

There is no pulpit so vacant as the one without the message of the blood of Christ.

MISSIONARY PREMILLENNIAL BIBLICAL BAPTISTIC

# The Baptist Examiner

Paid Circulation In All States and In Many Foreign Countries

"To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."—Isaiah 8:20.

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## A Thrilling Bus Ride At 110 Miles Per Hour

Traveling 110 miles per hour, a brakeless bus with 33 football players aboard sped down the steep grades of Monarch Pass in Colorado, rocked around hairpin turns and squeezed by approaching cars on the 23 mile expanse.

The trip took only 17 minutes, but it "seemed like a lifetime," according to the bus driver. Without any brakes, and unable to shift into gear from neutral, the driver said, "I guess I prayed then."

He didn't remember much about the reactions of his passengers, but he did note one fellow, "He was reading one of those sexy novels. I remember something sailing by my head about the time we hit 85. Later, he told me it was his

book. He said he didn't want to be found dead with a book like that in his hand.

"He found the book after we stopped and finished it after the game."

The Bible speaks much of those who remember God in their trouble and forget Him in their deliverance. Also it refers to those who have received the light and have turned their backs on Him.

"They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wit's end. Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and He bringeth them out of their distresses" (Psa. 107:27,28).

"Nevertheless He saved them for His name's sake, that He might make His mighty power

to be known . . . so He led them through the depths, as through the wilderness . . . They soon forgot His works; they waited not for His counsel" (Psalm 106:8,9,13).

"Therefore Thou deliveredst them into the hand of their enemies, who vexed them: and in the time of their trouble, when they cried unto Thee, Thou heardest them from heaven; and according to Thy manifold mercies Thou gavest them saviours, who saved them out of the hand of their enemies. But after they had rest, they did evil again before Thee: therefore leftest Thou them in the hand of their enemies, so that they had the dominion over them: yet when they returned (Continued on page two)

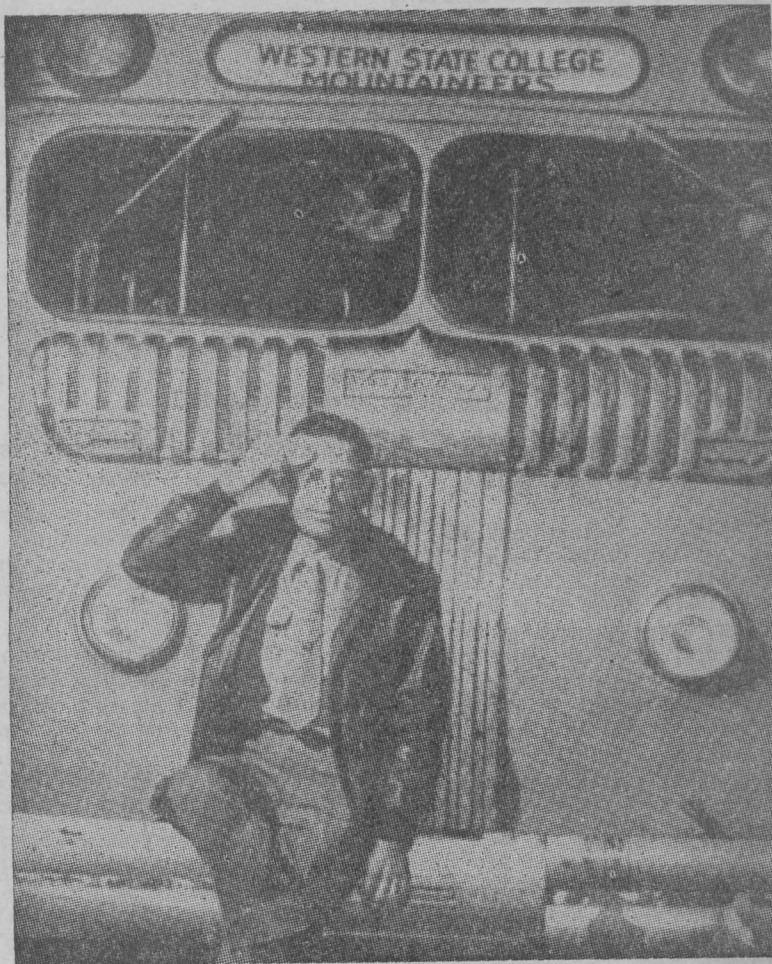


Photo shows bus which provided thrilling ride for football team members when brakes gave way on steep mountain road in Colorado.

## Signs In Heaven Tell Us His Coming Is Surely Near

The Word of God predicted long ago that the coming of Christ would be preceded by stellar and atmospheric phenomena along with other signs relating to the Lord's return such as the increase of iniquity and the return of the Jews to their homeland.

The matter of the flying saucers which has been both believed and ridiculed, still mystifies many. Reports of other stellar mysteries continue to infiltrate the press. For instance, a brilliant blue meteor is supposed to have zoomed its way across an evening Dixie sky, vanishing in Kentucky.

