" atomic attack upon the major industrial centers of the United States.

Who knows? Perhaps the cup of America's iniquity is almost full. The next two years may bring the judgment of God Almighty. (Continued on page four)

## The First Baptist Pulpit

### "THE SECURITY OF THE SAVED"

This sermon was preached eighteen years ago. More than 100,000 copies have been sent out in tract form, previous to this printing.

When I was seventeen years old, I was called into the ministry. For the past ten years, I have been trying to preach the Gospel. All of these 27 years have been spent in school: grammar, high, college, seminary, and the school of practical experience. During these years of schooling, I have learned only three lessons that are really worthwhile.

I was born a totally depraved, vicious sinner; but I did not

know it. My parents say that evidences of that sinful disposition began to manifest themselves before I was three days old. The first day I went to school I rebelled at the authority of the school. I had numerous disputes with other students. Some of these disputes ended in blows. I did not know why it was that I preferred to lie rather than to tell the truth; nor why it was that I rebelled at all authority, and defied anyone that opposed me. I went to church, but I was not interested. I was never able to understand myself until I read: "The wicked are estranged from the

womb; they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies" (Psa. 58:3). Then I read Psalm 51:5, which says: "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me." Later, as a beloved brother of the cross read: "For we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23), I saw myself as I was—depraved from birth, with vicious desires and unholy passions; condemned before God. Thus I learned my first lesson.

Just how to rid myself of the sin I possessed, I did not know. I had attended a church of an- (Continued on page two)

## PREACH THE GOSPEL

A young minister in a college town was embarrassed by the thought of criticism that he was likely to receive from such a cultivated congregation.

He sought out his father, an old and wise minister, saying, "Father, I find it hard to outline a sermon I can preach to these people. If I cite anything from geology, there is Professor A—, the geology professor before me. If I use an illustration from ancient history, there is Professor B— ready to trip me up. If I choose English literature for some reference, I am afraid the whole English department will rise up and challenge me. What shall I do?"

The sagacious and Godly man replied: "Preach the Gospel, Son! They probably know very little about that."



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## "Security"

(Continued from page one)  
other denomination and had heard men speculate about the plan of salvation. I had heard them say with emphasis: "No man can know that he is saved until he gets to Heaven." I had heard them read:

"Tis a point I long to know  
Of it causes anxious thought.  
Do I love the Lord, or no?  
Am I His, or am I not?"

That type of religion made no appeal to me. If I had possessed that kind of religion I would have been no better off than I was; I was already in a state of indecision. Then, one night I sat in a Baptist church and heard the Scripture: "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin. (I John 1:7). Like a drowning man grasping at a straw, I laid hold of this; and sang that night with others that trusted in the same Savior:

Happy night, happy night when  
Jesus washed my black heart  
white;  
He taught me how to sing and  
shout, and be a Christian out  
and out,  
Happy night, happy night, when  
Jesus washed my black heart  
white."

Then I could say with Paul: "I know whom I have believed." (II Tim. 1:12). There was no guess-work about this. I could say with Naaman: "Now I know there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel." (II Kings 5:15). As my second great lesson, I had learned that I was a sinner saved by grace.

I was so happy in the Lord that I felt this experience just could not last. I concluded that it must end some time. But, lo, it has not ended; but has grown sweeter with each passing day. Thus I learned my third great lesson,—that I was saved eternally, and could never be lost. This was the greatest lesson of all. Now with Paul, I say: "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will finish it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Phil. 1:6); or with Peter: "Kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (I Pet. 1:5); or still again with my blessed Lord: "No man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." (John 10:29).

It is this third lesson I set myself to the task of proving.

The problem of the oldest book in the Bible—the book of Job—is the eternal security of the believer. The Devil was the first preacher of apostasy when he lied to God, saying that Job would apostatize under his difficulties. God gave the Devil more advantage with Job than the Devil ever has had with a believer since. Job had no one to

intercede on his behalf — no Christ to pray for him that his faith fail not, yet we hear him declare:

"Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither; the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." (Job 1:21).

