

Your needy friend may some day be a friend indeed.

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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## The Real Business Of Any Church

By ROY MASON  
Tampa, Florida

There may be some repetition in this lesson, for it is hard not to repeat when different subjects are so close together. However, there is a certain value in repetition—it serves to lodge truths in our heads.

The main business of a church can be simply stated. It is missions. One writer has published a book under the title, "Missions Our Mission." That is an excellent statement. Now when we say "missions" we do not just mean "foreign missions."

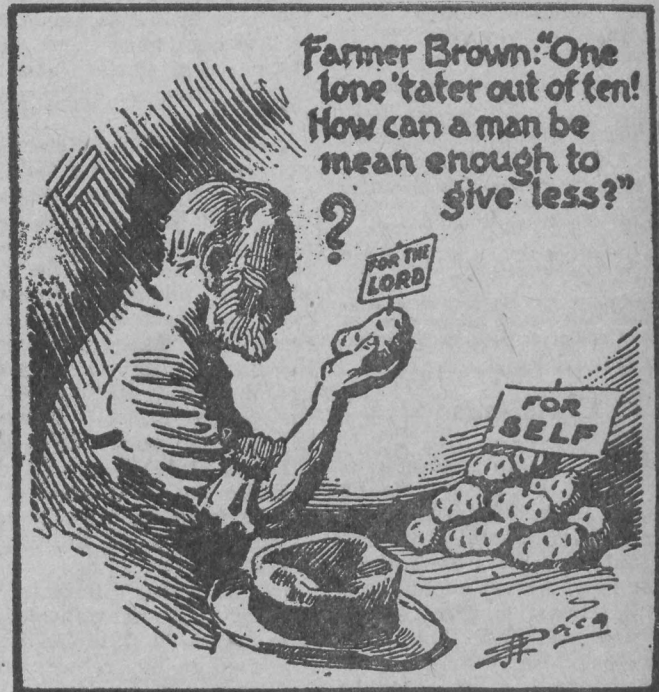
We mean that the main business of a church is the preaching of the Gospel from that church on out unto the uttermost parts of the world. The purpose of church membership should be to have fellowship with other Christians, to maintain the worship of God, and to tell the world the good news of salvation and eternal life thru Christ. Sad to say, church membership does not mean this to many people. Let us note some of the unworthy motives that lead many to join churches.

### The Motive Of Securing Salvation

Plenty think that they can join and that the church will take care of their souls for them. All such trust the wrong thing. The church is not to SAVE—but for those who are saved.

### The Motive Of Social And Other Prestige

A fellow moves to town and he says, "Which is the most influential church in town?" He joins it for business or social reasons. This is using a sacred (Continued on page four)



"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."—Mal. 3:10.

## THE EVILS OF CALVINISM

By FRANK B. BECK  
Millerton, N. Y.

Scripture reading: John 6: 35-71.

What is Calvinism? Calvinism is a belief. It is a system of truth. It is a form of Bible teaching made popular by John Calvin, the great reformer. Hence it is called Calvinism. Calvin got it from St. Augustine, as well as from the Scriptures; St. Augustine got it from the Apostle Paul and Saint Paul got it from God (Gal. 1:11-12).

What kind of belief is Calvinism? It declares that the sin is "dead in trespasses and sins" (Eph. 2:1), and, therefore, can do nothing toward the saving of his soul. It declares that man has a will and is, therefore, not a machine, but not a free will in spiritual matters, for he is bound captive by the Devil (II Tim. 2:26) and does not seek after God (Rom. 3:11). It believes that Christ only died for the elect, in a saving sense (John 10:15; I Pet. 2:24-25). It believes that Christ saves whom He will (John 5:21; Rom. 9:18); that the regenerating Holy Spirit creates real

repentance and saving faith in the hearts of those for whom Jesus died (II Tim. 2:25; Heb. 12:2). It declares that God's purposes can never be defeated (Isa. 46:10; Psa. 115:3).

What shocking belief! Yet any who believes this are Calvinists. They are not hyper-Calvinists, but Calvinists; and they are also believers of the teaching of the Word of God.

What are some of the "evils" of Calvinism?

First, Calvinism abases man. And that is, indeed, a great evil in the eyes of the wicked world. It takes away every straw that man may lean upon. Like the prophet Micahiah who was hated by wicked King Ahab because he never prophesied good unto him, but always evil (II Chron. 18:7); so natural men hate the doctrines of Calvinism for the same reason. It never speaks good of them, but always evil. It tells them that the "carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God" (Rom. 8: 7-8). That men are "evil" (Luke 11:13). "by nature the

children of wrath" (Eph. 2:3).

Because of this total depravity of man, Calvinism declares that man has a free will only to choose sin. His will is controlled by his nature and his nature is corrupt. And this is a great "evil!" Man does not like to be told he cannot do anything he wills. He does not like to hear the Scriptures: "There is none that seeketh after God" (Rom. 3:11); or Christ' word: "And ye will not come to me that ye might have life" (John 5:40); "No man can come to me, except the Father, which hath sent me draw him" (John 6:44); "How often would I have gathered thy children together . . . and ye would not" (Matt. 23:37). The natural man likes to think that all men are good, that all men are seeking God, and that they may come to Christ at any moment they so decide.

Secondly, Calvinism exalts God. It not only lowers man and his will and works and worth into the dust, but it presents God as God, it places God upon the throne! It says: God can and does as He pleases. God is altogether free and independ-

ent. It believes that "our God is in the heavens, He hath done whatsoever He hath pleased" (Psa. 115:3); that the Son of man quickeneth "whom He will" (John 5:21); that the Holy Spirit gives spiritual gifts and ability to various members of the body of Christ, "dividing to every man severally as He will" (I Cor. 12:11), and "as it hath pleased Him" (v. 18). Indeed it proclaims that God "worketh all things after the counsel of His own will" (Eph. 1:11), that "of Him . . . are all things" (Rom. 11:36).

Thirdly, Calvinism honors Christ's death. It says the death of the Lord Jesus Christ really saves! That Christ actually died in the believer's place as his Substitute! It rejoices that "Christ died for our sins" (I Cor. 15:3) and "died for us" (Rom. 5:8). Since He died in our place and paid the penalty for our sins—we are set free! "Payment God will not twice demand, first at my bleeding Substitute's hand, and then again of mine." If He died for all men without exception then all men are saved. How can any man go to hell for his sins

if they are paid for and put away? But all men are not saved (see Matt. 7:13-14), hence Christ could not have suffered for their sins, who die in their sin (John 8:24). Christ "taketh away the sin of the world" (Jn. 1:29), but not the sin of non-elect unbelievers. Their sin "remaineth" (John 9:41). Christ actually bare the sins of those for whom He died in His own body on the tree, and by those stripes they "were healed" (I Pet. 2:24). Christ "justified" them for whom He died (Rom. 5:9); He redeemed them (Eph. 1:7); He "washed" them from their sins in His blood (Rev. 1:5); He reconciled them to God (see Rom. 5:10) and their sins are not imputed or not charged to them (II Cor. 5:19). All this and more He did for those for whom He died. Since this is not true of all men individually Christ did not die for all, but only for the "world" of the elect. This the Word of God teaches. Christ gave Himself a "ransom for all" (I Tim. 2:6) only in that He laid down His life for the sheep (John 10:15). (Continued on page four)

## RIGHT AND WRONG SOURCE FOR SERMONS

Said Ernest LeFever, a Yale University student, at a Methodist conference in LaFayette, Ind., "More Protestant ministers today read the 'Reader's Digest' than they do their own religious journals. They preach from their pulpits a 'Reader's Digest' morality, an unholy conglomeration of Dale Carnegie success, Norman Vincent Peale happiness, Rotarian good will, and Mr. Milquetoast timidity."

Ed. Note—The proper place to find sermon material is the Bible. For years your editor has contended that every preacher's ministry should be a Bible ministry.

Some years ago, I preached on "Baptism" and a Methodist preacher criticized the message by saying that, "The only reason that could be offered for (Continued on page four)

By R. F. BECKER  
Holland, N. Y.

"Wherefore my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry."—I Cor. 10:14.

"Ye are they who justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God."—Luke 16:15.

"Little children, keep yourselves from idols."—I John 5:21.