Then again, British scientists admit, in an Associated Press dispatch, that they are quite plainly puzzled by mysterious radio signals that come from outer space. One scientist admits that the problem is mystifying because the signals are received from a part of the sky where no large bodies are known to be.

(Continued on page four)

## The Postman And The Priest

Father Giavanni Scapelli was spellbound, he could scarcely believe his ears! This was horrible, scandalous. Could it possibly be that this miserable postman who was seeking "absolution" in the confessional box was actually guilty of the sin of delivering a Protestant paper each month to a house in their own town of Novelli? This was peril indeed; heresy of the worst kind was filtering into the parish; what could he do to save the souls of the people from this terrible danger? His harsh voice reached the ears of Mario Signa on the other side of the perforated metal wall which hid the postman from the priest who, as both of them truly believed, could, by the exercise of his authority place a soul under eternal condemnation, or absolve him from his sins and assure him of an entrance into heaven.

"This is grievous sin, my child, and the consequences will be terrible unless you do as I bid you. Now listen carefully, next time one of these papers comes into your hand you must bring it to me."

"But, Father," was the plead-

ing response, "I dare not; indeed, I dare not. It is as much as my position is worth to tamper with the letters which pass through my hands, and if it were found out I should be severely punished."

### A BAPTIST

I'd rather be a Baptist,  
In faith and love and hope,  
Than a Roman Catholic,  
And subject to the pope.

I'd rather be a Baptist,  
And with the Saviour go,  
Than an Episcopalian,  
With all the pomp and show.

I'd rather be a Baptist,  
Rejoicing every hour,  
Than a Presbyterian,  
And never feel the power.

I'd rather be a Baptist,  
And have a beaming face,  
Than to be a Methodist,  
And ever fall from grace.

I'd rather be a Baptist,  
And know that I am right,  
Than to depend on water,  
And be a Campbellite.

"Then you must choose between the risk of such punishment and the certainty of eternal judgment, for I cannot and will not absolve you from your sins until you place that heretical paper in my hands," was the cold reply of Father Scapelli. "It will be quite useless your coming to confession, for pardon will not be granted until you obey my command."

With the perspiration streaming from his brow, Mario Signa, the poor little Italian postman, went on his way home. He was terrified beyond words at the thought of transgressing one of the strictest rules of the postal authorities; but far worse was the dread thought that unless he heeded the priest's orders he would certainly be consigned to eternal perdition.

"Here is the paper, Father, see I have obeyed you, but if my action is discovered the consequences will be dreadful." With trembling fingers the postman thrust the package into the hands of the priest, who carefully hid it within the folds of his robe.

(Continued on page two)

## A Real Preacher Is Bound To Have Fire In His Bones

By L. D. KENNEDY  
Ripley, Tennessee

I know some preachers who can preach or not preach, just whichever is the more convenient. They will preach if they are well paid, but prefer not to preach without a job. Some of them are pastors of half-time churches, having no where else to preach the other two Sundays monthly. They go to their churches those Sundays, but do not offer to preach for they are not "hired" to do so! They will not preach except when "employed." Jesus called this kind of preachers "hirelings." (John 10:12-13).

Such an attitude was not that of the Apostle Paul who told the Corinthian Church, "For I seek not yours, but you." (2 Cor. 12:14).

God may call a man to preach at quarter or half-time CHURCHES, but He doesn't call a preacher to preach only one or two TIMES a month!

(Continued on page two)

## MILLIONTH MAN TO DIE SOON IN WAR

New York — A new unknown soldier soon may fall on a Korean battlefield—the millionth American fighting man to die in all wars in U. S. history—the Association of Casualty & Surety Companies predicted on January 31.

The association called the potential victim "GI-X" and said he "may be killed during the spring or even sooner if Korean casualties become heavier."

The association reported that military deaths in all American wars, including Korea, reached 994,000 near the end of January.

What a tragedy! And all be-

(Continued on page four)

## The First Baptist Pulpit

### "ETERNAL LIFE"

"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.

Whenever I read this text of Scripture, either publicly as of tonight, or in my own private devotions, I am reminded of Brother T. T. Martin, evangelist of other days, how he used

to read and quote this text of Scripture twenty to thirty times in most every service that he conducted.

As I read it tonight, I am reminded of a little poem that I quite often find running through my mind:

"They tell me of a city far up in the sky—

I want to go there, I do;  
It is built in the land of the sweet bye and bye,

I want to go there, don't you?"

I am sure that the words of this little poem is true of every person within this house of God tonight. If you are a saved person you know that you are going there, and if you are an unsaved person, you still want to go there just the same. This simple text, which to my mind expresses the Gospel so pointedly and which tells us both (Continued on page three)

## SOUTHERN BAPTIST BIBLE SEMINARY

By DEAN T. P. SIMMONS

Some have gotten the impression that the Southern Baptist Bible Seminary of Columbus, Ga., is a Fundamentalist school of the type of Frank Norris' school at Fort Worth, Texas. This is not true. We believe in the so-called "fundamentals" just as strongly as any of the Fundamentalists, but we believe much more. We do not with most Fundamentalists slight the teaching of the Bible on the sovereignty of God and on the church question. We believe in unconditional election. We are also Baptists in the (Continued on page two)



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ments are made for their continuation.

