

None but the holy can look upon the Holy One.

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

THE REAL HEART OF LIBERTY

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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Do The Dead Know What Happens Here?

By ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

This is a highly important matter, and one that most every person is interested in. Those who hold to the doctrine of "Soul Sleeping" of course deny that the dead know anything. The Bible says that "the dead know not anything," but reference is there to the BODY—not to the spiritual self that lived in the body.

Then many people DON'T WANT TO THINK THAT THE DEAD KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON. Why? Because they are so living and doing, that they don't want dead loved ones

to know about it. They are like the man whose wife died and who married very speedily—he didn't want his dead wife to know how quickly he had taken another wife!

Do The Dead Know?

The Scriptures seem to teach that THEY DO. Suppose we look at some of these Scriptures:

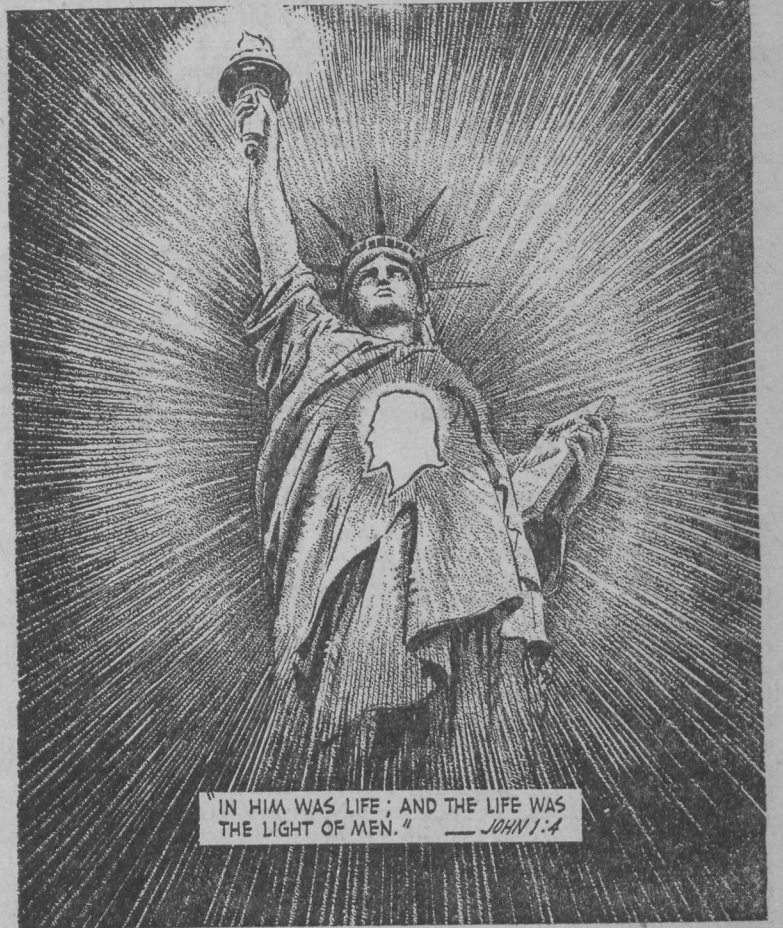
Matt. 17:3 and Luke 9:27-31. Note several things from these Scriptures, as follows:

1. Moses and Elijah were not asleep. Moses died centuries before—yet here he is active and conscious.

2. Moses and Elijah were recognizable.

3. They evidently knew Jesus—knew what he had come to earth for—knew where Jerusalem was—knew what was going to take place there. If Moses, who had been long dead, remembered Jerusalem and knew where it was and knew what was going to take place there, why shouldn't we believe that others who have died know just as much? No answer to this.

4—Hebrews 12:1-2. The 11th chapter of Hebrews recites the list of the "heroes of faith." The (Continued on page four)



A Call To The Slaves Of Easter To Awake To Duty

By L. D. GIBSON
North Kenova, Ohio

Easter is a clever piece of Roman priestcraft, a superstitious rite, that has set in motion a stream of influence for evil that will go on and on to debase and debauch the manhood and womanhood of the world.

Satan told God to His face that His servant served Him, not from disinterested motives, from sincere affections, but in the spirit of a hireling.

"Doth Job fear God for naught?"

Satan is saying that God is incapable of inspiring genuine disinterested affections in His servant. Those who worship Him, worship Him not for what He is, but for what He gives.