If the Devil couldn't cause Job to "fall from grace" under adverse circumstances, without a high priest to intercede on his behalf, how can the Devil cause a believer to "fall from grace" today, when each child of God has an intercessor pleading for him in glory?

God proved through Job that the Devil lied when he preached apostasy. Some day God will prove through each saved believer that every preacher of apostasy is a liar.

In a sermon a short time before his death, W. H. Griffith-Thomas said:

"(1) Physical life is the union of body with spirit.

"(2) Spiritual life is the union of spirit with God.

"(3) Eternal life is the union of the spirit with God forever."

It is the last of these that I am interested in just now. And at the outset, let me say that I do not mean to say that a Christian will never fall into sin. To say that one never sins is to brand one's self as a liar:

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." (I John 1:8).

A child of God may, through Satan's subtlety, fall often into sin, but a fall does not always kill. Many have fallen from great heights and lived to tell the story. Many also have fallen into sin and lived to tell of their redemption through grace alone.

"Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy; when I fall I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me. I will bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against him, until he plead my cause, and execute judgment for me. He will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness." (Micah 7:8, 9).

David committed adultery and then murdered a man to cover it. Surely no one puts a premium on these two black sins. Yet by and by we hear him say: "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand." (Ps. 37:23, 24).

Peter likewise fell when he denied the Lord and punctuated his denial with profanity. Still the fall didn't kill him, and presently we hear him speak: "You who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (I Pet. 1:5).

I grew up on a farm where we used to raise cattle, sheep and hogs. In preparing the hogs for the show ring at the fairs, I used to wash them weekly, trim their nails and polish their bristles. When I had finished, I used to say, "Now, Mr. Hog, stay clean." Did he mind? Immediately he would make his way to the first convenient mudhole and lay down on one side. Then, as if not content with the damage done, he would roll over to completely ruin my hour's work. Why was the hog content in the mud? It was his nature and he was only acting accordingly.

I saw a pet lamb fall into the same mud-slough one day. Strangely, the sheep did not wallow therein, but got out at once, acting very much ashamed of himself. Why didn't the sheep wallow there as the hogs did daily? He was a sheep and it was contrary to his nature.

## GIVE THANKS UNTO THE LORD

For love of friends who share with us the treasures  
That life to them has bountifully bestowed;  
For love of home; for parents, warmth and shelter;  
For cheering words of neighbors as they share our load;  
For night with stars; for healing rays of sunshine;  
For birds and flowers; for trees; for hills to climb--  
O Lord, for all these precious gifts of mercy  
We give Thee thanks . . . at this Thanksgivingtime.

For safety in the midst of darkest peril,  
When round about the world is torn with strife;  
For words of comfort and of consolation  
To give to those who seek the way of life;  
For blessed knowledge of our soul's salvation;  
For quiet times with Thee . . . when bells do chime--  
O Lord, for all these precious gifts of mercy  
We give Thee thanks . . . at this Thanksgivingtime.

For ears that thrill to hear the heav'nly music  
That fills our lives with beauty, rich and deep;  
For eyes to see the grandeur of creation;  
For times of study . . . times of blessed sleep;  
For prayer that binds our wandering souls to heaven;  
For rays of hope to bear to every clime--  
O Lord, for all these precious gifts of mercy  
We give Thee thanks . . . at this Thanksgivingtime.

But most of all, we give Thee thanks, dear Father,  
For Jesus, our Redeemer, Helper, Friend,  
Who sticketh closer than the dearest brother,  
Who saves and keeps us to the very end;  
For blessed hope of Christ the Lord's returning  
As written in Thy Holy Word sublime--  
O Lord, for all these precious gifts of mercy  
We give Thee thanks . . . at this Thanksgivingtime.