## Runaway Bus

(Continued from page one)  
and cried unto Thee, Thou  
hearest them from heaven;  
and many times didst Thou de-  
liver them according to Thy  
mercies; and testifiedst against  
them, that Thou mightest bring  
them again unto Thy law: yet  
they dealt proudly, and heark-  
ened not unto Thy command-  
ments, but sinned against Thy  
judgments" (Nehemiah 9:27-  
29).

"And the Lord said, My spirit  
shall not always strive with  
man" (Genesis 6:3).

"While they promise them  
liberty, they themselves are the  
servants of corruption: for of  
whom a man is overcome, of  
the same is he brought in bond-  
age. For if after they have es-  
caped the pollutions of the  
world through the knowledge  
of the Lord and Saviour Jesus  
Christ, they are again entangled  
therein, and overcome, the lat-  
ter end is worse with them than  
the beginning. For it had been  
better for them not to have  
known the way of righteous-  
ness, than, after they have  
known it, to turn from the holy  
commandment delivered unto  
them" (II Peter 2:19-21).



## Seminary

(Continued from page one)  
strictest sense of the word, re-  
jecting the universal, invisible  
church idea with the unionism  
and looseless that stem logical-  
ly from this erroneous idea.  
The full proof of what I am  
saying is written down in black  
and white in the Declaration of  
Faith adopted by the Advisory  
Committee and the Baptist  
Tabernacle for the seminary.  
This declaration is sent free to  
all who write for it. No one  
except a thorough-going Bap-  
tist can accept all of this decla-  
ration.

Our catalogue says very ex-  
plicitly: "This seminary is not  
merely a Christian school. It  
is more than that. It is a Bap-  
tist school. Nor is it just Bap-  
tist in name. It is distinctively  
Baptist... Hence we shall seek  
to train God-called men to be  
sound Baptist missionaries,  
teachers, evangelists, and pas-  
tors so as to encourage the es-  
tablishing and building up of  
sound Baptist churches."

We have no affiliation or  
slightest connection with Frank  
Norris or his school. Not a man  
connected with our school is a  
follower of Norris. We do not  
agree with Norris in some of  
his positions and practices. We  
agree with him only insofar as  
we believe he agrees with the  
Bible. We are as free from  
Norrisism as any other sound,  
independent Baptist. Let no  
one mistake this fact.

Jonah learned more at the bottom of the sea than some preachers learn at the seminary.

## CHRISTIANITY AND NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS COMPARED SACRIFICES

CHRISTIANITY. "Christ our passover is sacrificed for us."—  
I Cor. 5:7. "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his  
own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained  
eternal redemption for us."—Heb. 9:12.

BRAHMANISM. Human sacrifices were once offered among  
Brahmans. Now the Brahmanical sacrifice has disappeared as com-  
pletely as the Levitical sacrifice has disappeared from Judaism.  
The transmigration taught in Buddhism brought about its over-  
throw. To sacrifice an animal might mean the killing of a re-  
incarnated relative.

COURTESY IS A DUTY THE SERVANTS OF CHRIST OWE TO THE  
HUMBLEST PERSON ON EARTH.

HINDUISM. Offerings among the heathen are losing some of  
their sacrificial import and are looked upon and presented as food  
for the gods. Yet it is said that there is scarcely a respectable  
house in Bengal where the mistress has not at sometime shed her  
blood to satisfy her goddess.

BUDDHISM. Gautama considered sacrifices an abomination,  
occasioning pain without securing any god. This was a natural  
conclusion, since he did not believe in a god. He also objected  
to persons inflicting physical torture upon themselves.

THE GENTLENESS OF CHRIST IS THE COMELIEST ORNAMENT THAT  
ANY CHRISTIAN CAN WEAR.

TAOISM. The Taoist priest officiates in red robes, while the  
Buddhists wear yellow. Death brings a number of evil influences  
into the dwelling which, the people believe, are only to be expelled  
by the sacrifices and prayers of Taoist priests. The ceremony  
is called "cleansing the house."

CONFUCIANISM. There are three grades of sacrifices: 1.  
The Great—to heaven, earth, great temple of ancestors and the  
gods of the land and grain. 2. The Medium—to sun, moon, Con-  
fucius, names of deceased emperors and kings, ancient patrons of  
agriculture and silk weaving, the gods of heaven, earth and the  
passing year. 3. The Inferior—to statesmen, martyrs, clouds, etc.

GOD CALLS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NO MIGHT NOR POWER, BUT  
YEARN TO BE FILLED WITH HIS POWER.