Satan knows the propensity of

man and therefore appeals to him through the five senses on the basis of reward.

Satan offers his dupes falsehood for truth, sophistry for reason, and license for liberty.

If you do not believe in Easter and do not wish to be placed in the same category with those who engage in this superstitious ritualism, then have no fellowship with those who engage in it or condone it in others who look with favor on it.

Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness.

Fifty million Baptists died as martyrs at the hands of the Roman Catholic Church during the "Dark Ages," and history could repeat itself.

If you are not for this diabolical, heathenish ritualism, stand up and be counted.

Christ said, "he that is not for us is against us." It is just as true today as it was then.

If in any way we recognize it, we are against Christ.

Baptists repudiate it for the following reasons:

It repudiates the Bible as our only rule of faith and practice and follows a false creed.

It makes void true spiritual (Continued on page three)

PETER WAS NEVER IN ROME, NOR BISHOP, NOR POPE OF ROME

By REV. WM. E. BURKE
Converted Priest

Peter was never in Rome and never bishop of Rome.

There is no reliable historian who would dare to say that Peter visited Rome, much less was bishop of Rome, or worse yet, pope of Rome. No historian could support such claims and give a shred of evidence to prove his point.

There is not one scintilla of Biblical evidence to support the theory that Peter was EVER in Rome, or bishop of Rome, or pope of Rome. Rather is positive evidence in the Scriptures that he was not in Rome.

Paul, in his letter to the Christians at Rome (written in 60 A. D.) did not address the letter to Peter (as he would have if Peter were in Rome and pope of all churches). But to the saints. And in his conclusion (Rom. 16:3-16) Paul sends greetings to many whom he knew in Rome, but never mentions Pope Peter! How strange of a missionary to write to the church and never send greetings to the pastor! That would be an insult. How much more grave would be the insult if (Continued on page three)

How Satan Uses Heathen Easter For His Purposes

For the last 1625 years many Christians have been observing a day in the spring that is called Easter. There have been many other Christians who have not celebrated this day, and there are those of God's children who still do not.

First of all let us see how and when the date of Easter was set. Any encyclopedia will readily furnish you with this data. At the Council of Nicea 325 (apostated churches) the time was set as the first Sunday after the full moon after March 21. Immediately we see that the Resurrection of Christ does not determine the day but the moon does.

The next thing we'd notice is where we get the name. I find in Acts 12:4 (the only place in the Bible it occurs) the word Easter, but in checking the Greek word (which was the original language) I find it comes from "Pascha." I also find that this word "Pascha" is translated 28 times elsewhere in the Bible as "passover." Then where does it come from? In our histories we find that there was a spring festival in Rome at this time in honor to Venus, one of their

goddess. She is the same as the goddess Aphrodite of the Greeks. She was the goddess of beauty and love and Shakespeare writes of her unfaithfulness to her husband Vulcan. In other words, a harlot goddess.

Of Aphrodite we find the same characteristics. Another harlot goddess, whose husband was Hephaistos, but who had many lovers. She is the same as the more ancient Ashtaroth of the Syro-Phoenicians or better known to us in the Bible as Ashtaroth. We know her husband very well for his name is Baal. She was a symbol of love and fertility and from her we get the word Easter. She also goes by the name Estarte.

The worship of these goddesses was held in drunken orgies and of course they much resembled (Continued on page four)

ADVERTISING THAT DID NOT PAY

"NOTICE—I'm in the county jail for being drunk. If anyone will pay my fine for \$40, I will work it out to his satisfaction."

Such was the advertisement which a 30-year-old man placed in the local paper of Bad Axe, Michigan.

He had been arrested for being drunk and disorderly; and was unable to pay a fine and costs of \$44.10.

Although the police records show he had been arrested 18 times, he still had not acquired an affection for jail—hence the placing of the advertisement.

Up to the time of going to press, he had received only two replies and both were flippant. One offered a job on a small farm with 12 cows which need to be milked only when convenient as "the cows are trained."

When man becomes conscious of the fact that he is under the condemnation of God's law because of his sins, he discovers his appeals to his fellow men meet with indifference, flip-

(Continued on page four)

The First Baptist Pulpit

"Some Baptists Who Fell From Grace"

"Ye are fallen from grace."
—Gal. 5:4.