--Charlotte Kruger

Whenever one falls in sin and wallows there, it proves he has never been saved—the old hog nature is just manifesting itself, in spite of church membership, baptism, and reformation. God's dear sheep may fall in sin, but he won't remain there long, but ashamed of himself, will seek out the Lord, confess his wrongs, and repent of his sins. Accordingly I say that a saved sinner can never lose his salvation, since:

1. HE IS KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD. Jude 24—"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy." I Peter 1:5—"Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." Heb. 7:25—"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." II Tim. 1:12—"For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." These texts teach us that the power to keep lies outside the sphere of personal ability, and that God keeps us from the power of external, internal, and infernal agencies. When the jewel of my soul is surrendered to God's keeping, He is responsible for my eternal security.

"Firm as His throne the promise stands,  
And He can well secure,  
What I've committed to His hands,  
Till the decisive hour."

I would be unsafe to attempt to walk the streets of any town with \$1,000 in my pocket. I hand it through the bank window to

the cashier and he keeps it since he has the ability to do so. I haven't the power to keep my salvation, since the Devil is stronger than I, but I can commit myself unto God, who is "able to keep." Then do I realize: "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Rom. 8:1).

2. THE DEVIL CAN NOT TAKE ONE OUT OF GOD'S HAND.

The Devil exerts a powerful influence. He has had 6000 years' experience. Yet he can go no farther than God permits him. God permitted Satan to touch Job's property but he could not harm a single hair of Job's head. Cf. Job 1:12. Later God permitted him to touch Job's body, but he could not take his life. Cf. Job 2:6. Since Satan can go no farther than he is permitted of God, a believer can never be lost, for God will not permit the Devil to pass the sacred precincts of God's saving grace. "But he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not." (I John 5:18).

If Satan can overcome one of God's children, he can overcome all. If he has the power to get all and yet allows one to go to Heaven, would not that one be saved by the grace of Satan? Yet the Bible plan of salvation is by the Grace of God through faith. Eph. 2:8, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God."

3. EACH OF THE REDEEMED IS A NEW CREATION.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature (creation)." (II Cor. 5:17). This world and all that is therein

is God's creation. Can man create that which God has created? Perish the thought! Each child is born into this world of the redeemed is created of God. Since that which has been created can not be uncreated, then each believer is eternally secure.

4. EACH BELIEVER IS BORN OF GOD.

"Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God." (I John 5:1). When a child is born into this world, he can never be unborn. Since that which is born can not be unborn, then everyone who has been "born again" is forever saved.

The Bible speaks of the natural birth as the first birth; speaks of the spiritual birth as the second birth; there is no other birth spoken of. If one might be lost, after being saved, he would be lost eternally as the Bible does not mention the third, fourth, or any birth after the first.

John R. Gilpin, Jr., is my son since he was born such. Regardless of what he does he will always be my son. I am a child of God, by the new birth (John 3:7). I shall always be a son of God (I John 3:2), irrespective of what the Devil may do in my life.

5. THE SAVED ARE BORN OF AN INCORRUPTIBLE SEED.

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." (I Pet. 1:23). The first chapter of Genesis ten times declares that everything produces "after its kind." According to this law, Genesis, the new nature which is born of God is incorruptible. Since one is born of incorruptible seed, (Continued on page three)



## "Security"

(Continued from page two)  
 tible seed, either the theory of evolution that like begets unlike is true (God forbid), or else our salvation is eternal.

6. BY THE NEW BIRTH EACH CHILD OF GOD PARTAKES OF THE DIVINE NATURE.

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature." (II Pet. 1:4). When one is saved the nature of God is placed within. Would it be possible for God to die and for Divinity to have an end? We shrink at the thought. Until God might die, the believer will not die, as each believer has a nature like the nature of God. If the child of God has something of the nature of God then would not something of the nature of God be lost if the child of God is lost?

7. IF THE DEATH WE INHERIT FROM ADAM IS ETERNAL, THEN THE LIFE WE INHERIT FROM CHRIST IS ETERNAL.

"That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord." (Rom. 5:21). Surely no one will deny that we are eternally dead in Adam. Cf. Eph. 2:1. "Even so" we are eternally alive and secure in Christ.

