

One can see God in everything, but we can see Him best with our eyes shut.

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

The Baptist Examiner

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

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WHOLE NUMBER 634

What Is Involved In The 'Great Falling Away' Of II Thes. 2:3?

The expression "falling away" is translated from the Greek word "apostasy." Now the Bible positively does not teach that the individual Christian shall apostatize in the sense of "fall from grace" and lose his salvation and be finally lost. That heresy is one that contradicts the Bible way of salvation. It nullifies the grace of God, and makes salvation to be a matter of human works. But the Scriptures DO teach that in professing Christendom there shall in the last days of this age come a "falling away" or "apostasy." Thus organized Christianity shall become very largely a sham and make be-

get the full meaning of the "falling away."

Some Of The Marks Of This Apostasy

Religion shall be more of a form than anything else. It shall lack the power of God. (Read II Tim. 3:5). Is it not true that we have such condition existing today? We have plenty of church buildings and lots of church organizations, but we see very little happen that partakes of the nature of the supernatural. What is the matter?

1. The form of Christianity has been perverted and changed. The church that Christ es-

tablished looked nothing like the average church of today. He started a CHURCH. What do we have today? We have a whole gang of clubs supposed to head up in a church, yet in truth they have supplanted the church. This substitutes COMPLEXITY for SIMPLICITY. There is not one line of Scriptures for the auxiliary system—not a line. Yet, we have on the part of Baptist "leaders" the denial that a church is a true Baptist church at all, if it doesn't have these things never mentioned at all, and which were never heard of for more than 18 centuries after Christ started His church.

(Continued on page four)

Do We Really Believe In The Imminent Return Of Our Lord Jesus?

Surely so. This is part of our creed. The Bible is unmistakably clear on the subject. The signs of His coming are many, and have arrested the attention of the great and the wise. The world stands in wonderment. Scriptures are rapidly being fulfilled. Do we believe He must appear soon?

Why then do we live so carelessly and indifferently as to cause the wicked about us to question the sincerity of our faith?

Why then are we so much interested in acquiring earth's fine furnishings which must soon be forgotten by all that blessed company that is called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb?

Why then do we labor and toil from early until late to lay up for ourselves treasures upon earth? Treasures which will soon forever fade from the view of the saints; for such riches will not pass as currency in the City of pure gold.

Why then do we slumber in forgetfulness of those unevangelized hordes who sit in heathen darkness having never

been told of Christ's love, His first coming, and His sacrifice made for every man?

Why then do those who even preach this blessed truth compromise their convictions and cater to the carnal crowd for the sake of convenience and a little of this world's currency?

Why then are we so backward about witnessing to the many and the few of that blessed One, the Bridegroom of the saints, and of "that Blessed Hope" which is the joy of every believer?

Why then do we waste precious time in worry and wonder about the world's worthless wares, rather than revel in the riches of redeeming grace, watching unto prayer, and laboring in love as one that waiteth for his Lord?

—Mission Messenger

SAY!

Have you made an offering toward the enlargement of this paper?

Was Harry Ironside "The Greatest Bible Expositor Of This Century"?

In paying tribute to Bro. H. A. Ironside, former pastor of Moody Memorial Church, and who recently died, Bro. A. M. Overton, editor of The Clarion, says:

Brother Ironside might be considered as somewhat "irregular" by the more "orthodox" brethren, but in our opinion he was the greatest Bible expositor of this century. His books of Bible exposition will bless any Bible student if studied with an open mind and open Bible.

Bro. Overton is a great preacher and is entitled to his opinion, but we think he said something he didn't mean, when he declared Bro. Iron-

side to be "the greatest Bible expositor of this century."

It is true that his books have been a blessing to many and that on some portions of the Bible, his writings are most helpful. However, it is definitely wrong to say of any man who opposed Baptist baptism, and Baptist church truths, and whose whole emphasis centered about the universal church theory, that he was the "greatest Bible expositor."

There are lots of back-woods preachers and grandmothers, who never went to school one day in their lives who have more understanding of church truth and baptism than did Bro. Ironside. What a pity he died without any true baptism and church membership, that he never took the Lord's Supper scripturally one time in his life, and that he will never be a part of the bride of Christ—just a guest at the wedding.

Any man who can't see these church truths in the Bible is not "the greatest Bible expositor of this century." A man just can't be an heretic and a great expositor too.

Georgia Layman Sends \$100 To Enlarge This Paper

A layman in Savannah, Ga., sent us \$100.00 last week to enlarge this paper to eight pages weekly. Needless to say that we rise up and call him blessed and pray that his tribe may grow.

In his letter, he said in part:

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I love The Baptist Examiner and especially your sermons. Have been reading TBE for about six years and expect to continue till the Lord comes. Enter my name as a lifetime member.