ZOROASTRIANISM. Herodotus wrote: "They offer sacrifices  
to Zeus, the sun, moon, earth, fire, water, and winds. They offer  
the sacrifices without altars in a pure spot, the priest singing  
the incantation after which the flesh is eaten." Their sacrifices  
resemble those of the ancient Brahmins.

PARSEEISM. The priest receives the offerings and consecrates  
it. It is then left beside the fire for a short time after which it is  
taken away by the offerer. During Ijashme ceremony no animal  
is killed, only some hair of the ox is placed in a vessel and shown  
with other things to the fire. They throw nothing into the fire.

THE HIDDEN THINGS OF GOD ARE NOT DISCOVERED UNTIL WE ARE  
TREADING THE PATH OF ABSOLUTE OBEDIENCE.

SHINTOISM. The sacrifices of Shintoism consist chiefly in the  
offerings to the spirits of departed heroes and ancestors. The  
priests are very particular to be clean and clothed with clean  
robes. They even bind a slip of paper over their mouths, that their  
breath may not pollute the offering. Twice a year paper manikins  
are solemnly thrown into the river as a cleansing from sin.

MOHAMMEDANISM teaches the slaying of the brute creation  
to commemorate the name of God in obedience. Sheep, goats, kine  
or camels are used. After the sacrifice, the offerer cuts his hair  
and nails and buries them. These ceremonies came down from  
the paganism of Mohammed's day. Although Mohammedanism  
denies Christ's atonement and also that He was ever crucified, yet  
for its great festival it has a sacrifice to commemorate Abraham's  
obedience and God's providing a substitute.

On the other hand, we stand  
aloof from the Modernism and  
Unionism of the Southern Bap-  
tist Convention. Furthermore  
we reject the Arminianism of  
many independent Baptists. We  
are just plain, old-fashion Bap-  
tists. No man has any strings  
on us. We wear our own collar,  
stand on our own feet, and  
shun not to declare the whole  
counsel of God. If you wish  
to have a part in the support of  
such a school, your contribu-  
tions may be mailed to South-  
ern Baptist Bible Seminary,  
Box 629, Columbus, Ga.



## Fire In The Bones

(Continued from page one)  
Yet all over our country are  
hundreds of preachers seldom  
preaching who say they are  
called of God to preach and  
who would immediately accept  
a paying position in the minis-  
try, but who never preach in

jails, shops, on the streets and  
IN THE HOMES. Such bre-  
thren need the compassion of  
Christ, the boldness of John the  
Baptist, the persuasiveness of  
Paul and the empowering of the  
Holy Spirit.

Jeremiah, discouraged and  
unappreciated by his fellows,  
contemplated quitting the min-  
istry. But for a God-called  
man, it is harder not to preach  
than to preach. Hear Jere-  
miah's own testimony: "Then  
I said, I will not make mention  
of him, nor speak any more in  
His name. But His word in  
mine heart AS A BURNING  
FIRE SHUT UP IN MY  
BONES, and I was weary with  
forbearing, and I could not  
stay." (Jer. 20:8-9).

When the Jewish Council  
threatened Peter and John and  
commanded them "not to speak  
at all nor teach in the name of  
Jesus," their answer disclosed  
that they, too, had fire in their  
bones. "For we cannot but

speak the things which we have  
seen and heard." (Acts 4:20).

It takes more than educa-  
tion and culture to make a pro-  
phet like Jeremiah. It takes  
more than organizations, "pep  
talks," colleges, and seminaries  
to put "fire in the bones" such  
as Peter and John had. But  
such is experienced by truly  
devout surrendered souls that  
are "being sent forth by the  
Holy Spirit."



## The Priest

(Continued from page one)

As a strict and sincere Ro-  
man Catholic he had no doubt  
whatever that in taking posses-  
sion of the periodical, which he  
regarded as heretical, and  
therefore dangerous, he was re-  
moving temptation from the  
pathway of those who were be-  
ing led astray by this false  
teaching.

Thus it came about that while  
the good Protestant was won-  
dering why his paper did not  
arrive as usual, in the quiet of  
his own room the priest was  
reading it. And what he read  
filled him with great indigna-  
tion. All the same, he was eager  
to see the next copy that came  
through the post, and the next.  
Month by month the postman,  
overcoming his scruples because  
he was acting under the priest's  
orders, brought him the Gospel  
magazine. Then came an issue  
in which there appeared a para-  
graph offering a copy of the  
New Testament to any who  
wrote and asked for it. Father  
Scapelli had never seen this  
strange Book, though he had  
heard all about it, and he was  
seized with an intense curiosity  
to read a copy. By an indirect  
means he sent in his applica-  
tion, anxious that none should  
know that it came from him.

The Book arrived with its  
dreadful teaching which was  
working so much harm to hu-  
man souls, and which he was  
determined at all cost to keep  
out of the reach of those who  
came under his influence. He  
handled the little volume ginge-  
rily, as a most perilous thing,  
but he read it, and as he studied  
the Book, its message fascinated  
him.