8. EACH OF THE SAVED IS HID WITH CHRIST IN GOD.

"For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God." (Col. 3:3). We shall let a piece of paper one inch square represent my soul. The backs of my Bible represent God and the pages thereof represent Christ. I put the paper inside of my Bible and close it. I open it and turn the pages of the Book. The piece of paper is so small in comparison with the backs and pages that I can not find it. I am thus hid "with Christ in God." How, then, can Satan rob me of my salvation?

9. BELIEVERS ARE SEALED UNTIL THE DAY OF REDEMPTION.

"Who hath also sealed us, and given us the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts." (II Cor. 1:22). "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." (Eph. 4:30). The Holy Spirit Himself is the seal. We are securely kept by Him until "the day of redemption." The day of redemption is the time of Christ's second coming. Cf. Luke 21:28; Rom. 8:23. We are therefore eternally secure in Christ for no one can reverse the sealing sealed by the King. "And a stone was brought and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel." (Dan. 6:17). "Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the King's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse." (Esther 8:8).

10. THE COVENANT BETWEEN GOD AND CHRIST SECURES THE RIGHTEOUS.

"Then thou spakest in vision to thy Holy one, and saidst, I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people. Also I will make him my first born, higher than the kings of the earth. My mercy will I keep for him forevermore and my covenant shall stand fast with him. His seed also will I make to

endure forever, and his throne as the days of heaven. If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments; if they break my statutes and keep not my commandments; then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless my loving kindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail. My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips." (Ps. 89:19, 27-34). This covenant was made with Christ before the foundation of the world. When His children go astray, He promises chastisement and yet declares He will not withdraw His loving kindness nor suffer His faithfulness to fail.

11. THE COVENANT BETWEEN GOD AND THE RIGHTEOUS SECURES THEM.

"And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me." (Jer. 32:40). In this covenant two ideas are noteworthy: God will not turn away from the righteous. The righteous shall not depart from God. Certainly this can mean nothing but the eternal and final security of the believer.

12. CHRIST'S STATEMENT AT THE JUDGMENT. MT. 7:21-23.

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matt. 7:21-23). Christ will say to the lost, "I never knew you." Yet the Scriptures emphatically declare that He intimately knows each believer: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." (John 10:27). "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his." (II Tim. 2:19). Since the believer is known of Christ, if one should be lost, Christ would be proven a liar (I speak reverently) at the judgment, as there He will say to the damned, "I never knew you." Either we have eternal life when saved, or else Christ will tell a falsehood at the judgment!

13. THE PROMISES OF CHRIST SECURE EACH BELIEVER.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." (John 5:24). "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." (John 6:37). "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." (John 10:28, 29). "Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 1:8). "Being confident of this very thing that he which hath begun a good work in you will finish it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Phil. 1:6). All these are promises concerning the believer's security. If a believer, through sinning, could

perish, then God's promises would be valueless. If the promises are valueless, then the whole Bible is valueless and Christ, God, the Holy Spirit, and Christianity are valueless. If one fails, all must fail. However, we prefer to "let God be true, but every man a liar," (Rom. 3:4) for—

"He has never broken any promise spoken, And will keep His promise to me."

14. HE PROMISES ETERNAL LIFE TO HIS SHEEP.

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." (John 10:27-29). Every saved believer is one of God's sheep. Christ Himself is the Shepherd. No sheep can ever stray so far, but that the Good Shepherd will bring him home again. Luke 15:5, 6: "And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors saying unto them, Rejoice with me: for I have found my sheep which was lost." God's dear sheep may fall into the mouth of the roaring lion, even Satan (I Pet. 5:8), but the Shepherd will deliver therefrom. (I Sam. 17:34, 35).