Am enclosing \$100 money order to be used for the enlargement of The Baptist Examiner

Yours in Him

We are happy for every contribution we receive. It takes a lot of them to count up to \$6,000—the amount we need for our enlargement. May God lead many others to follow the example of this noble man!

Russia Probably Wants Palestine Because Of The Dead Sea With Its Wealth

The eyes of the whole world are on Palestine, and if you will look at a map of the Holy Land in your Bible you will see a picture of the Dead Sea. It is a vast body of water. It covers an area of 340 square miles, and its depth varies from twelve feet at the south end to 1300 feet at the deepest part of the northern end. It occupies a sink, the altitude of which is 1292 feet below sea level. This great inland Sea has no outlet and into it for long centuries all the hills and upper plains have been drained. Because there is no outlet, and the rate of evaporation being rapid, the mineral content is astonishingly high. In fact it is the heaviest concentration of certain soluble salts known to occur anywhere in the entire world. This Sea is forty-seven miles in length, and it reaches a width of nine and a half miles at its widest expanse. The name "Dead Sea" was given to this mighty inland lake in the second century of our era. Formerly it was called "The Salt Sea," "The Sea of the Plains," and Josephus calls it "The Asphalt Lake."

Modern Arabs still refer to it as "Lot's Sea." We recall seeing a picture in a religious periodical of a woman sitting upright on this Sea holding an open umbrella, with both hands, over her head for protection from the sun—not in a boat but on the water itself. The temperature in the area is often 120 degrees Fahrenheit. The heat is unbearable at times.

Chemical engineers have discovered that the waters of this strange lake contain vast quantities of many of the substances most valuable to industry, agriculture and warfare. They found that from the depth of 200 feet down, the waters were practically a saturated solution of various salts. Consequently a pipe line thirty inches in diameter

(Continued on page four)

VALUE OF THE PRINTED PAGE

A Puritan preacher wrote "The Bruised Reed," a successful devotional book for a brief period before it was forgotten.

But a copy that chanced to fall into the hands of Richard Baxter, started him thinking of religion; later he wrote a great book, "The Saints' Everlasting Rest."

It resulted in the conversion of Philip Doddridge, the famed hymn-writer. He, in turn, wrote "The Rise and Progress of Religion in the Soul," a favorite devotional manual.

William Wilberforce, philanthropist, read it and then penned "The Practical View of Christianity."

That book led Thomas Chalmers to Christ—founder of the Church of Scotland and one of the greatest preachers Scotland ever produced.

A book did it! Kibbe — Baxter — Doddridge — Wilberforce — Chalmers — what a chain of heroes of the faith.

The First Baptist Pulpit

"PURGATORY"

"Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high."

—Heb. 1:3.

Let me ask you, sinner friend, a plain, straight-forward, simple question, where will you

be in eternity? I can't answer it for you, and there isn't anyone else who can answer it for you. This isn't something that can be settled by proxy. This, beloved, is something that you, and you alone, can answer. I ask you again, where will you be in eternity?

If you will go to the various so-called churches of this town and elsewhere, you will find

that there are four possible places that will be suggested as to where you will be in eternity: namely, Heaven, Hell, Purgatory, and Annihilation.

Beginning with the last, beloved, let me say that there are individuals, some of whom reside right here in Russell, who believe in Annihilation. They believe that when you die, you

(Continued on page two)

COUNTERFEIT CHRISTIANS

"Did you ever see a counterfeit five-dollar bill?"

"Yes."

"Why was it counterfeit?"

"Because it was worth counterfeiting."

"Was the five-dollar bill to blame?"

"No."

"Do people counterfeit scraps of brown paper?"

"No."

"Why?"

"Because they are not worth counterfeiting."

"Did you ever see a counterfeit Christian?"

"Yes."

"Why was he counterfeited?"

"Because he was worth counterfeiting."

"Was he to blame?"

"No."

"Did you ever see a counterfeit infidel?"

(Continued on page four)

One of the great problems in church work arises from the fact that some corpses refuse to be buried.

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JOHN R. GILPIN — EDITOR

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"Purgatory"

(Continued from page one)
will probably be given a second chance, and then if you refuse that second opportunity, you will just be shoveled into Hell, like so much coal, and burned up, or annihilated. You will come to nothing, and that will be the end of you.

Then there are those who believe that in eternity you will be in Purgatory—maybe for a while, to get out, or maybe for eternity you will be there. They believe that Purgatory is a place of tempered suffering, depending upon the sins of your life that you have committed here within this world. It is further said by those who believe in a Purgatory that after your sins have been purged and after sufficient suffering has been expiated in behalf of those sins, that you will be able to get out of Purgatory.

Then there are those of us, beloved, who believe that every man who is saved when he dies, goes immediately into the direct presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. I can't say it emphatically enough, nor can I say it forcibly enough, but, beloved, when a saved person dies, that one goes immediately into Heaven, into the direct presence of the Lord Jesus Himself.