Dear Reader—These words of the Holy Spirit should interest you greatly if you are a Chris-

tian. They are very searching, very alarming words. And they are words of Holy condemnation.

These words show us that whatever is very popular with men is not of God. They teach us, that without a question whatever ungodly men esteem highly, is abominable to the Lord. And sad as it is, they reveal that Christ's own children can be deceived into the sin of idolatry.

Holidays are highly esteemed among men. And no holiday is more highly regarded than Christmas. No date on the cal-

endar is more looked forward to. The ungodly who spend their short lives only in pursuit of money, pleasure, fame and power unite as one to celebrate Christmas. World wide no one date is so wholly given over to revelry, sin and idolatry as December 25.

This Christmas the world celebrates is not of God. It is abominable to Him. It is not honoring to His Son, Jesus Christ. It is only a false misrepresentation of Him. It is not of the Holy Spirit. It is only a grievous mockery to Him. (Continued on Page Two)

## DEVOTIONAL READING

A young lady was asked by a friend to explain what was meant by devotional reading of the Bible. She answered as follows:

"Yesterday morning I received a letter from one to whom I had given my heart and devoted my life. I freely confess to you that I have read that letter five times, neither because I did not understand it at the first reading, nor because I expected to commend myself to the author by frequent reading of his epistle. It was not a question of duty but simply one of pleasure. I read it because I am devoted to the one who wrote it.

"To read the Bible with this motive is to read it devotionally, and it is indeed a love letter to the one who reads it in that spirit."

—United Presbyterian



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## Christmas

(Continued from page one)

Christmas is not a time of spiritual upbuilding in the Church. It is an evil that plagues that body of true believers. It is no season of holiness when the heart is lifted up in thankfulness to God. This flood of revelry called Christmas is only a depressing, unprofitable and polluting time for anyone taught by God's Spirit. And as we stand and see this sinister cloud of evil, annually descend in a smothering pall of idolatry, on the inhabitants of the earth, we can only say like the Apostle John, "I wondered with great wonder." (Rev. 17:6).

All Christmas celebrating is founded on the superstitious Pagan idolatry of Babylon woven shrewdly unto the ritual of the Roman Catholic Church. There is plenty of proof existing today that places this fact beyond doubt. The celebrating we now witness every December 25 is a Roman Catholic copy of the festivities held long before Christ, when all Babylon reveled in honor of the birth of the son of their Queen of heaven.

Faithful men of old fought against the mingling of idolatry and the name of Christ. Very vigorously did they oppose the entry of Christmas among believers. But in spite of their efforts the lukewarm Church, with the exception of a small remnant was overcome by the Romish paganism.

Now it is freely admitted by all learned and honest writers of old that the date of Christ's birth cannot be known.

How then did the Roman Catholic Church fix December 25 as Christmas day?

Long centuries before the time of Christ a great heathen feast was celebrated at that precise time of the year in the Chaldean city of Babylon. Now this pagan revelry was in honor of the birth of Tammuz or Bel, or Bacchus, who was the son of Semeramis, or Cybele or Rhea, the Chaldeans Queen of heaven.

The Romish way of converting pagans and making them adherents of the Catholic Church has always been to absorb them, along with their idolatrous observances. Down through the centuries, Rome, following this procedure, incorporated much pagan image worship into her ritual. Thus the heathen could observe and enjoy their own idolatries, in the Church of Rome, realizing that these celebrations belonged to them originally.

And so has it been with Christmas, according to reliable historians.

Nearly every known form of Paganism that has descended from Babylon centers its worship with different variations on—a mother and the birth of her

child. So in pretence of honoring the birth of our Saviour, the Roman Catholic Church has taken the idolatry of Babylon, in the worship of Semeramis and her son, Tammuz, incorporated it into her "Mass" and given it the name of Christ. The result is the universal observance of Christ-mass.

Are you startled Reader? Are you angry that someone should write such things about the Christmas you have celebrated all these years? Then do not throw down this article in disgust but allow me to furnish proof of these statements. For remember "Many false spirits have gone out into the world." (I John 4:1). "And no marvel for Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light." (II Cor. 11:14).

Following are some brief quotations from our own standards of authority, as to the origin of Christmas.

In Webster's Students' Dictionary for Upper School Levels—page 145 (a Catholic dictionary used in our schools today) we read—

"Christmas.—Christ + Mass. A church festival, December 25. Christmas day commemorating the birth of Christ."

In the Century Dictionary and Cyclopedia, 1903, Vol. 2, Page 987—we read—

"Christmas.—Christmas properly begins with the evening of December 24 . . . and continues until Epiphany, January 6, the whole period called Christmastide. In the Roman, Greek, Episcopal and Lutheran Churches Christmas is observed as a religious festival with special services. Its celebration was formerly forbidden by the Puritans."

In the Encyclopedia Britannica, 9th Edition, Vol. 5; Page 611—we read—

"Christmas Day.—There is however difficulty in accepting this (December 25th), as the date of the Nativity, December being the height of the rainy season when neither flocks or shepherds could have been at night in the fields of Bethlehem. By the fifth century, however, whether from influence of some tradition or from the desire to supplant heathen festivals of the period of the year such as Saturnalia, the 25th of December had been generally agreed upon."

The Encyclopedia Americana, 1942 Edition, Vol. 6; Page 623, reads thus—

"Christmas.—It was according to many authorities not celebrated in the first centuries of the Christian Church as the Christian usage in general was to celebrate the death of remarkable persons rather than their birth. A feast was established in memory of the birth of the Saviour in the Fourth Century. In the Fifth Century the Western Church (Roman Catholic) ordered it to be celebrated forever on the day of the Old Roman Feast of the birth of Sol.

The holly, the mistletoe, the Yule log and the wassail bowl are of pre-Christian times.

The Christmas tree has been traced back to the Romans. It went from Germany to Great Britain."

Any thinking person will have no difficulty in understanding from these historical authorities that Christmas itself has no connection with the birth of Christ. It did not appear until the fourth century, then under the leadership of the Roman Catholic Church it came forth as a pagan festival.

Now let us notice a few of the original Christmas customs according to the Encyclopedias.

In the new Americanized Encyclopedia Britannica, 1900, Vol.

IX, Page 5236, we read—

"Saturn.—An ancient Italian god . . . Saturnalis, this is the great 'Festival of Saturn,' celebrated on the 19th, but after Cæsar's reform of the calendar, the 17th of December. Augustus decreed that the 17th and 18th should be sacred to Saturn and the 19th and 20th to Opalia the festivals of Ops.

Caligula added a fifth day, 'The Day of Youth,' December 25th, lasted seven days. The time was one of general joy and mirth. The woolen fetters were taken from the feet of Saturn and each man offered a pig. During the festival schools were closed . . .

Gambling and dice at other times illegal was now practiced. All classes exchanged gifts, the commonest being tapers and clay dolls. These dolls were especially given to children. Varro thought that these dolls represented original sacrifices of human beings to the Infernal God."

The new Americanized Encyclopedia Britannica, Edition of 1899, Vol. XI; Page 404, has this—

"Befenna. — A corruption of the word 'epiphania' (Epiphany) is the name of an old female character in Italian folklore, who was so busily engaged in housecleaning, when three wise men of the East passed by on their way to offer their treasures to the Infant Saviour, that she excused herself for not going out to see them thinking she would have the opportunity of doing so when they returned. Not knowing that they went home by another road she has been ever since watching for them. She, like the Dutch Santa Claus, is supposed to take great interest in children, who in Italy are put to bed early on the 'twelfth night' a stocking of each being hung up before the fire. Soon the cry 'Ecco le Befenna' is raised when the children jump up and seize their stockings, each of which contains a present bearing value in proportion to the conduct of the child during the year. One whose behavior has been particularly bad finds his stocking filled with ashes in token of Befenna's displeasure.

The custom of carrying an effigy called the Befenna on the 'Twelfth Night' in a procession through the streets "is probably a relic of one of the 'Mysteries of the Middle Ages.'"

The new International Encyclopedia, 2nd Edition, Vol. 3, Page 27, tells us this—

"Epiphany.—A festival held on the 6th of January by the Roman Catholic, Eastern and Anglican churches in commemoration of the manifestations of Christ. Three different events are included in this celebration. As early as the third century at least, it was observed as the commemoration of the Baptism

of Christ . . . Later in the east it was taken to commemorate the manifestations of divine power in Christ's first miracle at Cana in Galilee . . . In the fourth century the birth of Christ was also connected with it by some writers. Many special observances are to have been connected with the day which under the name 'Twelfth Day,' 'Twelfth Night' was a time of special merry making in England and closed the Christmas festivities."