15. WHEN A BELIEVER IS SAVED, HE POSSESSES ETERNAL LIFE.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me hath everlasting life." (John 6:47). "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." (John 17:3). "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." (John 5:24). "And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." (John 11:26). "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his son. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." (I John 5:11, 13). The life Christ gives us is eternal — never ending. Forty-three times in the New Testament "everlasting" qualifies the life we receive when we receive Christ. Then it is a 43-0 hope that the believer is eternally secure. In Mt. 25:46, "everlasting" describes the punishment of the wicked. In Rom. 16:26 "everlasting" describes the character of God's existence. In II Tim. 2:10, "everlasting" describes the duration of Christ in glory. In II Pet. 1:11, "everlasting" describes the duration of Christ's kingdom. Then as long as the wicked are punished, as long as God exists, and as long as Christ's glory exists, and as long as Christ's kingdom continues, just that long the believer has eternal life. If the punishment of the wicked can have an end, if God can have an end, and if Christ's glory and Kingdom have an end, then the believer can perish. In view of this shall we not write in letters of gold across the Heavens, that all may read: ETERNAL SALVATION!

16. ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF THE BELIEVER.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them



Praise to God, immortal praise,  
 For the love that crowns our days!  
 Bounteous Source of every joy,  
 Let Thy praise our tongues employ!  
 For the blessings of the field,  
 For the stores the gardens yield,  
 For the joy which harvests bring,  
 Grateful praises now we sing.

Flocks that whiten all the plain,  
 Yellow sheaves of ripened grain.  
 Clouds that drop their fattening dews,  
 Suns that temperate warmth diffuse:  
 All that Spring, with bounteous hand,  
 Scatters o'er the smiling land;  
 All that liberal Autumn pours  
 From her overflowing stores--

These, to that dear Source we owe,  
 Whence our sweetest comforts flow;  
 These, through all my happy days,  
 Claim my cheerful songs of praise.  
 Lord, to Thee my soul should raise  
 Grateful, never-ending praise;  
 And when every blessing's flown  
 Love Thee for Thyself alone.

that love God." (Rom. 8:28). The truth of this comforting statement demands that our salvation be eternal, for this could never be true if a believer could lose his salvation.

17. CHRIST BECOMES THE BELIEVER'S SURETY.

"By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." (Heb. 7:22, 25). "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." (I John 2:1, 2). Christ's work in Heaven today is that of intercession. He is the lawyer who represents each believer at the bar of God's supreme court. I have a dear friend, who is a lawyer. Suppose I violate some traffic ordinance. I ask him to appear in my behalf in the court. He does not plead the mercy of the court, nor does he ask leniency that I am a preacher. He simply pleads "guilty" to the charge and pays the fine that I may go free. In the court of Heaven, I am charged with innumerable

offenses by Satan. (Rev. 12:10). The Son of God is my lawyer. (Heb. 9:24). He does not ask the Father to be merciful, nor does He plead the weakness of my flesh. He is there to plead "guilty" on my behalf, and to pay for my sin with His blood: "He is the propitiation (sacrifice) for our sins." (I John 2:2). Hallelujah! for such a Saviour!

18. GOD PROMISES NEVER TO FORSAKE HIS SAINTS.

"Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation forever." (Psa. 12:7). "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down, for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand. I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed. Depart from evil and do good; and dwell forever more. For the Lord loveth judgment and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved forever; but the seed of the wicked" (Continued on page four)



## "Security"

(Continued from page three) shall be cut off." (Ps. 37:23-28). "Ye that love the Lord, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked." (Psa. 97:10). "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that called you, who also will do it." (I Thess. 5:23-24). "And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom." (II Tim. 4:18).

The saints are God's believing children. These He promises never to forsake. Since God is continually present with the believer, the believer is eternally secure with God.

### 19. CHRIST'S BLOOD CLEANSSES FROM ALL SIN.

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." (Col. 1:14). "But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son cleanseth us from all sin." (I John 1:7). "Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." (Titus 2:14). Christ died as a substitute for every believer. His death paid for all sin. His blood cleanses from ALL sin (past, present, and future).

By His death Christ suffered for every sin of each believer. If a believer through sinning, could perish, then the believer would suffer for the same sins, which Christ has already suffered for. Both the believer and Christ would be paying for the same sins, and God, to punish two persons for the sins of one, would be the most unjust tyrant of the universe. Perish the thought! Our God is just; yea, above all, He is merciful!