There is a fourth place where you will be in eternity, and that is Hell. Sinner friend, I want to be fair with you, and I wouldn't be your friend if I didn't tell you the truth. If you were to die without Jesus Christ as your Saviour, you would go into eternity into a Devil's Hell.

I say then, there are four possible places that are suggested by the various religious groups as to where you will be in eternity.

I

THE PURGATORY OF THE CATHOLICS IS A MISNOMER.

They say that when a man dies in this world that he goes out into eternity into Purgatory, suffers for his sins for a little while, and then by certain payments on the part of his relatives here, and by prayers that are offered by the religionists here within this life, that that soul will be released from the fire and the pain and the punishment of Purgatory and will enter into the bliss of Heaven. When any individual comes to you preaching such a doctrine as that, mark it down, beloved, that the Purgatory which he speaks of is a misnomer in the light of the Word of God. I stand ready to challenge any individual to produce in this Bible one passage of Scripture from Genesis to Revelation that says one thing about a Purgatory of that type.

I know an individual who sometime ago offered \$1,000 to any Catholic that would produce one Scripture that would prove the existence of a Purgatory such as is taught by the Catholics. Though that offer was made some ten years ago, not a man has yet made claim in any wise at all to that \$1,000 that was posted as a bonus for any individual who could find the Catholic Purgatory in the Word of God.

There are several passages of Scripture which show us that the Catholic Purgatory is a misnomer.

"If the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be."

—Eccl. 11:3.

Beloved, when a tree is cut down, which ever way that tree falls is the way that tree is going to lie. You don't pick a tree up after it falls and turn it around in the other direction. Which ever way it falls, whether it is north or south, there it shall be.

The Spiritual application of this Scripture is simply this: Which ever way you die, that is the way you are going to be throughout eternity. If you die saved and fall asleep in the Lord Jesus Christ, you will be saved throughout eternity; if you die lost, a child of the Devil, you will be lost throughout eternity. If you have any hope whatsoever that when you die there will be a second chance and that there will be another opportunity for you to be saved, if you think that, mark it down, beloved, you are laboring under a Scriptural delusion. As a tree lies where it falls, so, sinner friend, throughout eternity you are going to be exactly as you have died.

Listen again:

"And as it is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment."—Heb. 9:27.

Notice that it doesn't say that after death comes Limbo, and after Limbo comes Purgatory, and after Purgatory comes the judgment. Rather, it says that the next event following death is the judgment.

Sinner friend, will you believe me when I tell you that when you die, the next great event in your life is that you are going to stand before the God of the universe, and in the presence of Him you shall be judged for the life, the deeds, your works, and your influence while living here within this world. Beloved, there is not one thought of a Purgatory here within this text. There is not one thought of a second chance after death, but rather following death the next event is the judgment bar of God.

"There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. 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. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things:

but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence."

—Luke 16:19-26.

There are three things that stand out in this passage of Scripture. The first is that after death comes Hell—not Purgatory, not Limbo, not a half way place, not a suffering that is tempered, but Hell. It says: "And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments." I say then, after death comes a Hell of suffering for every individual that dies outside of Jesus Christ.

The second thing that stands out is that in this Hell there is nothing but suffering. There isn't any tempered suffering. There isn't any water to be given. There isn't any release from the suffering. There isn't any possibility at all whereby that suffering will be diminished—just suffering, suffering, suffering.

The third thing that stands out is that there is a gulf fixed so that the individual who goes to Hell stays in Hell, and the individual that goes to Heaven stays in Heaven. A gulf is fixed between the two and the Word of God says that there can be no passing from Heaven to Hell, nor from Hell to Heaven.

In the light of this passage of Scripture, I say away with the idea of a Catholic Purgatory where there will be tempered suffering for a little while and then the sinner will be released from that suffering to enter into Heaven.

Listen again:

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

Notice, beloved, that unsaved people are consigned from judgment into an everlasting punishment. It isn't a punishment for a little while, nor a punishment until one has suffered for his sins and has been purged from them; rather, beloved, they shall go into everlasting punishment.

"And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power."

—II Thess. 1:7-9.

This tells us that the unsaved will be punished with everlasting destruction—not destruction for a season, not for just a little while, but with everlasting destruction.

Let's notice another Scripture that you might see that the idea of a Catholic Purgatory is definitely a misnomer:

"The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."—Rev. 14:10,11.

Beloved, in the light of these several Scriptures which I have read to you and others which I might have read to you, I insist that Purgatory as taught by certain religionists,—as taught by the Romanists, is definitely a falsehood in the light of the Word of God.