Thus we see that not only is Christmas of pagan origin but its customs all came from the heathen as well. And for centuries it has been highly esteemed by the Roman Church and the ungodly in all nations. Yet during these same generations the truly faithful have shunned Christmas festivities and denounced them as the Romish Pagan celebrations they are. And Reader—if you are faithful to Christ you will NOT keep Christmas. For since Rome is truly "Babylon the Great (Rev. 17) and the virgin in her sanctuaries is actually the Babylonish queen of heaven, how one ought to tremble at the very thought of taking any part in her wicked idolatry. And though the sin of idolatry may appear light to some, our God does not consider it so. For He has attached the greatest of all threatenings to that Commandment—

"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth, thou shalt not bow down thyself to them nor serve them, for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me."

—Ex. 20:5.

And if we awake suddenly to find the heavy judgments of God bearing down relentlessly upon our people and nation, can we not discern His hand in fulfilling this Scripture for the national sin of Romish idolatry?

"Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but rather reprove them."

—Eph. 5:11.

Let us now consider some practical points about this pagan Christ-mass.

1. The name of Christmas — This very name is an abomination of the Holy Lord God. The reason for this is that this word Christmas is an unholy combination of the two words "Christ" and "Mass." Christ died once for our sins. (Heb. 9:26) And by that one offering He has perfected forever every believer. (Heb. 10:14).

But in the Roman Catholic Mass Satan himself has introduced to the untaught ignorant soul the horrible blasphemy

that Christ is sacrificed over and over countless times at the will of a sinful priest. Yes, the priest of Rome even claims that the "Mass" adds to and improves upon Christ's atonement made at Calvary!

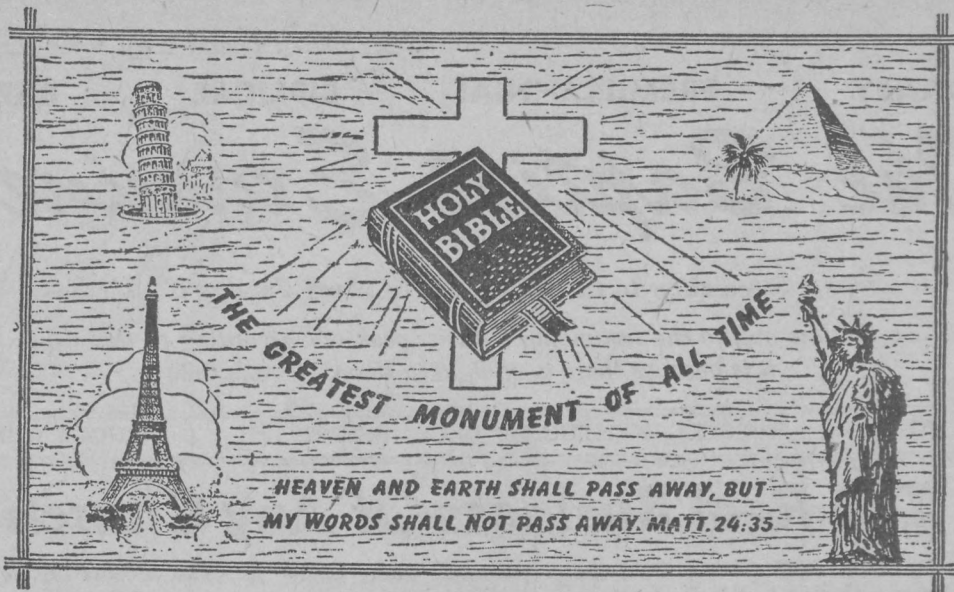
Christ is the divine title of our wonderful Lord. "Mas" is from shortening the Roman Catholic word, "Mass" or "Missa" which means simply "to dismiss." Christ is the head of the True and Living church. The Roman Catholic Church, under the leadership of the Pope is the false harlot church. She is spoken of in the Word of God as of "Mother of Harlots." (Rev. 17:5). Nothing in the natural realm will stir one to anger quicker than for someone else to connect his wife's or his mother's name with the name of a harlot. Then Christian, how can you blend the Holy Name of Jesus Christ with the foul "Mass" of the harlot Church?

2. Now the Christmas Tree—Traveling any part of America today during the weeks of Christmas festivities one feels like Paul did while he waited at Athens once. "His spirit was stirred within him as he beheld the city FULL of idols." (Acts 17:16).

In ancient paganism whenever the sun was worshipped he was not venerated as the orb of light, but as God incarnate. In Babylon's system of idol worship the sun was called "Baal" the one and only God. So when Tammuz the son of the queen of heaven was worshipped as God he was also revered as Baal.

Now that Christmas idol, the evergreen tree which is so universal in twentieth century heathen worship, was just as common in Pagan Rome and Pagan Egypt long before Christ. In Egypt a palm tree was worshipped as "Baal-Tamar," the Pagan Messiah, who after being killed, was restored to life by the great serpent god, Aesculapius. The Christmas tree in Pagan Rome was a fir tree, which symbolized the same new-born god as, "Baal-Berith." A feast was observed in Rome in honor of him on December 25th and it was called the "Birthday of the Unconquered Sun."

Thus in the spangled evergreen tree, as well as the other Christmas celebrations the Roman Catholic Church has brought the pagan worship of Baal down through the ages to us. And whether it be public or privately erected this seasonal Christmas tree is a glaring evidence of Baal worship. And so in keeping with Rome's usual order of worship, while millions suppose they honor Christ with a Christmas tree, they are actually commemorating a pagan festival in honor of Baal. (I Kings 18) also read (Judges 8:33). How well spoke (Continued on page three)





MISSIONARIES  
IN BRAZIL

Eld. J. F. Brandon  
Eld. and Mrs. Billy Parrott  
Eld. and Mrs. L. M. Smith  
Miguel Ibernion  
Cicero Bicipo  
Maio Dutro  
Eufrazio Soraes  
Francisco Santiago  
John Dias  
Zacharias Nunes de Abriu  
Gabriel Seraphin  
Walter Fernandes  
(Portuguese Language)

## Missionary Department

## BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

In Peru Since 1935

In Columbia Since 1947

In Brazil Since 1923

A NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST FAITH MISSION WORK JUST LIKE THE  
LORD JESUS COMMISSIONED HIS CHURCHES TO DO

Go — Make Disciples — Baptize Them — Indoctrinate Them. Mt. 28:19,20

MISSIONARIES  
IN PERU

Eld and Mrs. M. E. Lewis  
Eld. and Mrs. R. P. Hallum  
Miss Marguerite Hallum  
Don Simon Gaima  
Don Juan Castro  
(Spanish Language)  
IN COLUMBIA  
Jose Tomas del Castillo  
(Spanish Language)

An Encouraging Letter  
From Missionary Parrott

November 22, 1951

Dear Bro. Overbey:

We received your letter dated November 13 today with checks numbered 675, 676 and 677. It is needless to say that we are very thankful for these. We are extremely thankful for those people who love their Lord enough to support His work on foreign fields.

Regarding the money sent for the boat motor, the total cost of the motor was 10,512 crs., including the freight to C. do Sul. The check for \$324.00 at 32 crs. brought 10,368.00 crs., which left a difference of 144 crs. and also 10 crs. more for the telegram notifying Miguel. The ten dollars will bring from 280 to 300 crs. I will send it on to Miguel to use to buy gas, in fact I will send all that I get for the check and let the money I spent be used toward helping him with the gas also. Gas is very high here. It costs 70 crs. a can (5 gals.) and I am sure that it costs as much as 100 crs. there. In other words, the 10 dollars will buy about 15 gallons of gas. (The \$324.00 is from Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla. The \$10.00 is from

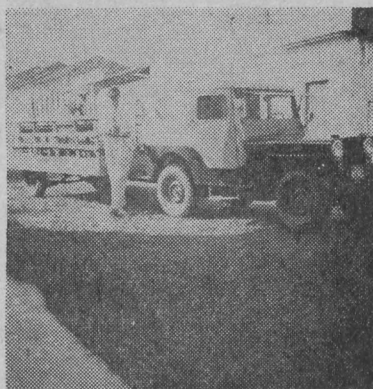
Brother J. Broadus Henry, Central City, Ky.—Editor).