The Hindus have a remarkable tradition which illustrates a spiritual truth. It is the story of a thief who devised a plan by which he hoped to save his life. He told the jailor that he had a secret to impart to the king whereby the king might gain enormous wealth, but that he would only impart it in a personal interview with the king. When this interview was arranged and he was brought

into the presence of the king, after much bowing and many prostrations, he told the king that he knew a secret whereby he could make gold grow on trees like fruit. He suggested that the king take his chief minister, the commander in chief of the army, and his priest with the thief in order that the experiment might be made. Selecting a spot, the thief took a coin from his pocket, and said, "If this coin be planted on this spot, it will produce a tree on which will hang coins as thick

as clusters of grapes, but there is one condition—it must be planted by a hand that has never been guilty of a single dishonest act. My hands, as you know, are not clean, so I pass the coin to his majesty the king."

UNCLEAN HANDS

Being most anxious that this experiment should be proven a success, and certainly not wanting the cause of failure to rest with himself, the king immedi-

(Continued on page two)

Catholic Digest of January, 1944, page 83 states: "No one has a right to accept any religion except the Catholic religion, or to be a member of any other church, or to practice any form of divine worship save that commanded by the Catholic Church. The Catholic, convinced that the Catholic religion is the only true religion is intolerant toward other creeds. No reasonable person can object to that attitude, for if the Catholic religion is true, all others must be false."

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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"Some Baptists Who Fall From Grace"

(Continued from page one)

ately remonstrated since he re-
membered having taken money
from his father's treasury and
therefore he handed the coin on
to his chief minister. Then the
chief minister handed it to the
commander in chief of the
army saying, "I receive taxes
and it is possible that my hands
are not clean." Then the com-
mander in chief of the army
said, "No, don't give it to me,
I handle the army; I buy rations
and pay the forces, let's give it
to the high priest." Immediately
the latter on receiving it, said,
"No, I collect tithes, my hands
may not be entirely clean. I
cannot take it."

Whereupon the thief said,
"Then your majesty, why hang
me as a thief when you, your
chief minister, the commander
in chief of your army, and your
high priest all confess that your
hands are not clean. If neither
you nor the highest men of the
kingdom will answer for their
own honesty, then why hang
me?" Needless to say, the thief
was pardoned.

This story carries its own
moral. We have all sinned and
come short of the glory of God.
There is not one of us who can
plead innocent. None stand
guiltless in God's sight. The
hands of each are defiled and
depraved. Listen:

NONE RIGHTEOUS

"As it is written, There is
none righteous, no, not one.
There is none that understand-
eth, there is none that seeketh
after God. They are all gone
out of the way, they are to-
gether become unprofitable;
there is none that doeth good,
no, not one. For all have sin-
ned and come short of the glory
of God."—Rom. 3:10-12,23.

"But the scripture hath con-
cluded all under sin, that the
promise by faith of Jesus Christ
might be given to them that be-
lieve."—Gal. 3:22.

The question which confronts
each of us today is how to get
rid of that sin whereby each of
us stand guilty. In fact, that
is the problem of practically the
entirety of the Bible. Of the
1189 chapters of the Bible, three
tell us from whence we came
and of our present condition.
All the other 1186 deal with the
question of how we may over-
come our present sinful condi-
tion. I repeat that only three
of the chapters of the Bible tell
us of our origin while all the
balance of the Bible deals with
the sin question of our lives.

It was thus that Paul was
grappling with this problem of
sin when he wrote the book of
Galatians. At the time our text
was written, it was this matter
of sin and how to overcome it
which was uppermost in the
mind and heart of Paul.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

APRIL 5, 1952

Page Two

AN UNUSUAL TEXT

Certainly this is an unusual
text. "Ye are fallen from grace."
Particularly is it unusual for a
Baptist preacher to attempt to
preach from a text which has,
by implication, words which
might indicate to some that one
can be lost after having been
saved.

I

Lest I might die before fin-
ishing this sermon, and lest you
might die before I bring it to a
conclusion—and in either event
you might go to Heaven think-
ing that I believed that one can
be saved today and lost tomor-
row—THEN LET ME SAY AT
THE VERY OUTSET THAT IT
IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR A
CHRISTIAN TO LOSE HIS
SALVATION.

"I've found a Friend; O such a
Friend!
So kind and true and tender;
So wise a Counselor and Guide,
So mighty a Defender!
From Him who loves me now
so well,
What pow'r my soul shall
sever?
Shall life or death, shall earth
or hell?
No; I am His forever."