Some few days ago a man was telling me of an experience which might be repeated hundreds of times, day by day. One of his relatives had died and as they were getting ready for the burial, the Catholic priest told this particular individual who was making the arrangements for the funeral that he saw no reason whatsoever for anybody sending a bouquet or any kind of floral offering. He said to this man, "Your brother who has died, while he was good in some respects, was rather notoriously evil. It is going to be difficult to get him out of Purgatory." Therefore, it was suggested by the priest that instead of sending flowers which would do the dead man no good, they would send spiritual bouquets. He went on to explain to this man what he meant. He said that the cost of a floral piece would be approximately \$10.00 and instead of buying flowers it would be better to send that \$10.00 to the church and for them to pray for this man who would need every bit of prayer that could be offered in his behalf to get him out of Purgatory. I smiled when the man told me of this experience. I didn't want to hurt his feelings by laughing uproariously, but I smiled to him and said, "Brother, don't you think that it was, after all, a pretty shrewd way to get a ten dollar bill out of a bunch of unsuspecting people who

didn't know anything at all about the Bible?"

Frankly, beloved, that was all it was. It was a scheme to fleece unsuspecting, un-Scriptural, untaught, un-Biblical, unlearned people who knew nothing about the Word of God. It was a scheme to fleece them out of their money, and as far as the prayers of that priest, or the prayers of any preacher or any rabbi in behalf of any dead man is concerned, they are worthless.

Beloved, if you are going to do any praying for anybody, do it while that individual is alive. Don't wait until he dies. If you expect to pray for me, pray for me while I am alive. If you expect to pray for someone that is unsaved, pray for him while he is alive. When he dies, there is no hope for that individual to ever be saved.

I tell you, beloved, in the light of these Scriptures, Purgatory as taught by the Catholics is definitely anti-Scriptural and contradictory to the Word of God.

II

HOWEVER, SINS MUST BE PURGED.

In one respect the Catholics are right. They are right when they insist that there must be a Purgatory. I say also to you, there must be a Purgatory. There has to be sometime, somewhere, some place, a way whereby sins may be purged. Though the Catholic idea of Purgatory after death is un-Scriptural, I would insist at the same time that there must be a Purgatory whereby sins may be purged. Thank God, beloved, I can tell you about that Purgatory!

For nearly twenty-two years as your pastor I have been preaching about such a Purgatory. I have been preaching to you that you might have your sins purged, that you might have the assurance deep within your heart and your conscience that your sins are purged away and you are definitely at peace with the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of God tells about the Scriptural Purgatory. Referring to Jesus, it says:

"When he had by himself PURGED our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high."—Heb. 1:3.

Beloved, do you want to see the only Purgatory that the Word of God knows anything about? Then go back to Calvary and see the Lord Jesus Christ who was crucified there for our sins. See Him who was nailed to the Cross. Behold Him as

(Continued on page three)

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**"JUST ONE LIFE,
IT WILL SOON BE
PAST,
ONLY WHAT'S DONE
FOR CHRIST,
WILL LAST"**

CHRISTIANITY AND NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS COMPARED

SACRED DAYS

CHRISTIANITY. The New Testament lays no stress upon sacred days, except the first day of the week. Formalism in observing days dedicated to certain departed saints detracts from Christ. Paul wrote to the Galatians, and said: "I am afraid of you; ye observe days, and months, and times, and years."

BRAHMANISM. In August the twice-born castes of India put on a new sacred thread and all castes tie colored threads around their wrists. At the sacred places throughout the country, there are special days for bathing in a tank or river. On these days it is the custom to combine worship with pleasure, so the people also visit entertainments and peepshows.

ONLY IN THE SPIRIT WHO ENABLES US TO CALL GOD, "ABBA," ARE WE ABLE TO WORSHIP SPIRITUALLY.

HINDUISM. The Holi festival is in spring and Dewali is in autumn for traders. Pola festival, at which time the cattle are garlanded and worshipped, is held in August or September and resembles the Jewish Day of Atonement. Houses are cleaned, and the sweeping carried beyond the village boundary. Dashava, held in the autumn is the greatest festival of the year; then the story of Rama's triumph is recited amid much noise and fireworks.

BUDDHISM. Devout Buddhists observe four worship days in each month. Lenten season in Burma extends from the full moon of July to that in October. "On worshipping days, and especially at great feasts, the people visit the pagodas and monasteries with their offerings and recite their religious formulae." On the 8th and 15th of each month, the moon is worshipped.

NO ONE CAN POSSIBLY ENJOY COMMUNION WITH GOD AND GO WHERE GOD DOES NOT GO.

TAOISM. On the last evening of the year, they gather for the worship of the tablets of ancestors. On the morning of the second of the first new moon, all males of suitable age go to the family or clan graveyard and there make the customary offerings to the spirits of the departed.