You are right in thinking that it will be best to hold the salaries of the natives until the first and that is what I will do. If I gave it to them now they would come up before the end of next month without money to live on.

I received the paper which you mailed without registering it, without delay. It seems that letters which we have mailed here without registering them are not getting there. Mother told me the other day that she had gotten few letters from us, many less that I could count having sent. From now on we are registering all letters.

I think that I told you about the house which we have been waiting on which was promised to Lawrence before he left, then when he left was promised to us. After we have waited so long for it, today the man came over and told me that we could have it IF we would pay 12,000 (more than 400 dollars) for the privilege of renting it. The rent is low and if we had had the money it would possibly have

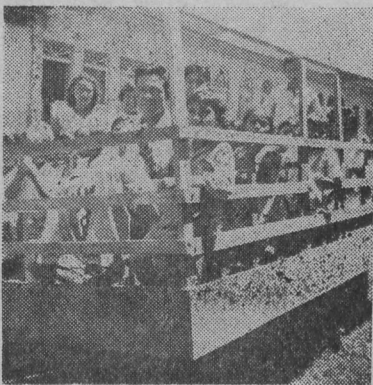
(Next page, Column one)

The Pictures Tell  
Of Work Being  
Done In Iquitos

Brother Mitchell Lewis and Juan Castro getting the trailer ready to leave at 8:15 A. M. to pick up a load for Sunday School at the First Baptist Church in Iquitos, Peru.



They're off.



Back with a load at 8:50 about ten minutes before Sunday School starts.



Brother Mitchell Lewis reading the devotional reading in Spanish.

(Next page, Column one)

Lewis Conducts Services  
4½ Months After ArrivalIquitos, Peru  
Nov. 3, 1951

Dear Bro. Overbey:

Father has written you acknowledging receipt of the Nov. checks. He is planning on going to church Sunday which will be the first time in about 6 weeks.

The attendance in the services has been holding up pretty well. Average attendance in Sunday School for the month of October was 71, with a high of 76 and a low of 68. The trailer has been in operation for about two months and is usually full. Juan Castro has a class once a week in a little private school in another part of town. The children have to know how to read and write before entering the public schools, so private schools are operated for this purpose. Since the trailer has been in use quite a number of these children have been coming to Sunday School. When making the rounds someone has to ride on the trailer to keep children from hanging on, for if someone should try to climb on and accidentally fall, the one driving would be held responsible regardless of whether or not

he knew anything about it. Juan Castro usually goes along for this purpose.

A couple of months ago Mitchell gave the folks a surprise at church by reading the devotional reading in Sunday School. They looked around at one another and nodded their heads in approval and surprise that he was able to do that so soon. A few Sundays later he gave them another surprise by giving an object lesson (using a banana) after Sunday School. They all seemed quite pleased. He is planning another for tomorrow. Since father has been unable to attend, Juan Castro has been taking charge of the Sunday morning and Wednesday night services and Don Simon Gaima has been preaching Sunday nights. Don Simon is away during the week on river trips.

About the last Sunday that father went to church he baptized Chela Pizango. She is a girl that has been attending the services several months. She has been working for the Lewises almost ever since their arrival.

This is all for this time.

Yours in His Service,  
Marguerite HallumLewis Writes Of Catholic  
Idolatry And Paganism

Dear Friends,

Received Mission check Number 668.

We are all well in spite of the flu that is going around here. Yes, people have colds here as well as elsewhere.

November 1st was "All Saints Day." All good Catholics took flowers and went to the cemetery to pay some priest to chant over the grave of their dead loved ones. Of course the type of prayer depends upon the amount of money one is willing or able to pay. How unlike the apostle Paul who was willing to spend and be spent that he might be of service to the saints.

About a week before All Saints Day the Catholics paraded the "Lord of Miracles" through the streets. He was accompanied with direful music and lighted candles.

If only our Catholic friends in the United States could see these spectacles of ignorance and pagan worship, I am sure many of them would come to realize the system of utter falsehood on which Catholicism is based. In countries where Catholicism is protected by the state it manifests itself in all its pagan rituals and idolatry.

One cannot hate or despise these people for they are blinded by the most malignant power of hell. They are full of superstition and nonsense taught them by the mother of harlots.

These people need to hear the

Gospel as it is preached by Holy Spirit called men. They need to see the Gospel as it is lived by people that have the Holy Spirit dwelling within.

I am continually thankful for the privilege of serving God. I am thankful for each person and each church that has a part in making Baptist Faith Missions a living reality.

We have just about finished the Spanish grammar that Bro. Overbey gave us. We are getting a Peruvian school teacher to help us with conversation, etc.

Brother Hallum is improving but slowly. This skin disease is a difficult thing to cure. The heat is not unbearable here, but it takes something out of a person. All the other missionaries agree that when a person has been here four years he needs

(Next page, Column five)

## GOOD EXAMPLE

Pastor John R. Gilpin and the First Baptist Church, Russell, Kentucky sets a good example for all churches. Each year on Thanksgiving Day, Brother Gilpin preaches his annual Thanksgiving day sermon and the church gives a special offering for Baptist Faith Missions to help send out new missionaries. This has amounted to more than \$500 yearly for several years. May the Lord lead others to do likewise.

A Touching Letter From  
Missionary Joe Brandon

November 23, 1951

"In Him was life, and the life was the light of men."—John 1:4.

The light of my life was almost extinguished, I was exhausted, my arrival at Carville was the end of life in flesh for me, so far as I was concerned. My weakness was so manifest that if I could have cast the deciding vote, I would have gone to be with Christ.

But my life was precious in the sight of God. Well do I recall when I was in Cruzeiro do Sul, shortly after I was informed of my misfortune, that I sought the Lord with all of my heart, that I might know His will with me, and then for strength to carry it out.

As I prayed, I talked as though I was talking to someone at my

side, as indeed I was. I remember saying, "Now Lord, I will open the Bible, and let it be that it will open at the place where thou wilt instruct me, and let me read from thy Word what I must do to please thee."

Then I arose from prayer and opened the Book. You need not be surprised when I say, it opened at Genesis, chapter 31. So I began to read with the first verse. Arriving at the third verse I saw very clearly the will of the Lord. I continued reading however, and was comforted as I resolved to arise and follow Him.

At that time I did not know that Carville existed. However, I did know that there was a place for treatment in the States, so I began to make ready for my journey for Manaus and later America.

I sought passage and obtained it in a cargo plane from Cruzeiro do Sul to Rio Branco, the latter being the capital city of the territory in which I lived. Upon arrival there I was met by a believer whom I had baptized some years ago. One man could not have shown another more courtesy than he showed me. I was accompanied on the plane by a very dear friend, however not a professed believer, who some years ago was mayor of Cruzeiro do Sul. He too had had trouble, but of a different nature than mine. So

(Next page, Column five)

## \$1000 FROM WILL

Last April we ran the picture of Brother J. Oscar Pierce in the MISSION SHEETS with the news that he had bequeathed Baptist Faith Missions \$1,000.00 in his will. Last month (November) Brother Z. E. Clark, the treasurer of the mission, received a check for this amount from Brother Pierce's estate. We thank God for this gift and we are sure that Brother Pierce will have reward in Heaven

(Next page, Column five)



## NOTICE

Anyone desiring more information about this mission work write to the Secretary of the Mission. Address your letter to:

H. H. OVERBEY  
1210 E. Grand Blvd.  
Detroit 11, Mich.

## Pictures Tell Of Work

(Preceding page, Column three)



Brother Lewis giving an object lesson to the children in Spanish speaking in Spanish about four and a half months after arrival in Peru.



Juan Castro preaches the message.



Brother R. P. Hallum baptizes Chela Pizango on the first Sunday in September.