Before long he heard the  
voice of God speaking to him  
from His own Word. He saw  
that the Lord Jesus Christ had  
died for sinners, "the just for  
the unjust, that He might bring  
us to God." He was amazed to  
find the great Apostle Paul's  
declaration that "by grace are  
ye saved through faith... not  
of works, lest any man should  
boast." The priest had always  
believed that only by constant  
and diligent attention to re-  
ligious duties could any soul  
hope to be saved. Now he be-  
gan to see that such things  
ought to be the result of the  
Christian life rather than the  
means of entry into it. It flashed  
upon his soul, as years before it  
had dawned upon Martin Luth-  
er, that a sinner can be recon-  
ciled to God in one way only—  
by believing in the Lord Jesus  
Christ with all his heart, and  
trusting to God's mercy for the  
forgiveness of his sins.

Up and down the room the  
Roman Catholic priest paced,  
not on one occasion only, but  
many times, for he was passing  
through great anguish of soul.  
Convinced of the error of the  
teaching in which he had been  
brought up, he was obliged to  
count the tremendous cost of  
stepping out into the light of  
the Gospel. He knew that he  
would meet with the scorn and  
contempt of his religious col-  
leagues; further, to take his  
stand and declare himself a  
simple believer in the Lord

Jesus Christ would mean a  
sacrifice; his position was  
important one and he had a  
good house, a generous salary  
and the devotion of influential  
friends.

But at last his mind was made  
up; all this must go, and he  
must follow in the steps of his  
divine Master who had been  
"despised and rejected of men."  
Looking to God for courage,  
Giovanni Scapelli cast in his  
lot with those who sought to  
live humbly and sincerely for  
God and His Word, for he was  
determined to embrace the true  
faith, even if it cost life itself—  
as indeed it threatened to do.

All that he had anticipated  
came upon him, and more; in  
very short time he found him-  
self impoverished, abandoned

## DISAPPOINTED

By JOS. E. HARVEY

"I came to your church last  
Sunday,  
I walked up and down the  
aisle,  
I noticed your seat was vacant.  
Said the Master, with kind  
smile.  
"Yes, I was at home," I  
answered,  
"Some folks from up Salem  
way  
Drove down for a week-end  
visit,  
So we stayed in the house  
day."

Or, "I had an awful headache  
"I had a roast in the pan."  
Or, "We overslept that morning  
But I go when'er I can."

"I went to the morning service  
Not over two months ago,  
So much work must wait till  
Sunday,  
There's no time for church  
you know."

The Master gazed at me sadly  
As He was about to speak.  
"My child," He replied, "are  
there not  
Six other days in the week?"

"If all of my other children,  
Should treat me the same  
you,  
My house would be closed—  
deserted—  
Then what would lost sinners  
do?"

I saw I had grieved my Master  
As slowly He turned away,  
And I vowed He'd not find me  
absent  
Again on His holy day.

by his friends, and hated by  
those amongst whom he had  
formerly lived and worked. But  
the peace of God filled his heart  
for he had learned that "the  
gift of God is eternal life," and  
receiving the Lord Jesus into  
his heart, he had come to realize  
the truth of that gracious word  
"He that hath the Son hath  
life."

Several years have passed  
away since Mario Signa, the  
Italian postman, was faced with  
his curious dilemma. His op-  
fense against the law was never  
discovered, but it had far-  
reaching consequences in the  
conversion of Giovanni Scapelli,  
the former Catholic priest.  
Today the latter is in charge  
of one of the strongest Protest-  
ant churches in Italy. He re-  
joices in the light and liberty  
of the Gospel, and, although he  
lives in a city which is noted  
for sin and wickedness of every  
kind, he has gathered around  
him a little company of those  
whose lives are pure and true  
for each one of them is able to  
(Continued on page four)



## "Eternal Life"

(Continued from page one)

positively and negatively that when a person is saved, he is saved forever,—this text is to tell you how that you can go to that city which is in the sky.

### I

EVERY PERSON BORN INTO THIS WORLD IS A POSSESSOR OF SPIRITUAL DEATH.

"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins."—Eph. 2:1.

This tells us that every person before he is saved, is spiritually dead—as dead to God as a corpse is unto this world.

The thirty-seventh chapter of Ezekiel tells us the story of the valley of dead, dry bones. To be sure, Ezekiel's vision primarily was a vision of Israel whereby God likened them unto a graveyard of dead, dry bones. What God said of Israel is just as true of every person who is unsaved. It is true of you spiritually. You are a dead man spiritually in the sight of God. You are alive to this world. You are alive to your loved ones, you are alive to your friends and those that you deal with every day, but you are dead unto the Lord.

I would like to look you squarely in the eye and to hold your hand and say to you pointedly that if Jesus Christ isn't become your Saviour, you are spiritually dead in the sight of God this very hour.