CONFUCIANISM. The worshipping of the ancestral tablets and spirits of the departed, constitutes a most essential ingredient of the Chinese New Year. Once a year the emperor and his ministers "plow the sacred field." The ground belongs to the temple of heaven and earth. The crop of wheat is used in idolatrous services.

OUR WORSHIP SHOULD NOT BE CONFINED TO TIMES AND PLACES. IT SHOULD BE THE SPIRIT OF OUR LIFE.

ZOROASTRIANISM. Sacred days, in commemoration of anniversaries, do not seem to have had a very prominent place in the religion of Zoroaster. In all probability, he did not deal with this subject but left people free to their own pleasure.

THE PARSEES do not seem to lay so much stress on certain sacred days as on ceremonial observances, such as the one connected with the confirmation of boys when they put on the sacred band and shirt and are initiated into membership in the Parsee religion. Funeral ceremonies are also considered important.

NO MAN KNOWS HIMSELF WHO DOES NOT KNOW HOW TO COMMUNE WITH GOD.

SHINTOISM. There are five great festivals: New Year's day, on the first day of the first month; Dolls' Festival (for girls), on the third day of the third month; Feast of the Flags (for boys), on the fifth day of the fifth month; Festival of the Star Vega, on the seventh day of the seventh month; Chrysanthemum Festival, on the ninth day of the ninth month.

MOHAMMEDANISM. March tenth is commemorated as the birthday of Mohammed and Friday is observed, all over Moslem lands, as the Mohammedan Sabbath. In Palestine, "Mebe Musa" day is made very popular by great crowds visiting the Moslem site of the grave of Moses, between Jerusalem and the Jordan river.

"Purgatory"

(Continued from page two)
the blood flows from His smitten body. Beloved, there is the Purgatory that every sinner needs—the blood-bath of Calvary whereby Jesus Christ purged our sins away.

"Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God."

—Rom. 3:25
If you want to get propitiation for your sins, if you want to have a sacrifice for your sins whereby that they might be blotted out, you will find that propitiation through faith in the

Lord Jesus Christ.

Beloved, I am glad that I can offer to you a Purgatory that will work. I will guarantee it because I know that it worked in my own experience. Every saved man knows that this is true, because it worked in his experience. If you want your sins purged and removed from you, the only way that they can be purged away is by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ at Calvary.

We have another Scripture which tells us the same truth.

"The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."—I John 1:7.

Stop for a moment and think about the sins of your life. I sat here a few minutes ago as I was waiting to preach and I counted fifteen individuals who are unsaved, and who by their own word of testimony to me, if they were to die, would go

to a Devil's Hell unsaved. As I thought of these individuals, I said to myself, "Oh, that God would give to these individuals the proper Purgatory, that their sins might be purged from them."

How many sins are there in your life? I don't know and you don't know. I know one thing, the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. Every sin that you have ever committed from the time that you were born down to this hour, and on down to the last sin that you will ever commit, thank God, when Jesus Christ suffered at Calvary, He suffered for all of those sins.

"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.

You say, "Brother Gilpin, I am working and I am praying, and I am doing the best I can to be saved." Beloved, you don't need to do a thing to be saved. Jesus Christ has already done it all that He might redeem you from all iniquity. If the Son of God died on the Cross to redeem you from all iniquity, I ask you, how much iniquity is left for you to redeem yourself from? Thank God for this blessed truth. Jesus Christ died to redeem us from all iniquity, and if all of our sins, and all of our transgressions are laid on Him, thank God there isn't any room for you to do anything at all in working out your salvation.

Don't misunderstand me: After you are saved you ought to work, you ought to join the church, you ought to be baptized, you ought to do everything you can out of love to Him. All you do will never help to save you nor add one particle to your salvation, because Jesus Christ on the Cross at Calvary wrought out your salvation when He died to purge you, to cleanse you, from all your sins in His own precious blood.

"And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."

—Heb. 10:11-14.

Doesn't it thrill your heart to know that by the one offering of Jesus Christ, God Almighty made you perfect? Though I sin in my flesh every day, just as every other Christian does, in the sight of God I am perfect.

Sinner friend, it isn't joining the church that saves you; it isn't baptism that saves you; it isn't good works, nor a good life, nor reformation that saves you; it isn't the keeping of the Law nor living up to the Ten Commandments; it isn't by keeping the Golden Rule or by carrying out the Great Commission. Beloved, the only Saviour that this world knows anything about is Jesus Christ, who on the Cross of Calvary died, not for His sins, but for your sins and for my sins, and by His blood He purges our sins and cleanses us from all of our sins.

"Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before the judgment; and some men they follow after."—I Tim. 5:24.