## Parrott Letter

(Preceding page, Column two) been worth it. We could have gotten an indefinite lease on it (by this I mean that the house would have been mine as long as I wanted it) and the rent is only 600 crs., but I could not do it. I feel that it is the will of the Lord that we didn't get it because it is far from the work, although not as far as we are now. Since talking to him this morning I have already learned that possibly we will be able to rent a house that is just being finished within walking distance of the work even for Eudora and the children. The house will probably cost about the same price as this one but it will mean a lot to be so near the work. It will knock out a big expense in transportation every month and it will, which is more important, put me right in the middle of the people with whom I am working. This way the contact will be more personal and much closer and will help much to keep up the interest. We are

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER, 1951

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| New Hope Baptist Church, Dearborn, Mich.  | \$ 26.73   |
| Bryan Station Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky.  | 15.00      |
| Faith Baptist Church, Lawtey, Fla.  | 9.26       |
| North Side Baptist Church, Mayfield, Ky.  | 54.17      |
| Tabernacle Baptist Church, Lewisburg, Ky.   | 50.00      |
| Sylvania Hills Baptist Church, New Brighton, Pa.  | 2.80       |
| Macedonia Baptist Church, Ripley, Tenn.   | 11.86      |
| Liberty Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio  | 32.59      |
| Little Obion Baptist Church, Wingo, Ky.   | 10.50      |
| Westwood Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio   | 19.00      |
| Bible Baptist Church, Brunswick, Maine  | 2.00       |
| Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla.  | 40.65      |
| Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla. (Hope Bible Class)                                   | 50.00      |
| The Second Baptist Mission, Pennington Gap, Va.   | 5.50       |
| South Bristol Baptist Church, Bristol, Tenn.  | 5.00       |
| Elizabeth Jarrell Baptist Church, Louisa, Ky.   | 8.70       |
| Elizabeth Jarrell Baptist Church, Louisa, Ky.   | 11.40      |
| South Side Baptist Church, Winter Haven, Fla.   | 55.00      |
| Fenton Road Baptist Church, Flint, Mich. (B. T. U.)   | 16.26      |
| Fenton Road Baptist Church, Flint, Mich. (B. T. U.)   | 16.60      |
| Fenton Road Baptist Church, Flint, Mich.  | 22.63      |
| Friendship Baptist Church, Lincoln Park, Mich.  | 39.66      |
| Emmanuel Baptist Church, Centerline, Mich.  | 50.00      |
| Harmony Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, Ark.  | 30.92      |
| Bellview Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky.   | 53.17      |
| Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Boaz, Ky.  | 10.00      |
| Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Boaz, Ky.  | 5.00       |
| Repton Baptist Church, Repton, Ky.  | 14.00      |
| East Main Baptist Church, Des Plains, Ill.  | 15.00      |
| Scotts Grove Baptist Church, Murray, Ky.  | 5.00       |
| Scotts Grove Baptist Church, Murray, Ky.  | 5.00       |
| Hazel Baptist Church, Hazel, Ky.  | 2.00       |
| Calvary Baptist Church, Richmond, Ky.   | 34.46      |
| Richland Baptist Church, Livermore, Ky.   | 28.00      |
| Park Hill Baptist Church, Pueblo, Colo.   | 50.00      |
| South Union Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.  | 20.60      |
| Shady Grove Baptist Church, Wickliff, Ky.   | 45.35      |
| First Baptist Church, White Plains, Ky.   | 15.00      |
| First Baptist Church, Coal Grove, Ohio  | 20.00      |
| Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Hickory, Ky.   | 7.32       |
| Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, North Kenova, Ohio   | 3.00       |
| Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, North Kenova, Ohio   | 2.00       |
| Ocoonita Baptist Church, Ocoonita, Va.  | 14.96      |
| Liberty Baptist Church, Flint, Mich.  | 11.52      |
| Mt. Hebron Baptist Church, Lancaster, Ky.   | 67.46      |
| Ahava Baptist Church, Plant City, Fla.  | 45.00      |
| Fish Springs Baptist Church, Carderview, Tenn. (For Church Building Codajaz)                    | 34.60      |
| Bible Baptist Church, Burnsville, N. C.   | 50.76      |
| Bald Creek Baptist Church, Bee Log, N. C. (B. T. U.)  | 5.00       |
| Seven Springs Baptist Church, Dycusburg, Ky.  | 40.15      |
| Good Will Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla.   | 60.97      |
| Hampton Baptist Church, Hampton, Fla.   | 25.00      |
| Second Baptist Church, Marion, Ky.  | 21.18      |
| Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky.   | 367.18     |
| Maranatha Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Mich.   | 24.65      |
| Grace Baptist Church, Base Line, Mich. (B. T. U.)   | 3.80       |
| Grace Baptist Church, Base Line, Mich. (L. B. C. for Calley's Trip)                             | 10.00      |
| Grace Baptist Church, Base Line, Mich.  | 300.00     |
| J. M. Pierce, Salem, Ky. (From J. O. Pierce's will)   | 1,000.00   |
| Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Cadiz, Ky.   | 105.00     |
| Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.  | 119.39     |
| Harmony Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich. (For Parrott's School)                                   | 12.35      |
| Danleyton Baptist Church, Flatwoods, Ky.  | 10.00      |
| Grace Baptist Church, Ellaville, Ga.  | 20.00      |
| First Baptist Church, Russell, Ky.  | 55.32      |
| First Baptist Church, Russell, Ky. (Special Thanksgiving Offering for Sending New Missionaries) | 585.50     |
| Miss Georgia Brandon, Benton, Ky.   | 10.00      |
| Miss Georgia Brandon, Benton, Ky.   | 10.00      |
| Floyd Williams, Owensboro, Ky.  | 5.00       |
| Floyd Williams, Owensboro, Ky.  | 10.00      |
| J. H. Kain, West Cape May, N. J.  | 10.00      |
| Miss Maude Hunt, Franklin, Ky.  | 5.00       |
| Mr. and Mrs. Clayton May, Siloam, Ky.   | 12.00      |
| Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cade, Wayne, W. Va.   | 5.00       |
| Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bayless, Macedonia, Ill.   | 10.00      |
| Miss Kittie Bullington, Atwood, Tenn.   | 2.00       |
| Mrs. Rubie Richards, Atwood, Tenn.  | 2.00       |
| Miss P. L. Hendley, Farmington, Ky. (For Church Building in Manao)                              | 1.00       |
| A Friend in Minneapolis, Minn.  | 20.00      |
| Eustace Adkins, Ceredo, W. Va.  | 2.50       |
| A Friend in Perryville, Ky.   | 5.00       |
| G. E. Duncan, White Plains, Ky. (For Bro. Hallum's Furlough Trip)                               | 25.00      |
| Mike M. Bailey, Hood River, Oregon  | 3.00       |
| Carl G. and Lula Reinwald, New Orleans, La. (For Parrott's School)                              | 5.00       |
| Carl G. Reinwald, New Orleans, La. (For Parrott's School)                                       | 5.00       |
| Mrs. Elsie Tuggle, Aurora, Mo.  | 1.00       |
| Dr. D. J. Dunn, Worthington, Minn.  | 5.00       |
| C. F. McKinney, Iuka, Ky. (For Church Building at Codajaz)                                      | 1.00       |
| A Friend in Pueblo, Ky.   | 5.00       |
| Total   | \$4,070.42 |

As the Lord leads you, send all offerings for mission work to the treasurer of this mission. It is best to send by check or money order. Address all offerings to:

Z. E. CLARK, Treasurer, P. O. Box 648, Paducah, Kentucky.

Up to the present a total of \$982.89 has been designated for the passage of out-going missionaries as new missionaries to the field.

praying that we may get it.

We were very sad to head that Starlings have resigned because we were already looking forward to seeing them here,

but for their sakes and for the sake of the work it is much better that they discovered before coming out that they were not in the right place. The

Amazon Valley certainly is not a place for a preacher who is not there by the will of God. Things are tough enough when you know you are in the will of the Lord but I think would be unbearable out of His will. We pray that the Lord will bless George and Rennie wherever they may be led.

Will the resignation of the Starlings mean that the Calleys will be coming out sooner? The work in C. do Sul is badly in need of someone to help and direct the work there. It is evident that without the missionary close at hand here the work soon starts slipping.