If you will go back and read in the Old Testament in the book of Samuel, you will find that the ark was taken into battle one day and was captured by the Philistines. When news of the battle reached home, the old priest Eli fell over and died when he learned the tragic story of the results of the battle. His daughter-in-law was soon to give birth to a child, and when the news was brought to her of the battle that had gone disastrously to Israel and how that her husband and brother-in-law were killed in battle and how that her father-in-law had been dead when he had heard the news,—the Word of God tells us that all this was too much for her and it caused the baby to be born prematurely, to the extent that she herself died in child birth. The record tells us that in her dying hour she named the child Ichabod, which meant "the glory has departed."

Beloved, the spiritual name of every unsaved person today is Ichabod, for the glory of God has departed from every unsaved person. Man was created in the image of God and in the

Garden of Eden man was a representation of God, but that image is gone and the glory of God has departed.

I say to you, everyone, without any exception, outside of Jesus Christ is spiritually dead and a corpse is no more dead physically than you are spiritually.

### II

WHAT IS THE ETERNAL LIFE WHICH CHRIST OFFERS?

The Word of God tells us what this eternal life is, for we read:

"And this is eternal life, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

—John 17:3.

Every once in a while I hear someone say, "Oh, yes, I believe in eternal life. Whenever I get out into eternity, then I will have eternal life." Beloved, that isn't eternal life. Eternal life is what you have right now as a child of God. It is to know God and to know the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, as your Saviour.

Beloved, if you have been saved by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, then right now you are a possessor of eternal life. I don't say that maybe you have it, but rather I say you have it right now.

"He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see."—John 9:25.

Brother, sister, if you have been saved, you don't have to guess about it. You know that it is a reality in your own experience. You don't have to be in doubt; you know that it is true as a child of God. You can say with the Apostle Paul, "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."

### III

WHEN DOES A SINNER RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE?

I can't emphasize it enough that if you are saved, you have eternal life right now. It isn't something that you are going to get when you are out of this world. It isn't something that is going to be yours to enjoy when you cross over into the New Jerusalem. It isn't going to be yours ten billion years from now, but it is something that is yours now and will always be yours, because it is described as eternal life.

I love that little four letter word "hath." Jesus used it so often. In my text He said:

"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.

Listen again:

"He that believeth on the Son HATH everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

—John 3:36.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me HATH everlasting life."

—John 6:47.

I would impress it upon you that eternal life is a present possession. It isn't a future possession, but it is a present possession that will last throughout time and eternity, and will be a future possession throughout all the endless aeons of an eternity to come.

### IV

CAN ETERNAL LIFE BE LOST AND RE-FOUND?

My text tells us that when a man is saved, he not only has eternal life, but he has an everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation. It is stated both positively and negatively. I am ready to agree that every saved person can lose the joy of his salvation, for we read:

"Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation."—Psa. 51:12.

David lost the joy of his salvation and you as a Christian have doubtlessly lost the joy of your salvation, perhaps many times. I doubt if there is a saved person here today but what at some time has grown cold and indifferent and calloused and hardened, and you have lost the joy of the service of the Lord. Beloved, it is one thing for a man to lose the joy of his God-given salvation and it is another thing for a man to lose that salvation. The first is possible; the second is impossible. The first is probable; the second is definitely improbable. You can lose the joy of that salvation but you can't lose that salvation itself.

Eternal life is just as sure as the sun and the moon within the sky. The Word of God gives us a promise concerning this.

"His seed also will I make to endure for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven. If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgment; 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. Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven."—Psa. 89:29-37.

Beloved, if you are a child of God and violate God's law, you can expect the chastening hand of God to fall upon you. Even though He chastens us He will not take from us His faithfulness and his loving-kindness. Our salvation is just as sure as the sun and the moon. It is just as easy to knock the sun and the moon out of the skies, as it is to lose your salvation when once you have been saved. When a person is saved, God says that he will endure forever and he is established forever as the sun and the moon. It thrills my heart whenever I read such a Scripture.

In all my life there hasn't been a day of perfection. Frankly, I have never lived a

## JUST IN CASE

By E. Pearle Sloatman

If I knew that tomorrow there would be  
No dawn on earth for me;  
That I should have gone in the dark of night  
Into eternity--  
I should do so many things  
For those I love,  
But, oh, I should be happy, too,  
With those above!

So--just in case I might be viewing  
Morning in celestial skies,  
Lord, bring me those who need my love today,  
For, otherwise,  
The night may close a door  
On words I meant to say,  
And morning find my empty house--  
With me away.

perfect day that I know of in my life. I am sure that the person doesn't exist that has lived perfectly every day of his life. Beloved, it blesses my soul when I remember how imperfect I am and how far I get from the Word of God and yet to know that my salvation is just as secure as the sun by day and the moon by night.

Beloved, if you are saved, when tomorrow comes and you look up into the sky and see

work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."—Rom. 8:28.

This couldn't be true if a person could lose his salvation. This verse would be a falsehood if a man could be saved and then lose that salvation. It tells us that all things work together for good for the saved, and it wouldn't be for your good for you to lose your salvation.