There are a number of Scrip-
tures which teach us the im-
possibility of any Christian be-
ing lost after having been saved.
May we notice one which
is outstanding:

"His seed also will I make to
endure for ever, and his throne
as the days of heaven. If his
children forsake my law, and
walk not in my judgments; If
they break my statutes, and
keep not my commandments;
Then will I visit their trans-
gressions with the rod, and their
iniquity with stripes. Neverthe-
less my loving kindness will I
not utterly take from him, nor
suffer my faithfulness to fail.
My covenant will I not break,
nor alter the thing that is gone
out of my lips. Once have I
sworn by my holiness that I
will not lie unto David. His
seed shall endure for ever, and
his throne as the sun before me.
It shall be established forever
as the moon, and as a faithful
witness in heaven. Selah."

—Psa. 89:29-37.

GOD'S COVENANT

This Scripture is taken from
the covenant made by the God-
head prior to creation. In their
covenant whereby God the Fa-
ther was to elect and choose
men unto salvation, the Holy
Spirit was to regenerate, and
Christ's agreement was that He
might die to pay the sin debt.
In connection with this coven-
ant, the Father guaranteed that
all those who should be saved
through Christ would be saved
forever. He Himself declares
in verse 29 that He will make
Christ's seed to "endure for
ever." Even though believers
violate the commandments of
God and may be chastened
thereby, nevertheless God as-
sures Christ that not one of
them will ever be lost, even go-
ing so far as to promise that He
would never break His coven-
ant nor alter the agreement in-
to which they had entered. As
a seal of that covenant He calls
upon the sun and the moon as
witnesses. If one might remove
the sun from the sky by day or
the moon by night then and
then only could He take a saved
person out of God's hand.
Whenever the Devil has power
enough to blot out the sun and
the moon, only then will he
have power to destroy a child
of God. Then after calling at-
tention to this marvelous prom-
ise, He throws in the word,
"Selah" (v. 30), which literally
means "think of that." Certain-
ly the wonderful security which

is ours, attested to by the con-
tinuous shining of the sun and
the moon—certainly this won-
derful security is something for
us to think about.

If there were no other Scrip-
tures in all the Bible which in-
dicated that one's salvation is
eternal, then this is sufficient
to guarantee to me the eternal
security of the believer. Yet,
this is not the only Scripture.
Listen:

"Whosoever believeth that
Jesus is the Christ is born of
God and every one that loveth
him that begat, loveth him also
that is begotten of him."

I John 5:1.

CAN'T BE UNBORN

There is an axiomatic law of
life that that which has been
born cannot be unborn. When-
ever a woman goes down into
the valley of the shadow of
death to produce a new life, it
is impossible for that new life
to be unborn after having been
born. There is no way known
to science whereby one may be
unborn. If this be true in the
natural and physical realm,
how much more is it true in the
spiritual realm. Since that
which is born cannot be unborn,
and since each believer is born
of God, then beyond any ques-
tion there is no possibility of a
Christian being lost after being
saved.

Three children have come in-
to our home as a gift of God.
Neither my boy nor my two
girls have ever done everything
which pleases me. In all prob-
ability they will do many
things in the future which will
displease me. They may go to
the jungles of Africa, put rings
in their noses, plates in their
lips, and live like savages
(sometimes by the way they act
at home I think they possibly
could qualify). Even then they
would still be my children. They
have been born such and I
thank God that there is no way
whereby they might be unborn.
Yet as much as I rejoice be-
cause of this, I rejoice even
more when I stand in the pres-
ence of God to know that when
one has been born of Him, that
one can never be unborn.

If these were the only Scrip-
tures which indicate that a child
of God is eternally secure, there
would be no doubt in my mind
about this great doctrine. Yet

these are not all. Listen:

"Whereby are given unto us
exceeding great and precious
promises that by these ye might
be partakers of the divine na-
ture."—II Pet. 1:4.

What wonderful truth is pre-
sented in this text. By the new
birth each child of God actually
partakes of divine nature. You
will notice that it isn't by sob
stories nor by pathetic inci-
dents, it isn't by the speaker
nor by his magnetic personality,
nor through mob psychology
that converts are made. Rather,
it is through the promises of
God, by the hearing and the
acceptance of these which tell
of Jesus that the new birth be-
comes a reality and the child
of God thereby partakes of di-
vine nature.