I had the woman who is to be the teacher of our school make an estimate of the necessary supplies for fifty pupils for the school. According to her estimate it will take about 2700 crs. or about 100 dollars. We are planning to start the school January 14 and we pray that we will have the money to do so. I would like also to start her on salary in December so that she can go over there and start visiting the people, getting acquainted with the mothers and finding out who and how many will be in the school. She will also be working toward building up our Sunday School as she is to be the teacher of the children in Sunday School also. This letter will not get to you in time for us to receive her salary on the first of the month but I am going to start her and tell her that it will be forthcoming so that we can get started out right. We have much work to do concerning the school and intend to get going as soon as possible. We are going to have to build tables for the children, get a blackboard up and get everything ready in general. We will have them enroll about a week before the day to begin our school and need to have everything ready then by January 7th.

## CORRECTION

In the financial report for October, 1951 listed in the November issue of this paper: Port Norris Baptist Church, Port Norris, New Jersey was listed for an offering of \$50.00. This should have been: Park Hill Baptist Church, Pueblo, Colo. We are sorry.

We have all had another seige of sickness in the past week. First of all on the 12th Eudora had an attack of malaria, and then she had boils start coming out under her arms. She could neither raise nor lower her arms. It got so bad that I even had to help her dress herself. After a week they got ripe under the right arm; there were three boils just below the armpit while she had one under the left arm right in the armpit. Now that she has just about gotten them cured up another one is coming under the left arm. I had to miss all the services because she could not take care of the children nor the cooking. Jerry and Johnny have been having some fever and all of us have been having much trouble with dysentery. I can't imagine what can be causing it.

I received a Baptist Examiner this week with my article in it. I felt much honored to have something I had written printed in a paper which carries articles by such men as Brother Mason, Cole, Alldridge, etc., and whose editor is John R. Gilpin. I pray that it may have been of some usefulness in the work of the Lord.

Your brother in Christ Jesus,  
Billy E. Parrott

## \$1,000 From Will

(Preceding page, Column one) for it. May the Lord lay it on the hearts of others to remember Baptist Faith Missions in their will. This \$1,000 with the Thanksgiving offering of \$585.50 from the First Baptist Church, Russell, Kentucky makes offerings in November, 1951 the largest of any month in the history of the mission. To the Lord be the honor and glory.

## Lewis Letter

(Preceding page, column five) a rest at home where the Star Spangled Banner is sung from a loving heart.

Your Servant,  
Mitchell Lewis

## Brandon Letter

(Preceding page, Column two) I was properly fitted for a companion for the cross country flight.

Upon arrival in Rio Branco, we went to a cheap hotel, we thought it only proper to do so, and it was well that we did. We were received with open arms, the owners of the hotel were friends to the Gospel. It was when I offered thanks for the food that they manifested themselves and sent to call of Baptist missionary who was living only a few blocks away.

As soon as supper was over, I went to my hammock, for I was really weary in the flesh. Soon the missionary came and assured me that a guest room was made ready for me and they were waiting, but I assured him that I could not go that night and he promised to send for me in the morning. That he did, and I found myself in the midst of those who love me and I was very happy with the change.

The governor also sent for my friend, so both of us were cared for in a divine way, for in the day of trouble, the Lord seeks the broken-hearted to help them and comfort them.

One of the missionaries arranged passage for me on the first plane to Manaus, however, I did have to make a change in Porto Velho, where I spent the night in the home of a barbadian Negro, who seemed only too happy to entertain me and to see me to the plane the following day. Oh! how the Lord does raise up friends in the time of need, some heretofore unknown, while others were quite unexpected.

Upon my arrival in Manaus I went to the church building where I lived in a small room at the rear of the building. I had lived there before so I felt quite at home. Many of the believers came to visit me while I was there, in fact many that I had not seen for years. Some came through curiosity, while for a large part they came because they loved me and were concerned about me and the mission work.

Believers that I had baptized twenty years ago and I had not seen for at least 18 years, came and, as we talked over the past I recalled the conversion of these, my heart did burn within me. I hated to leave them so bad.

At that time I did not know there was a treatment for the malady with which I was afflicted and we thought we were talking for the last time, that is on this side of Jordan. This seemed to endear us to one another all the more.

(Continued Next Month)



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## Christmas

(Continued from page two)  
Jeremiah when he said, "For the customs of the peoples are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest the work of the hands of the workman with the ax. They deck it with silver and with gold. They fasten it with nails and with hammers that it move not. They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not they must needs be born because they cannot go." (Jer. 10: 3,4,5).

3. Remembering Christ's Birth. — nowhere in the Bible are we told to remember the birth of Jesus Christ. Christians are commanded to remember the death of Christ both by the Lord Jesus Himself in (Luke 22:18,19) and the Apostle Paul in (I Cor. 11:23 to 26). Surely the heart must be far from right with God that can enjoy itself in doing exactly the opposite of what He commands. Yet we see many who profess faith in Christ join with the hilarious ungodly in celebrating a carnal pagan Christmas. But who that has been taught by God's Holy Spirit, could countenance for one moment a celebration that is not only a pagan tradition, but also a Romish abomination?

I have noticed that those who make most of Christmas are those who make least of the death and resurrection of Christ and the day He has told us to remember Him on—the Lord's Day. People who willingly desecrate that day by secular work, open business houses, ungodly amusements and sports, will forfeit all these to attend a Christmas program in a church or a school house. Then back they go to their ungodly desecration of the Lord's Day until next Christmas. Christian can you take part in their sins? Can you, like Judas, betray Him who died for you, by joining hands with those who hate Him, yet falsely pretend to honor Him in a festival of sin? Can you go halfway with the pagans in crucifying Christ afresh and putting Him to an open shame? Remember the words of (I John 15)

"If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."  
"Come out of her my people that ye be not partakers of her sins and that ye receive not of her plagues." (Rev. 18:4).

4. Date of Christ's Birth. — There is not one Scripture to prove that December 25th is the birthday of Christ. Neither is there a word about the time of the year He was born. Not one Scripture mentions Christmas. No one knows the date of His birth. There is absolutely no authority except from the false Roman Catholic Church to connect His birth with December 25th. God in His wisdom has chosen to hide the time of His Beloved Son's birth into this world of sin. The Bible is the inspired Word of that same Holy God. His dear Son is the central figure in it from Genesis to Revelation. He has revealed many wonderful things to us about Christ in that Word. But one thing God has hidden completely from man. It is the precise date of the birth of Jesus.

In Bible accounts where celebrating and gift giving was done at someone's birthday party sin and evil prevailed and murder followed. In Genesis on Pharaoh's birthday the chief baker was hanged and beheaded. During Herod's birthday party John the Baptist was beheaded for preaching against sin. In (Rev. 11) we read how wicked people celebrated the slaying of God's two faithful witnesses by making merry and sending gifts to one another. The Holy Spirit by the mouth of

A friend that you can buy with presents can be bought away from you.

Paul once said, "Ye observe days and months and years, I am afraid of you lest I have bestowed upon you labor in vain." (Gal. 4:10,11).

5. Giving of Gifts.—I believe that gifts can be great blessings. But a gift is of no value whatever unless it is given in love. But those who give in order to receive as much again do not give in love. They only give in covetousness in hope of receiving. Those who give only at a time of a Roman Catholic celebration of idolatry certainly are only doing so to the abhorrence of the Almighty. How much more then are they mocking God and making themselves abominable to Him, who send gifts to one another at such a time in a pretence of honoring the birth of His Son?

The godly wise men from the East gave their gifts to the Child Jesus Himself—not to one another. They gave to Him from hearts moved by the Holy Spirit. Their gifts were a part of their worship of the Messiah. Their gifts were no common trinkets but presents of great value showing their heart's true love for their Lord. And they did not bring Christ presents, that they might receive from Him in return. O how far removed from those first gifts to the Child Jesus is the modern cheap knick-knack giving of the fickle throng of Christmas revelers who give only that they may receive as much again!

6. The World and Christmas. —There is one thing, which if it were entirely alone, would prove to me that Christmas celebrating is not of God. It is this; the world which hates Christ and His blood atonement for sin, respond as one man at that time to revel and feast.

If in reality December 25th was a date, set by God to remember the birth of Jesus, the world would not have anything to do with it. There would be absolutely no response by the rank and file of mankind. Witness how the world does not regard the Lord's Day which is of God. But the world DOES regard and love Christmas, therefore it is not of God. "For the natural man receiveth not the things of God." (I Cor. 2:14). Then how can an obedient Child of God, or a church, or a gathering of Christians, follow Pagan Rome and the drugged and reeling world in their abominable idolatry and sin of Christ-Mass festivities?