### 20. THE RIGHTEOUS ARE SECURE, BECAUSE OF CHRIST'S PRAYER.

"I pray for them; I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me, for they are thine. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the Scripture might be fulfilled. I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from evil. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world." (John 17:9, 11, 12, 15, 20, 24). This prayer, breathed by Christ, 2,000 years before all present believers were born, secures us eternally with God.

### 21. THE MEANING OF REDEMPTION.

"But when the fullness of time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman,

made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." The Greek word for redeem used in Gal. 4:4, 5, "ex-agerazo," means to "buy out of the market," so that the redeemed are never again to be exposed to sale. Thank Heaven, when Jesus has bought a slave of Satan, the Devil will never again be permitted to even bid for that one, for the redeemed of God is never again to be put up for sale. Hallelujah!

### 22. CHRIST PROMISES THAT THE BELIEVER SHALL NEVER THIRST.

"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst." (John 4:14). Yet in Hell, one of the pangs of the damned is thirst. "And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame." (Luke 16:24). If a believer is lost and goes to Hell, Christ is proven a liar, since He promises the believer shall never thirst. Again we say, either eternal life, or Christ is a falsifier.

### 23. THE LORD WILL NOT CHARGE THE BELIEVER WITH SIN.

"But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, saying Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin (charge sin)." (Rom. 4:5-8). When Christ died on the cross, God treated Christ just like the sinner ought to have been treated. When a believer is saved, God treats him like Christ ought to have been treated. Thus, our sins are imputed to Christ and Christ's righteousness is imputed to us. Because of this, no sin will be charged against the believer.

### 24. LINKS OF THE GOLDEN CHAIN OF GOD'S PURPOSE GUARANTEES THE SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER.

"Moreover, whom he did predestinate, them he also called; and whom he called, them he also justified, them he also glorified." (Rom. 8:30). These are four indestructible links in this golden chain. Both ends of the chain are eternally fastened to the throne of God. As certainly as the believer is chosen in Christ before the world began, step by step the believer will advance to the stage of final perfection. Since it is true that whom He predestinates, He will eventually glorify, how could one of His elect ever be lost?

### 25. REWARDS MAY BE LOST, BUT THE SOUL REMAINS SECURE.

"If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." (I Cor. 3:14, 15). The objector asks, "If one did sin and die in impenitence, would he be saved?" It is impossible to suppose any condition that will permit a child of God to be lost in Hell. The passage read tells us what will become of the erring child. His rewards will be lost, yet he will not be lost! His rewards will perish, but he shall be saved, yet so as by fire.

### 26. THE SURE FOUNDATION INSURES SAFETY.

"Therefore, thus saith the Lord God, Behold I lay in Zion

for a foundation, a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste." (Isa. 28:16). "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 3:11). A substantial foundation insures the safety of all concerned. No man can afford to build for eternity upon a defective foundation.

The Lord Jesus is the only foundation one can build upon with assurance.

"My hope is built on nothing less,

Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name."

In His Sermon on the Mount, Christ refers to this foundation. "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock.

"And everyone that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand.

"And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell, and great was the fall of it." (Mt. 7:24-27).

When God reaches down and lifts a poor sinner from the pit, He places him upon a sure foundation, so that in the time of testing, he who is anchored to the Rock of Ages can say, "In Jesus I'm safe evermore." Yea, all the combined forces of Hell and earth can not remove him. With sweet assurance, we triumphantly sing:

"How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word;  
What more can He say than to you He hath said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"In every conditon, in sickness, in health,  
In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth,  
At home or abroad, on the land, on the sea;  
As thy days may demand, shall thy strength ever be.

"Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed!  
I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
The river of woe shall not thee overflow;  
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,  
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
The flame shall not hurt thee, I only design  
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"E'en down to old age, all My people shall prove,  
My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
And when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they shall still in My bosom be borne.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
That soul, tho' all Hell should endeavor to shake,

I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

### 27. IF A BELIEVER COULD PERISH, THEN THE JOY OF HEAVEN IS IN VAIN.

"Likewise, I say unto you there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." (Luke 15:10).