This is a passage of Scripture that is very definitely and often misunderstood. Beloved, sin has to be punished. This tells us that you can do one of two

Eld. V. B. Castleberry



Beginning March 25 and continuing for an indefinite period, Bro. V. B. Castleberry of Hamilton, Ohio will be holding a revival meeting for Pastor Eli Williams and the saints of the Fullerton Baptist Church of South Shore, Kentucky.

We have a large number of subscribers in that area and we urgently insist that every reader avail himself of the opportunity to attend these services.

Bro. Castleberry, a personal friend of the editor, is a good sound gospel preacher. May our friends everywhere remember this meeting in prayer.

things: you can either send your sins ahead of you for punishment, or else you can have those sins follow you right up to the judgment bar of God. Every individual who is saved has already sent his sins ahead of him to be judged. When were they judged? 1900 years ago when Jesus Christ died on the Cross of Calvary. My sins were paid for in His death, and everyone of God Almighty's elect, from the first man that was saved in this world to the last one of God's elect that shall be saved, had his sins paid for 1900 years ago in full by the Lord Jesus Christ at Calvary. Beloved, the man that sees this truth that Jesus died for his sins, who believes that the death of Jesus is sufficient to save, has sent his sins on ahead and has committed himself into the hands of Jesus, and those sins are already judged in the Person of Jesus Christ.

Sinner friend, trust Jesus Christ as your Saviour and He will purge you from all of your sins. He will blot out all of those sins. He will save you from those sins. He will send your sins ahead of you to the judgment, and when you get there, you won't have a single sin to answer for, because those sins have already been paid for in full by the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you go on just as you are, whenever you come up to the judgment everyone of your sins—the sins that you have forgotten about, the sins that you wish you could forget about—everyone of those sins are going to follow you right up to the judgment bar of God.

Beloved, would you like to know how that you might come to this Purgatory? Would you like to know how you can have your sins purged in this manner? I will tell you how. Jesus Christ on Calvary's Cross paid for your sins, and the man who believes with a God-given faith that Jesus died for his sins, that man is saved and is going to Heaven when he dies, and he has an assurance and a peace that will last forever.

"And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness, quietness

CHURCH DISCIPLINE FOR N. T. CHURCHES

By W. LEE RECTOR
(Now with the Lord)

The doctrine of church discipline is tremendously important. All who are acquainted with the teachings of the Word on this subject will agree at once with this statement, and all who understand the condition of our churches today will also agree that very few churches are doing anything about it.

Many of our churches are now cursed with worldly-wise and carnally-minded leadership. Under such guidance, the grossest offenses are committed against the laws of God in the name of Christ. Thus many churches have become cold and unresponsive to the truth. They have "the form of Godliness but deny the power thereof." Satan's seat is now in many churches.

When we look at the attitude of many brethren toward the question of church discipline, we stand aghast, amazed, and dumbfounded. Such contempt for divine instructions evidence the exodus of the Lord from them and the entrance of Satan in the name of Christ. Many churches are nearly, if not completely, Laodician.

In this brief treatise, we shall look briefly at the occasion for, the urgency of, the kinds of, and the consequences of church discipline.

The Occasion for Church Discipline

The presence of unregenerate hearts, functioning in the life of a church body, explains one of the occasions for church discipline. These, not knowing the Lord in the free pardon of their sins and not spiritually interested in the precepts of the

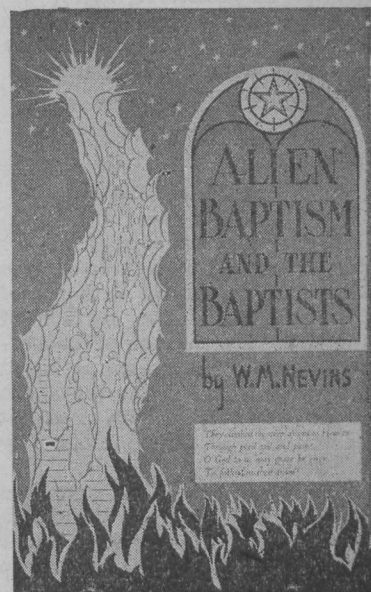
(Continued on page four)

and assurance for ever."

—Isa. 32:17.

May God help you to come to the Purgatory of the Bible, to the killing place on Calvary, to the sacrificial ground at the Cross, and trust my Jesus who died there for all of your sins. May God bless you!

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'Great Falling Away'

(Continued from page one)

2. The purpose of Christianity has been perverted. Christ started His church to preach the gospel—to baptize converts—to teach them to observe the teachings of the New Testament. (Matt. 28:19-20). But hundreds of churches have not one single baptism during a whole year, while at the same time they dabble into everything. Some churches have Boy Scout groups, some have ball teams, some have recreational halls with pool tables and all sorts of things. Some have a constant round of eating and drinking parties and frolics. Indeed it is assumed that churches exist for social purposes—that they are just "clubs." All of this grossly perverts the true mission of a church. A church should be a religious institution—one that deals with the soul and with the spiritual life, and one that fits one for the eternal hereafter. The biggest enterprise of any church is the spreading of the gospel of eternal salvation as far over the world as is possible for that church to do. Failure of churches along this one line results in the world being in spiritual darkness today with the larger number of human beings candidates for hell.