Everyone knows well that Christmas time is a time of social and fleshly enjoyment.—It is not a time when Christians draw near to God. Rather they turn away from Him to serve Rome's idols. Many of those who profess faith in Christ remind me of Jehu who cried, "Come see my zeal for the Lord!" Then he turned and went away to serve Jeroboam's idols.

Those who despise the Gospel of God's grace will go to any length to celebrate a false tradition about His Son's birth. Those who hate the doctrine of forgiveness through Jesus' blood alone, are filled with great zeal to promote programs, to play Santa Claus, to adorn their dwellings with wreaths and trees and say "Merry Christmas" to everyone they meet! Proud sinners, selfrighteous sinners, immoral sinners with a character black as midnight, morally virtuous sinners with hard impenitent hearts, refined and educated sinners knowing everything and everyone but Christ, religious sinners with a lofty heady profession—all, all with one accord join hands in the gay hilarity of Christmas following

## A MOMENT WELL SPENT



"IN QUIETNESS AND CONFIDENCE SHALL BE YOUR STRENGTH."—IS. 30:15.

the Old Mother Harlot, ignorantly imagining they are doing honor to a Saviour they neither love or know or care to know.

During Christmastide men and women become foully drunk on "Christmas present" whiskey and perpetuate every kind of social vice, animal lewdness and criminal debauchery. In wild "Christmas parties" young men and women willingly sell their bodies to evil and their souls to Hell around the be-ribboned and wreathed "Christmas gifts" of champagne, brandy, wine and beer. And thousands who would not get drunk commit the abominable sin of gluttony like some gorging carnivorous animal. And in all this the name of Christ is used in vile cursing, vulgarity and blasphemy by men and women, boys and girls who lie deliberately about "St. Nick" and "Santa Claus" and love a "Merry Christmas." Dear Christian, can you help to betray Christ to these pagans by going with them to their religious riots? Can you sell Christ to the ungodly world for a pagan Christmas, like Judas did for 30 pieces of silver?

7. Christmas Programs and Literature. — Please read Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 2, then Luke, Chapter 2. By doing so with care any thoughtful reader can see at once that Christmas songs, books, cards and programs are not Scriptural. For in most of these we find in one way or another, ignorant misrepresentations about the shepherds, the wise men, the star, the Child, the stable, etc.

Let us begin this problem by stating that nowhere in God's Word are we informed how many wise men there were. Neither does Scripture state that they followed a star to

Jerusalem. Most certainly they knew the way there. Being wise men they knew how the prophets foretold that the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem. When they came to Herod to learn the whereabouts of the new-born Christ it was sometime after His birth. No one in Jerusalem seemed to know where the Child was. So the same star they had seen before at the time of His birth, now appeared and led them to where the Child was. When the wise

cradle in Bethlehem. They followed no star either as they did not even see one. They were informed of the birth of their Messiah by the angel of the Lord. (Luke 2:10).

Today the land abounds at Christmas time with all sorts of literature, cards, books and programs of celebrations, which utterly confuse the facts written in God's Word about the birth of Jesus. Shepherds and wise men, angels and stars, stable and inn, manger and house are misrepresented. The visit of the shepherds and the visit of the wise men are confused, so that the whole story of the birth of Christ is a jumbled mass of ignorant untruth.

Long ago King David said to a carnal generation like ours, "Why do the heathen rage and the people imagine a vain thing?" (Psalm 2:1).

8. God's Judgment. — One more point we dare not overlook concerning Christmas. The very source of Christmas equipment condemns the tradition. Until World War II nearly all Christmas goods were stamped "Made in Germany" or "Made in Japan." Thus these very goods, used by England and the United States to pollute the worship of God and make whole nations to sin, came from the very countries God used in bringing His judgment of war upon us. How did such poor nations finance so great a war? By selling us the fruit of their cheap labor among which Christmas goods played a major role. Ought we to regard this as a mere coincidence? Ought we

(Continued on page four)

## WE REPEAT!

This sermon was printed a year ago. By popular request we repeat it this year. Thank God for it.

men found the Lord Jesus He was no longer a tiny babe but a child living in Nazareth. Joseph and Mary had already returned from taking Him to Jerusalem, which took place when Jesus was 41 days old. (Lev. 12). Therefore the wise men never saw the Saviour until He had been brought back to Nazareth from the temple in Jerusalem. (Luke 2:39). They could not possibly have seen the Christ-Child before, because immediately after their departure, when they had seen the Saviour, Joseph and Mary fled into Egypt with Him and remained there till Herod was dead. (Matt. 2: 14,15).

It was not the wise men but the shepherds who came to visit the Babe Jesus in His manger



## Source For Sermons

(Continued from page one)  
immersion is the Bible." Well, that is enough for me.

The greatest compliment I've ever received, came from a Holy Roller, who declared, "If you take the Bible away from Gilpin, he couldn't preach a lick."

I might add in closing, that if you'd give a Bible to him, or to any Holy Roller, he couldn't "preach a lick."



## Christmas

(Continued from page three)  
not rather to see the threatening of God in it? NO COUNTRY IN ALL HISTORY HAS TURNED TO IDOLS AND THEN PROSPERED FOR LONG. The national unrest, the ominous rumblings in the World Councils, the low standard of morality, the universality of open sin, the wickedness of idolatry all point to one great event we may soon see come to pass, the fall of this nation. If the sin of Roman pagan idolatry is not nationally recognized and confessed and forsaken we can only look for national doom. If it is increased and developed and the nation goes on with her open idolatry, her legalized gambling, her mountainous liquor corruption, her disregard for the Truth of the Bible, her desecrating of the Lord's Day and the maintenance of pagan festivals we may be sure of one thing, "The Lord's anger will not be turned away, His hand will be stretched out still." (Isa. 9:17).

"Righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a reproach to any people." (Prov. 14:34).

"Pride goeth before destruction." (Prov. 16:18).

"Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil." (Ex. 23:2).

Perhaps some well meaning untaught Christian will say, "We only keep Christmas to give the children a good time."

Let me give you some questions to consider.

1. How can you, if you are a Christian, allow your own dear little ones to worship Baal-Berith in their childhood ignorance?

2. Do you want them to grow up in servitude to the Roman Catholic Churches observances and celebrations?

3. How can you have the brazen boldness before God, to teach your children paganism and the Word of God at the same time?

4. Why combine the story of our adorable Saviour with the Roman heathen idol, the Christmas tree or Baal-Berith?

5. Why try and mingle your children's pleasure with a wicked heathen tradition?

6. How can you expect your children to believe you, that they must worship Christ alone if they see you indulge in Paganism?

7. How can you expect your child to believe your witnessing to him about Christ when he finds out you have been lying to him about Santa Claus and his reindeers?

8. Can you expect your children to be honest and truthful when they find out you have been lying to them?

9. Do you believe that a festive season that not only came to us through Rome from Babylon, but in itself is a system of perpetual lying to little children is of God?

10. Can you teach your chil-

der to honor the Lord and the Lord's Day and then help them engage in honoring a heathen god, Baal-Berith, a Christmas tree?

11. How can you tell your children you are a child of God yourself when they annually watch you celebrate a Romish Pagan Christmas like a child of the devil?

"Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." (Matt. 7:20).

"Train up a young child in the way he should go, when he is old he will not depart from it." (Prov. 22:6).

It may be you have saved up money to buy Christmas gifts and cards and decorations, etc. Be sure this is not pleasing to God, fellow Christian. Let me suggest to you what should be done if this is the case with you. Do not spend what God has given you on carnal gifts. Do not contribute to the "good cause" of supporting a Romish Christmas entertainment. Do not buy an expensive tree or ornaments and decorations or wreaths, like the Christ-hating world does.

Instead of all this, take what God has given you and send it as a gift to the Lord to some needy missionary in a dark and foreign land. Think awhile on those poor of the earth, those thousands of souls that have never heard the glad tidings of Christ, for the lack of support to real Christian missionaries. Can you, use what the good Lord has given you, to celebrate like the idolatrous heathen, instead of giving that these heathen in awful darkness, might hear and be saved?

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me." (Matt. 25:40).