I say to you, beloved, you can get cold in the service of the Lord and lose the joy of your salvation, but when God saves you, He saves you forever.

We can never lose our salvation because Jesus' blood cleanses us from all sin. Listen:

"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."—1 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.

"And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you ALL trespasses."

—Col. 2:13.

Notice: all sin, all iniquity, all trespasses—if God has forgiven you all of these, why do you think that there is any possibility of you going to Hell after you have been saved? All of our sins, our iniquities, and our trespasses have been blotted out in the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

When the Lord Jesus saved me, from that time He has never charged another sin to me. Don't misunderstand me, I plead guilty to the fact that I have sinned innumerable since that time. At the same time, if you will be honest you will admit that you have sinned since you have been saved, but, beloved, God has never charged one single sin to you since the day he saved you.

"Blessed, are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin."—Rom. 4:7-8.

That word "impute" means "charge." Who is the man to whom God will not impute sin? It is the man that has been saved.

(Continued on page four)

## ELD. JAMES ECKLES AND FAMILY



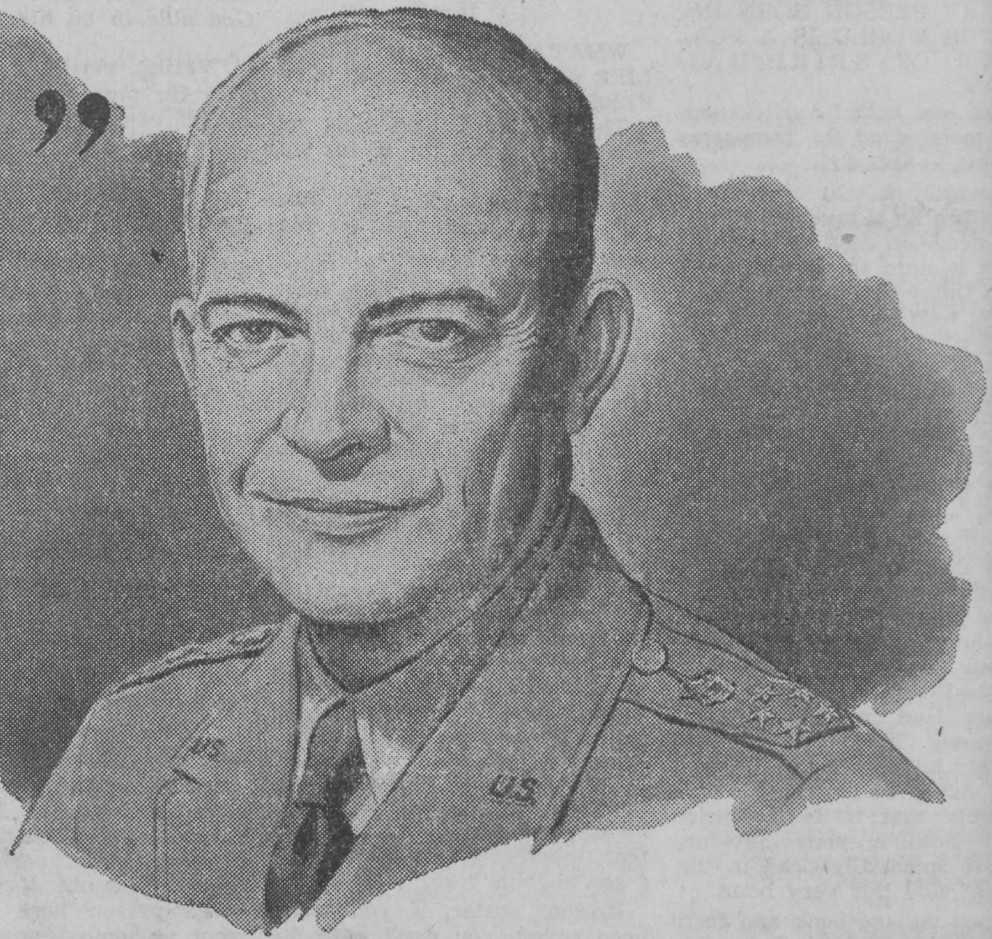
Bro. James Eckles is pastor of the Sylvania Hills Baptist Church near Rochester, Penna. His church though small is a regular supporter of the THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, both prayerfully and financially. Blessings on him, his church, and his family.



# "THE BIG WORD FOR ALL AMERICANS"

## IS DUTY

General Dwight D. Eisenhower



IT IS ALSO THE BIG WORD FOR ALL CHRISTIANS

"And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams."—I Sam. 15:22.

### The Priest

(Continued from page two)  
echo the apostle's glad assurance, "The life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me."  
—The Boys Magazine.

### Millionth Man To Die

(Continued from page one)  
cause of sin.  
"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."—Rom. 5:12.

There will never be any peace until the Prince of Peace comes. May God speed the day of His coming!

### "Eternal Life"

(Continued from page three)  
ed.