SOMETHING OF GOD WITHIN

Isn't it marvelous to realize
that each one who has believed
in Him has actually partaken
of the nature of God. That is,
in each believer there is some-
thing of God, there is some-
thing of divine nature within
us. The nature of God Himself
has been placed within each of
us. Then, beloved, if a child
of God after having partaken
of the Divine nature could be
lost, then something of Divine
nature would be lost too. If
after being saved one were to
go to Hell, then something of
God would go to Hell too.
Perish the thought. In view of
the fact that each of us through
the promise of God's Word, par-
take of His nature, then each
of us are eternally secure in
Him.

Again I say that if these were
the only Scriptures which indi-
cate that one's salvation is
eternal, then this would be suf-
ficient to cause each of us to
know beyond any shadow of a
doubt that we are saved etern-
ally. Yet these few do not be-
gin to exhaust the Word of God
relative to our security. Listen:
"Being born again, not of
corruptible seed, but of incor-
ruptible by the word of God,
which liveth and abideth for
ever."—I Pet. 1:23.

LIKE PRODUCES LIKE

Here then is a text which tells
us that we are born of incor-
ruptible seed. It is a law of
life that like produces like. In

IN CHRIST'S EMBRACE

I know your heart is sad today,
As yet you cannot see
The meaning of this strange dark way
Through which God leadeth thee,
But oh, believe 'Tis Love divine,—
Almighty, perfect, true
Which knows no bounds of space or time,
That chose this path for you.
He has a purpose wise and blest
In every bitter blow.
And tenderly He bids you rest
Until you fully know.

This precious little life which here
Paused for so brief a while,
Now rests safe in the Father's care,
Beholding His blest smile.
Eternal years of bliss untold
Will be his portion There
Because in grief you brought him forth
God's love and grace to share.
And Heav'n will be a dearer place,
E'en dearer than before,
Because he waits in Christ's embrace,
Within the open door.

Then dry your tears, and look to Him
For grace to bear you through,
Until with eyes no longer dim
You see the reason true.

—Avis B. Christiansen

the first chapter of Genesis, it
times you read the expression
"after his kind." This indicates
that everything reproduces af-
ter its own kind. That be-
true, then since we are born of
incorruptible seed, then we our-
selves are incorruptible to all
There surely could be no greater
proof as to our eternal secu-
rity than this.

The Word of God speaks
often as to teach that our sal-
vation is eternal. Listen to the
words of the apostle Paul:

"Who shall separate us from
the love of Christ? shall tribu-
lation, or distress, or persecu-
tion, or famine, or nakedness,
peril, or sword. As it is writ-
ten, For thy sake we are killing
all the day long; we are
counted as sheep for the slaugh-
ter. Nay, in all these things we
are more than conquerors
through him that loved us. I
am persuaded, that neither
death, nor life, nor angels, nor
principalities, now powers, nor
things present, nor things to
come, Nor height, nor depth,
nor any other creature, shall be
able to separate us from the
love of God, which is in Christ
Jesus our Lord."

—Rom. 8:35-39.

NOTHING CAN REMOVE US

In fact, there is nothing that
can take a believer out of God's
hand. Temptation can't. "The
hath no temptation taken you
but such as is common to man-
kind; but God is faithful, who
will not suffer you to be tempt-
ed above that ye are able; but
with the temptation also mak-
eth a way to escape, that ye may
be able to bear it."—I Cor. 10:13.

Sin can't take one away from
God. "For sin shall not have
dominion over you: for ye are
not under the law, but under
grace."—Rom. 6:14.

Even the Devil can't so much
as touch the new nature which
God gives us. Though He may
harass and vex, He can't touch
the nature of God. "He that
begotten of God keepeth him-
self, and that wicked one touch-
eth him not."—I John 5:18.

Even the law can't take one
out of God's hand. "For ye
shall not have dominion over
you; for ye are not under the
law, but under grace."—Rom.
6:14.

And more marvelous than all
else, the believer cannot take
himself out of God's hand. He
may wreck his life and waste
his influence, but he cannot re-
move himself from God. When
once the individual is saved,
there is nothing that he can do
whereby he might be unsaved.
Listen:

"And I will make an ever-
lasting covenant with them,
that I will not turn away from
them, to do them good; but I
will put my fear in their hearts,
that they shall not depart from
me."—Jer. 32:40.