I have no desire to discourage one honest soul. But I have witnessed this pagan festival of sin creeping as a deadly thing, coiling its slimy yet glittering idolatries around the feeble Baptist Churches, to strangle the true worship that remains. And I have found most who know Christ as Saviour and Lord totally ignorant of the truth about Christmas. And scarcely a voice have I heard raised in protest of this paganism, for the honor of Jesus Christ.

Therefore I have revealed to you the truth as God has shown me by His Word and by history and existing facts. May He make it a word in season to you. It is my hope and prayer that every Christian who discovers he has erred so exceedingly as to partake of Rome's Christmas, will turn again to the God of all grace and in contrition, utterly and forever forsake all that pertains to this Christ dishonoring sin of Babylon. It is my desire to see, not only the souls of men saved, but the children of God walking in obedience to Him. The Apostle John said, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." (III John 4).

Christians are commanded to be holy. (I Pet. 1:15,16). They are to be living sacrifices. (Rom. 12:1). They are to utterly forsake idolatry. (Ex. 20:5). They are told to walk in the Spirit, and not fulfill the fleshly desires. (Gal. 5:16). They are told to stand fast in the liberty of Christ. (Gal. 5:1). They are commanded to grieve not the Spirit of God. (Eph. 4:30). The Apostle said we believers ought to walk as Jesus walked. (I Jn. 2:6). Christ Himself said we should be perfect as our Heavenly Father is. (Matt. 5:48). Jesus told us to set our affections on things above where He is. (Col. 3:2). In Christ we are new creations. (II Cor. 5:17). By His grace we have come

from the hole of the pit. (Isa. 51:1) to Mount Zion, the City of the Living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, into the Church of the Firstborn whose names are written in Heaven. (Heb. 12:22, 23). By God's grace we have been brought from the terrible darkness of death (Eph. 2:1) to the light of Life. (John 14:6) (John 8:12). We have been saved from eternal death by the blood of His dear Son. (Rom. 5:9). We have been bought with a price most precious (I Peter 1:19) we are not our own any more but His. (I Cor. 6:20). And now in Christ we are temples of the Holy Spirit. (I Cor. 3:16).

Reader do you now see why faithful John said, "Little children keep yourselves from idols?" (I John 5:21).



## Business Of A Church

(Continued from Page One)  
institution for sordid, cheap, material purposes.

### The Motive Of A Good Time ... Entertainment

Some switch their membership where there is the most fun and frolic. They like constant suppers and parties. They like for the church to sponsor ball teams, etc. Their church is their club. What a cheap degrading of the things of God! Why don't they go and join a straight out club that doesn't pretend to be religious?

### The Motive Of Having Their Ego Inflated.

Many members want to be made over—want to be coddled. They are not concerned about the advancement of the cause of Christ—they are self-centered. Everything revolves around "them."

### The Motive Of Having A Nice Place To Enjoy Association With Friends.

Let such persons move to another community where those friends are not and they often quit even going to church. They don't care two hoots for the cause of Christ.

In an attempt to satisfy these various selfish motives, and to make the church minister to the whims and wants and wishes of a selfish membership who are more concerned about self than God and His work, the average church spends most of its income on purely local things. They employ an assistant just to direct the fun and frolic. Various workers are paid to do things that need not be done if people are not selfish and self-centered.

### The Real Business Of A Church

1. Jesus outlined it in the great Commission. (Matt. 28:19-20).

At our church, we are not only getting the Gospel before many locally, but to tens of thousands every Sunday, thru broadcasting. Our ten stations cost just about what the extra overhead costs the average church of our size.

2. Our coming together in church meeting is designed to be for the purpose of mutual encouragement. (See Heb. 10:25).

3. The ministry is designed to be of spiritual help. (See Eph. 4:11-15).

We think of the preacher who recently said on Saturday afternoon, "I have been kept so busy this week that I haven't had time to prepare to preach." He got up his sermon for Sunday morning that night, and his sermon for Sunday evening on Sunday afternoon. So busy buzzing around attending to ma-

terial things, that spiritual things were neglected. That is one reason many don't go to church—nothing when they get there! The devil will turn any man's ministry into purely material channels if he can do it—and plenty of people will help the devil to do it.



## Evils Of Calvinism

(Continued from page one)  
Christ is the propitiation for the sins of the whole world (I Jn. 2:2) only in the sense in which He gave Himself a "ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). Those for whom Christ died are saved. He did not die in vain!

Fourthly, Calvinism recognizes the power of the Holy Ghost. The sinner is "dead" spiritually. He cannot do anything. He cannot hear, will, repent or believe. This is another "evil" of Calvinism. Man likes to think he has some part in his salvation. But Calvinism gives all glory to the sovereign Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who "quickens" or makes alive (John 6:63). The Holy Spirit gives the new birth to whom He will (John 3:3-8). If we are born again it is because the Holy Spirit willed it and did it. It is by the Holy Spirit that we are convicted of sin (John 16:7-11); that Christ is revealed to us (I Cor. 2:9-14); that we confess that Jesus is Lord (I Cor. 12:3). Calvinism makes us depend solely upon the Holy Spirit.

Fifthly, Calvinism magnifies the grace of God. Though the sinner is dead in sin and hateful to God and deserving of the wrath of God; and despite the fact that God owes us nothing, since He made man upright, what great grace that God should elect some of us to eternal life and saving faith (Acts 13:48); send His only begotten Son to take our sins in His own body on the tree (Isa. 53:6); and in due time send His Holy Spirit to regenerate us, and fully, freely and forever forgive us of all of our guilt and sin (Eph. 1:7). What grace!

Sixthly, Calvinism gives enthusiasm to evangelism. If I know that God has a people who will hear the Gospel and be saved (II Tim. 2:10) and that there is a certain number whom God the Father has given to the Son and that all of them shall come to the Son (John 6:37); and that the sheep, for whom Christ laid down His life, shall hear His voice and follow Him (John 10:27); and that God's Word will not return Him void, but shall accomplish that which He pleases and prosper in the thing where-to He sends it (Isa. 55:11) — should this cause me to ask: "Why preach then?" or "Why send missionaries?" No. There is every reason for preaching and missions. That would be just as foolish as asking: "Why fish then?" if I know the lake is full of fish; or "Why work then?" if I know I am sure to make money. It was an incentive to the great Apostle Paul, as he considered laboring in Corinth. The Lord appeared to him in a vision and said: "Be not afraid, but speak and hold not thy peace . . . for I have much people in this city" (Acts 18:9-10).

In closing here are some evils that can never be laid at the door of Calvinism.

That since the sinner cannot please God, and since his will is bound by sin, he is not responsible. He is responsible to obey God whether he can or not. Though the sinner cannot keep the moral law of God, he is responsible to keep it never-

theless (I Tim. 1:8-11). Though the Christian cannot live without sin (Rom. 7:15-25), yet he is responsible to so live (I John 2:1). Inability does not do away with responsibility. The drunkard is responsible to obey the laws of our land against drunkenness whether he can or not. I am responsible to pay my debts whether I can or not.

Another evil that cannot be rightfully laid at Calvinism's door is the statement: "If I believed that I would lose all my zeal to win souls to Christ," or "I would no longer have any zeal for missions." Or if it is true with you then I suppose the correct answer should be: Praise God! If believing the truth of sacred Scriptures causes you to lose your zeal, thank God. You ought to lose that kind of zeal. It was evidently not the right kind of zeal created and controlled by the truth of God altogether, but mixed with fleshly emotionalism and sentimentality.

Nor can the evils of salvation by human works or worth; or of a defeated God and Christ who fails; or of a Christ who saves no one by His death (for if He cannot save everyone for whom He died, how can He save anyone?); or of a weak Holy Spirit; or of a great number of false professions and much show and sensationalism be laid to Calvinism. No. These evils find no welcome in the courts of the truth as seen by John Calvin, Saint Augustine and Saint Paul, and as preached by their Lord.

But these so-called evils we who are Calvinists gladly plead guilty of believing and preaching:

Man is nothing, apart from God's grace, but sin.

God does as He pleases.

Christ saves forever all those for whom He died.

The Holy Spirit regenerates whom He will.

We are saved altogether by God's sovereign grace.

A Scriptural and sensible evangelism.

Of "these" evils we are guilty! Amen!



The fellows who don't want to believe the Bible, read more about the Bible than they do of it.

\* \* \*

Rationalism is as old as the devil and he was the author of it.



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