God charges sin to every unsaved person. Every time you sin God marks that sin down against you. Beloved, on the day that you are saved, God blots out all those old past sins with the blood of His Son; and from that time on God will not charge one single sin to you. Why? Because He has already charged those sins to the One that you have chosen as your substitute, your Sin-bearer, your Saviour—the Lord Jesus Christ.

I would to God, beloved, that I could preach that truth to every man and woman in this town. I would to God that I could say to every person within this city that Jesus died for your sins, and when you trust Him He blots them out, and He will never, never, never charge

another sin to you as long as you live, because you have a Substitute, a Redeemer, a Saviour and those sins are now charged to Him.

I would remind you that we can never lose our salvation because of what the Psalmist said:

"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 for evermore. For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off."  
—Psa. 37:23-28.

Could anything be sweeter to a child of God than to know that your steps are ordered by the Lord? Even though you fall, He isn't going to turn you loose. It isn't the question of your holding on to the Lord; it is the Lord that holds on to you. The saints of God are preserved forever.

Beloved, you know what preserves are. You know the difference between preserves and canned fruit. Canned fruit will spoil; preserves won't spoil.

You say, "I have seen some folk that joined the church and they got along pretty good for a while, but then they fell by the wayside." Do you know what they were, beloved? They weren't the Lord's preserves. They were just the preacher's canned fruit. Many, many times the preacher cans some people. They spoil. But when the Lord makes spiritual preserves, there is no spoiling. They are preserved forever.

I know that we can never lose our salvation because of the innumerable promises of God relative to salvation. Listen:

"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.

"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.

Beloved, did you ever think about the meaning of that word "everlasting." Let's notice how it is used.

"And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."  
—Mt. 25:46.

Here it describes the punishment of the wicked. It tells us that the punishment of the unsaved is forever. The same word that is used here to describe the punishment of the unsaved, is the same word that describes the life we get in Jesus Christ in my text. If the punishment of the wicked is forever, then, beloved, the life that we get in Jesus Christ is certainly eternal.

Notice again:  
"But now is made manifest, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith."  
—Rom. 16:26.

Here the word "everlasting" is used to describe God's existence. The same word that describes God's existence is the word that describes my salvation. It is the same identical Greek word that is used in John 5:24. If God's existence is forever, why wouldn't my life be forever in the Lord Jesus Christ? If it means everlasting life in one place, it means everlasting elsewhere.

"Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory."—II Tim. 2:10.

The word that describes the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ is the same word that describes

my salvation in John 5:24, which means that I am saved forever.

"For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."—II Pet. 1:11.

This describes the duration of Christ's kingdom. It tells us that His kingdom is going to last forever. If the word "everlasting" means that His kingdom is going to last forever, then the same word in John 5:24 means that my salvation is going to last forever.

Beloved, the word "everlasting" is used to describe the punishment of the wicked, the character of God's existence, Christ's duration in glory, and the duration of Christ's kingdom. If the kingdom of Jesus Christ is going to last forever, and if Christ's glory is going to endure forever, and if God's existence is forever, and if the punishment of the wicked is going to be forever, beloved, I am plainly and abundantly satisfied that my salvation likewise is going to last forever.

### HOW CAN WE RECEIVE THAT KIND OF LIFE?

If you are unsaved, that ought to be the question within your mind. If the Spirit of God has begun to work within your heart, that is the question that is in your mind. Here is how you can receive that kind of life.

Long ago a man once asked that same question. In the midnight hour he cried out, "What must I do to be saved?" The answer was, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

That is my answer to you today. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. Believe what? Believe that He died to keep you out of Hell. Believe that He suffered your Hell at Calvary. Believe that Jesus Christ came to the Cross and that He suffered the equivalent of your suffering in Hell, and that He has already paid

your sin debt on the Cross at Calvary.

Beloved, I can't give it to you. I can't tell you that if you pray you will receive eternal life. I can't tell you that if you join the church, you will get it. I can't tell you that if you are baptized you will get it. I can't tell you this, that if you will receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, He will give you eternal life—the kind that you know that you have, the kind that you know you will have tomorrow, the kind that the Devil can't take away from you. He will give it to you and He will give it to you right now. May you receive now the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour.

May God bless you!

### Christ's Coming

(Continued from page one)  
We may safely predict, by the authority of the Word of God, that if this is God's time for the return of His Son, increasing stellar activity will be seen. All of these signs may have a satisfactory explanation by the scientists, but this will not detract from the fact that these signs are a part of God's warning to the world that an event of outstanding importance is impending. Let Christians take courage, however, every additional sign shortens the time between the perilous days in which we live and the catching away of God's own people with Him forever and forever.—The King's Business.

The Immanuel Baptist Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, has ordered fifteen copies of "Systematic Study of Bible Doctrines," by T. P. Simmons. These are being used in a study course sponsored by the church.

This is a fine idea for others. You couldn't do better spiritually than to order this book and study it. Price \$3.00 postpaid.