It is wonderful to thus see
that it is impossible for a Chris-
tian to lose his salvation. This
is true since Christ's blood
cleanses from all sin. Listen to
these Scriptures:

"Who gave himself for us,
that he might redeem us from
all iniquity, and purify unto
himself a peculiar people, zealous
of good works."—Titus 2:14.

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

"And you, being dead in your
sins and the uncircumcision of
your flesh hath he quickened
together with him having for-
given you all trespasses."

—Col. 2:13.

In these verses, Paul refers
to all iniquity, all sin, and all
trespasses. Since all of our in-
iquities, sins, and trespasses are
forgiven, which means the sin-
iniquities, and trespasses of yester-
day, today, and tomorrow,
all of the past, the present, and
(Continued on page three)

"Some Baptists Who Fall From Grace"

(Continued from page two)
the future—then in view of all this, it is surely impossible for a child of God to ever lose his God-given salvation.

II

HAVING THUS ESTABLISHED THE FACT THAT ONE CAN NEVER BE LOST AFTER HAVING BEEN SAVED, THEN WE KNOW THAT MY TEXT DOES NOT TEACH IN ANY WISE THE POSSIBILITY OF APOSTASY. YET IT DOES TEACH THAT ONE CAN FALL FROM GRACE.

It is most interesting to notice the background of this text. After Paul had gone from the regions of Galatia, false teachers came in who preached that faith in Christ was the means of obtaining salvation but that obedience to the law was the means of retaining salvation. This sounds so modern that one would think that it was taught only yesterday. This is the outstanding heresy of the Campbellites today.

It is the outstanding heresy of the Methodists today.

It is the outstanding heresy of the Holy Rollers today.

It is the outstanding heresy of all Arminians today.

All of these teach that you obtain salvation through Christ but that you retain it through obedience to the law.

In teaching thus, they go absolutely contrary to the Word of God, for God has shown us that salvation is either by grace or works, and unmistakably Paul reveals it to be of grace alone.

Listen: "Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. And if by grace, then it is no more of works; otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then it is no more grace; otherwise work is no more work."

—Rom. 11:5-6.

However, in these regions of Galatia, many had been attracted to these false teachers. They had doubtlessly joined the churches of that section and possibly had a false peace. You know the Devil manages to give this false peace to unsaved church members. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the ends thereof are the ways of death."

—Prov. 14:12.

Paul in our text was thereby writing to these individuals who thought that they were justified by their works. In the very words of our text he says that he is writing to "whosoever of you are justified by the law."

UNSAVED CHURCH MEMBERS

Since he was writing to those who thought they were justified by the law, then he was therefore addressing unsaved church members. This is brought out in all the Word of God in view of the fact that no man can be saved by the keeping of the law.

Listen: "Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law."

—Rom. 3:28.

"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law, for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified."

—Gal. 2:16.

"And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses."

—Acts 13:39.

Paul was therefore speaking to those who were trusting in both grace and works for salvation. He said that they had fallen away from grace. Every Arminian in the world today who is trusting in the very slightest way in his own works, has fallen from grace.

FALLING FROM GRACE

Falling from grace then is a sin which only the unsaved can commit. It is a sin ordinarily committed by unsaved church members. That individual who depends upon his works rather than upon the finished work of Jesus Christ and who trusts anything except the shed blood of the Son of God to wash away his sins—that individual has fallen from grace.

I rejoice today that I can preach to you concerning the grace of God. I love the thought of God's grace. In December of 1942, I was in Miami, Florida, just before the holiday season. Having heard of the famed Miami Beach, and having some time at my disposal, I decided to visit it. It happened that the afternoon I was at the beach that a cool wind was blowing, and I had it all to myself—not a person was in bathing. I walked about a mile up the beach on the sand and sat down to watch the waves. Seated thus, I began with my hands to pile up sand in a little dune in front of me. Thus I sat there unconsciously or sub-consciously watching the waves and playing with the sand that I piled up. The waves kept coming in closer and closer and I moved back about twenty feet and sat on a piece of driftwood. As I did this, it placed the little pile of sand out in front of me—between me and the waves. Like a flesh it came to me how that as I had piled up that sand in an unconscious manner, so my sins from the hour of birth had grown and accumulated until they were a monstrous mountain in God's sight. Then as I sat there, suddenly a large wave came over the top of that little pile of sand and when the wave receded, the pile of sand was gone—the wave had leveled it with the balance of the beach. Well, that's just like the grace of God. Our sins increase and grow greater as the days pass by. It is only the grace of God that can blot them out.