Religion shall come to deny Christ Himself. (Jude 1:4).

This has already come true in many places. Men in high places religiously deny the full deity of Christ. Apostate protestantism's big preacher is Harry E. Fosdick, and he is a denier of the deity of Christ. Whole "churches" deny the same—such as Unitarianism, Universalism, Christian Science and Modernism in its ranker forms.

Religionists will deny the return of Christ. (II Peter 3:3-4).

What Should We Do?

We should "turn away" from all such false expressions of Christianity even as we are commanded (II Tim. 3:5) and should run our churches as after the New Testament teaching no matter what anybody says.



Counterfeit

(Continued from page one)

"No, never."
"Why?"

The answer is obvious. He is not worth counterfeiting.

When men are born again and live up to the Bible, they are true, honest Christian men. Will you become one?



Dead Sea

(Continued from page one)

meter and 2800 feet long was laid, terminating at a depth of 200 feet below the surface of the Sea. By the use of enormous pumps this water is lifted for use. The soil on the shore is a heavy clay, which does not permit the water to escape by filtration.

The wind blows all day from the south, and from the north all through the night. Under these conditions the water in shallow pans is quickly evaporated, leaving behind a residue of chemicals. At certain stages of evaporation the water is drained off into lower pans and the process continued. The top pan condenses to a certain stage, and is then allowed to flow down into pan number two. When the water in pan

number two is sufficiently evaporated, it is again drained off into pan number three, leaving behind the double salt known as carnallite: This is composed of magnesium and potassium, which are easily evaporated. The process of evaporation is continued and when the water is once more drained into pan number four it contains magnesium bromide from which pure bromide is obtained cheaply. This fourth and last pan is completely evaporated, and the process is finished. The final stage yields another salt. This is known as potassium chloride. Evaporating pan number one produces sodium chloride. Pan number two, magnesium and potassium (carnallite). Pan number three, magnesium bromide. Pan number four, potassium chloride.

What God hath wrought! Across the centuries He has been storing up these valuable salts for the last days, these priceless ingredients for the use of our day. The total value of these deposits is inestimable. Thousands of millions of tons, there is at the very least right now forty-one thousand million tons of these wonderful and precious chemicals available, and still the streams are constantly pouring into this Sea forty thousand additional tons yearly. It is said that all the money minted since the days of Julius Caesar would not equal the cost price of this chemical treasure, if it had been purchased in the mass.

Why is this enormous wealth stored up? God provided it for Israel, and the mechanism for its recovery is brought to light. He arranged the slope and nature of the soil and also put artesian water near by for the use of those employed. But will the Jews keep these deposits for themselves, or will some other power seek the spoils?

We are plainly told in Ezekiel that Russia will undertake a campaign for the sake of the spoils. Nations are fast bankrupting themselves by bloody wars, famine grips the earth with clammy hands, and the godless powers are desperate for money, materials, and food. Their eyes turn to Palestine, the Dead Sea, and they reach out with rapacious hands to seize these treasures. The unquestioned source of Palestine's future wealth is the Dead Sea. Even now the Holy Land is blossoming as the rose and industry and agriculture are stimulated because of this vast wealth. The bleak and barren hills are changed to fruitful groves and orchards. Soon the Palestine "grab" will be on. Kaiser Wilhelm wanted it. Mussolini cast wistful eyes in that direction, and now the Kremlin, with intent gaze would seize it for a prey. The Russian invaders will enter Palestine for the spoils, but God will bring about complete defeat and rout of the foe. Five-sixths will die. This will be a casualty list hitherto unknown in the annals of war. For seven months the victors will be burying the Lord's slain. God is going to rain fire, hail and brimstone upon these godless Communists, and the Revelation tells us that hailstones will be the size of a talent, about 125 lbs., in weight, thus bringing about their utter destruction. A missionary told me about seeing in Africa hailstones the size of a baseball, and the demolishing power was terrific, but these will be much larger yet when God undertakes to win this battle against the cruel, heartless, barbaric, God-hating, Christ-rejecting, diabolical Communists. So "Lift up your head," Christian believer, "for your redemption

draweth nigh." "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape those things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

—The Midnight Cry



Church Discipline

(Continued from page three)

Master, find themselves willingly running rough-shod over God's laws, and church rules of decorum. Flouting these, church discipline becomes a divine imperative in order to save the Lord's church witness.