Here on this earth a poor sinner turns from his sins to Christ as a Saviour. Heaven above sees this transaction and is set rejoicing. Emotion stirs all the heavenly spectators. But this believer later sins enough (who could ever tell when he has crossed that line) to lose his salvation. Then Heaven has been mistaken, their joy has been premature. Can the omniscient God rejoice, if He foreknew that the repentant sinner could eventually perish in sin? How utterly inconceivable!

### 28. NOTHING CAN SEPARATE A BELIEVER FROM CHRIST.

Twenty centuries ago Paul asked, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" (Rom. 8:35). Shall Satan? "But he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not." (I John 5:18). Shall temptation? "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (I Cor. 10:13). Shall sin? "For sin shall not have dominion over you." (Rom. 6:14). Shall the law? "For ye are not under the law, but under grace." (Rom. 6:14). Shall the world? "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." (I John 5:4). Shall the believer? "THEY SHALL NOT DEPART FROM ME." (Jer. 32:40). As it was impossible for Noah to leave the ark after God had shut him in, so it is impossible for the believer to leave Christ. Someone asks, "Cannot a believer crawl off the Rock of Ages?" Beloved, where is the child of God who wants to crawl off the Rock of Ages? But listen, Paul mentions ten agencies and agents, including the powers of Heaven, earth and Hell, which he declares are unable to separate the believer from God. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus Our Lord." (Rom. 8:35-39).

Years ago, at Leicester, England, there was a strike. Property was demolished and homes were ruined in the riot. In one home a lad was playing on the first floor, while his big brother was mending shoes upstairs. Fearing the rioters would break the door down, he stepped to the ladder and called: "Tom, Tom, they are going to smash the door open; make haste and come down." The big brother, a strong, well-built man, put his burly back to the door, while the younger boy went on about his play. Sometimes the Devil comes to this house of mine, and when I fear, lest he take me by force, I rush to the foot

of the ascension ladder and cry "Christ, Christ, make haste and come down: the Devil is about to get me." Like lightning he places Himself at the door of my heart, and there are enough Devils in all Hell to break the door open, when my "elder brother" has His back to the door.

## Two More Years

(Continued from page one) mighty.

What the future may hold is uncertain. But one thing is sure, Jesus is coming soon.

—Waves of Grace

## Cooperation

(Continued from page one)

5. We should not think that a church can be a genuine Baptist church only as it is affiliated with certain conventions and associations. These things are of recent origin. No association or convention has any authority over a church.

6. We should not think of a sort of super-church under the head of "Our Denomination." Strictly speaking there isn't any such thing.

There is no "Southern Baptist Church." But there are Southern Baptist Churches.

Cooperation among Baptists is a fine thing, but that cooperation must not be forced by agencies outside and above churches that arrogate unto themselves powers that are unscriptural.

## Was Mary Assumed

(Continued from page one) this new dogma is even hinted at or intimated in the Word of God and because of the fact it is based upon three premises which I have proven by the Catholic Bible to be utterly false. This teaching of the Assumption of Mary cannot be accepted by followers of Christ who are looking only to God's Word as their rule of faith and practice.

I have not given this message in the spirit of antagonism. My one desire has been to uphold the truth of the Gospel. I hope I have at least created a desire in the minds of many to read and study God's Word. I wish the Catholics would study their Bibles. The Scriptures give the plan of salvation plainly and clearly. In the Douay version of St. John, chapter 5, verse 24 I read: "Amen, amen, I say unto you, that he who heareth my word, and believeth him that sent me, hath life everlasting, and cometh not into judgment, but is passed from death to life." This verse is for Catholics and Protestants, Jew and Gentile, Baptist and Methodist, white and black. It is for all men, regardless of race, color, or creed and it points the only way of salvation. If you do not know Christ turn to Him now!

How do you act in a place when you know only one person—God?

The pastor always overworks if the people underwork.

God sees the broken winged sparrow and the broken-hearted preacher.

The best day is better when you remember to pray.

Truth must hitch-hike while gossip travels by airplane.