"Grace, grace, God's grace;
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within,
Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin."

Realizing then the impossibility of anyone being saved by his own efforts, I therefore urge you to receive God's grace and thereby be saved. Only the individual who rejects His grace in depending upon his own works, can fall from grace. May you trust that grace and thereby be saved with an everlasting salvation. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God; Not of works lest any man should boast."—Eph. 2:8, 9.



Slaves Of Easter

(Continued from page one)
worship by substituting a combination of heathenism and ritualism.

It rejects the God-ordained way of testifying to the resurrection of Jesus. Namely: by water baptism and substitutes therefore the invention of a Roman priest.

It destroys the testimony of the resurrection, namely the Lord's Day, by substituting Easter as a yearly observance, in-

THE STONE ROLLED FROM THE DOOR OF THE TOMB



stead of a weekly obedience.

It is a grievous and sacrilegious abuse of holy things by turning things intended to glorify our risen Lord into a day of show and hypocrisy.

It is the observance of days, which the Scriptures forbid.

It makes the Lord's Supper a sacrament with saving grace conferred.

It is heathenish in all its activities. It is a gross perversion of New Testament teaching in that it is a form of godliness and denies the power thereof. It dethrones the Lord Jesus as the Lord of men's lives, and worship and turns His worship into the grossest forms of idolatry. Beware of the observers of Easter. Having a name to live, they are dead.

Many of the ornaments worn on Easter day are fashioned after ancient charms or talismans that are supposed to preserve the wearers against all sorts of witchcraft; and chief among these is the Cross. "God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world with all its witcheries is crucified unto me and I unto the world."

They are slaves who fear to speak

For the fallen and the weak;
And they are slaves who would not choose

Hatred, scoffing, and abuse.
Rather than in silence shrink
From the truths they need must think.

Worse than a slave is he
Who would not be in the right
with two or three.



Simon Peter

(Continued from page one)
Peter were bishop or pope, and ignored!

In 66 A. D., Paul was a prisoner in Rome, and he wrote the second Epistle to Timothy from Rome. In II Timothy 4: 21, Paul sent greetings from the church at Rome, but no mention is made of Bishop Peter! Nor is his name referred to anywhere in that epistle or in any other epistle as having been in Rome! Strange that the Roman church sends greetings and its bishop is absolutely disregarded.

In 64 A. D., Paul wrote from Rome again to the church at Ephesus. In this epistle (Eph. 1:21-22) he stated under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, that "Christ is head over all things to the church—" and never even mentioned Peter as being in Rome, much less bishop of Rome or vicar of Christ."

In 64 A. D., Paul again wrote from Rome to the church at Philippi. He never mentioned Peter, although he sent the greetings to other Christians at Rome. (Phil. 4:21-22).

In 64 A. D., Paul wrote AGAIN from Rome to the church at Colosse. As in all other letters, he never mentioned Peter in the salutation, nor in his closing greetings. (Col. 4:9-14). He mentions Mark, Justus, Onesimus, Aristarchus, Epaphras, Luke and Demas, but HE MADE NO MENTION OF PETER! IS IT NOT OBVIOUS THAT PETER WAS NOT EVEN THERE!

Is it not very strange that of all the letters that were sent from Rome, Peter did not send one single one of them, and this in view of the fact that he was supposed to have been the chief of the Apostles, the pope of the Universal Church, the vicar of Christ?!!

Peter was the Apostle to the Jews—not to the Gentiles nor

did he have authority over Jewish and Gentile churches.

In Galatians 2:7-14 we note that Peter was designated to be a missionary to the Jews, and Paul, to the Gentiles.

In Acts 15:13-32 we find the first church council (incidentally, Rome's church had not as yet been founded). James, Peter, and John presided, but James gave the verdict—not Peter! Nothing was said about Peter being prince of the apostles, or chief shepherd. Note further, that Peter did not visit the Gentile churches with the message, nor was it sent to the churches in his name! If he were the chief prince of the apostles and vicar of Christ, why was there a church council at all? Furthermore, if Peter was the prince of apostles, why did Paul have to rebuke Peter for un-Christian conduct at Antioch? And who was Paul to rebuke the vicar of Christ? (Gal. 2:11-14).

Peter Was Never Pope Of Any Church

Even if Peter had been in Rome (of which there is not a crumb of evidence), there was no papal throne for him to sit upon, because

There was no such church official as pope in the Roman Catholic system until 451 A. D.!