The presence of unrestrained flesh, operating in the lives of the saints, also occasions church problems. Since the way of the flesh is the way of Satan, a yielding to it can but beget offenses against the divine laws of the Lord's houses. Worldly-minded saints are offenders at this point.

The presence of untutored enthusiasts in our churches, clamoring for conformity to things practiced round about, bring in doctrinal corruption, and thus create problems for our churches.

The operation of these three groups in the life of any church, if uncurbed, will destroy the unity and the power and the fellowship of the Lord's house. These occasions need for church discipline.

The Urgency of Church Discipline

The presence of spiritual rebellion and spiritual virus and dissipating influences in the life of a church demand action. These must be dealt with in their incipency else the spiritual life of the church will become corrupted and the witness of the church played down to the level of the flesh and the carnal. For a church to dodge dealing with these down-grade influences spells spiritual ruin.

Members of churches have been heard to say, "O we can't exercise discipline in our church. If we did we would have to turn everybody out." Perhaps there is a large measure of truth in this word. The existence of such church situation does not discount the doctrine of church discipline, but discredits the leadership of

churches where such corruption obtains. The dominion of such carnality in our churches strongly challenges them to clean house, and at once. Churches must move to clean up, else we find ourselves in a universal apostate condition.

The Kinds of Church Discipline

There are three classes of church discipline disclosed in the Scriptures. These deal with personal offenses, public offenses, and doctrinal offenses.

1. Personal offenses:

Matt. 18:15-17 describes the procedure the Lord requires for personal offenses. The offended one shall go to the offender, and if the offender does not satisfy the wrong, then the offended one shall take two or three witnesses to the offender, and if he refuses still to satisfy the wrong done, then the offended one shall take the personal offense to the church, and if the offender refuses to satisfy the offense before the body, then the church shall "let him be unto it (thee) as a heathen man and a publican."

Please note that no committee is named by the church to settle this problem.

2. Public offenses:

I Cor. 5:1-13 describes the Lord's method of disciplining one guilty of a public offense against the house of God. The Lord, by Paul, instructs the church when it comes together, in the name of the Lord Jesus, to withdraw fellowship, and to do this upon the basis of a common report.

Another example of the Lord's dealing with a public offense against His church is set forth in 2 Thes. 3:6. Here the Lord orders a withdrawal of fellowship for disorderly conduct.

See also Acts 5:1-11.

Please note again that no committee is required by the Lord to investigate and recommend concerning these public offenses.

3. Heretical offenses:

Tit. 3:10 shows the Lord's way of dealing with a doctrinal offender, or an heretic, after the first and second admonition. The Lord expressly says, "a man that is an heretic, after the first and second admonition reject; knowing that he that is such is

subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself." He counsels the withdrawal of fellowship.

Please note that no church committee is authorized to deal with heretical offenses.

The practice of churches naming committees to effectuate discipline is completely without Scriptural sanction. Accordingly, such a practice is a human invention, the which has betrayed churches into further and further trouble.

Some one might inquire, "Does not a church have authority to name a committee to serve it at its own will?" Yes, this authority is inherent in the divine "keys" the Lord delivered to His church by which it "binds" and "looses," Matt. 16:19; and Matt. 18:18. Nothing herein is intended to discount the divine authority granted the local church by the Lord Himself. We are insisting, however, that the Scriptures make no definite provision for committee function in church discipline.

Consequences of Church Discipline

Churches practicing discipline find the Lord maturing the spirit of love and devotion to His house; find the Lord's house Holy Spirit led and cleansed; find a unified and heaven-blessed church; and find a courageous and conquering membership.

Churches practicing discipline will honor the expressed teachings of the Word about every respect of its ministry both in message and method.

Churches practicing discipline find two things obtaining:

1. They find the world and worldly-minded church members frowning upon such action and

2. They find the Lord and His faithful saints smiling upon and blessing such action. Let's be faithful to the Lord.

Churches practicing discipline, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, are "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord," I Cor. 15:58. "So mote it be."

—Reprinted from The Baptist Examiner at the request of many.



HUGE DIAMOND FOUND

According to Associated Press the Transvaal's Premier Minister of Johannesburg, South Africa, which produced the Cullinan diamond, the world's biggest diamond, and the famous Jonker, now given up a third magnificent stone.

The new find is of perfect color, half the size of a matchbox and weighs 195 carats. It is worth about \$168,000. It is described as blue-white and being sold in normal trade channels. Its value is in its perfect quality rather than its size.

Valuable finds, these huge diamonds, yet they are not to be compared to the treasure which enriches the person finding the Lord Jesus Christ, faith; for in Him are hid the treasures of wisdom and knowledge!" (Col. 2:3).

We cannot all find diamonds, especially mammoth ones; but we can find the Saviour, though He was rich yet for our sakes became poor, that we through His poverty might be rich.

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This is evidenced by the following testimonies received recently by the author:

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