Pope Leo I was the FIRST POPE of the Roman Catholic Church. He was bishop of Rome from 440 A. D. to 461 A. D., and thus became the FIRST pope of Rome (not of the Universal Church) in 451 A. D.

(Continued on page four)

ONLY A LITTLE TIME

I only have a little time
To love and serve the Lord;
I only have a little time
To read and learn His Word.

I only have a little time
To talk to men for Him;
They only have a little time
To turn their hearts from sin.

So since the time is short for all
And shorter still each day,
We seek to learn His blessed will
We strive to know His way.

For when to fairer realms we go
And there behold His face,
We'll praise our God for time we gave
To live and serve by grace.

Advertising

(Continued from page one)
pancy or helplessness; for "none of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him." (Psa. 49:7).

The redemption of the soul is so precious that only the Lord Jesus can—and did—pay the price. He died for our sins and rose again for our justification. Now, every believer can sing:

"My chains are snapped,
The bonds of sin are broken;
And I am free:
O let the triumphs
Of His grace be spoken
Who died for me!"

The Dead

(Continued from page one)

12th chapter says "seeing we also are compassed about (or encircled) with so great a cloud of WITNESSES . . ." The picture is that of a great stadium filled with spectators. Who are the spectators? None other than the "heroes of faith." They are WITNESSES. A witness is one who SEES. What do these witnesses see? They see us running the Christian race. If the heroes of faith are looking on—seeing—then aren't all the saved doing the same: Just let this passage say what it wants to say, and we have the conception clearly before us that the dead know what is taking place here.

5—Luke 16:22-31. Here is a passage that relates to the WICKED dead. Note that the wicked man in torment recognized Abraham and Lazarus. He had his memory. He knew he had some brothers back on the earth—he knew their number and he knew their unsaved state. How could he unless he knew what was taking place here? Abraham knew the same things and knew about Moses and the prophets. All of this argues unmistakably for the truth that the dead know what is taking place on the earth.

6—Rev. 6:10. Here we have THE SOULS of those who had been killed for the Lord's sake (their bodies were sleeping), and they are asking how long it will be before God will avenge their death at the hands of wicked men. You will observe that they remembered how they had died; at whose hands, and that it was on the earth. Likewise they knew that their deaths had not at that time been avenged. All of this speaks of conscious existence

and knowledge of things both in Heaven and on earth. Desperate attempts are made to explain away all of these Scriptures just submitted, but it requires artificial juggling to make them mean other than what we have just suggested.

A Problem

Some will say, "How can the saved be happy and know that their loved ones are living in sin?" That is God's problem, and He will certainly solve it. The problem of making us happy is God's problem. We know that there will be no unhappiness in His presence. We shall see everything in a different light then for we shall see things from God's viewpoint. God knows what is taking place here does He not? And is God happy or unhappy? You know the answer to that question.

Easter

(Continued from page one)

ble our Easter dances and the drinking and debauchery that is being done today in celebration of this day.

Let me give you a few Scriptures about Ashtaroth. These are not all of them, but will give you an idea of her nature and wickedness. Judges 2:13, "And they forsook the Lord, and served Baal and Ashtaroth." This is speaking of Israel soon after entering the land of Canaan. Judges 10:6, "And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the Lord, and served Baalim and Ashtaroth." I Kings 11:4-5, 30-34, "For . . . when Solomon was old . . . his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians . . ."

It was because of this worship of Ashtaroth that Solomon's kingdom was divided. The house of Israel now split into two kingdoms because of heathen worship. So you'll find today in many so-called churches of God because of heathen worship in their midst.

Easter, in memory of God the Son who rose from the grave, or a heathen goddess, of which legend tells us that she came as a many colored egg out of Heaven and dropped into the sea and out of the foam she was born. Fable? Yes, but of worship today anyway.

Now let us notice some other facts about the celebration of Easter today in so many churches throughout the land. Let us see if we should observe this day or not.

1. We are not to observe Easter because we are to remember the resurrection of our Saviour by the ordinance of baptism. As he instituted the

Lord's Supper to remember his death so he also instituted baptism that we might remember His burial and resurrection. See I Cor. 11:26 and Rom. 6:1-10.

Those of you who do not immerse the saved ones, but sprinkle or pour, don't have this remembrance through baptism, so you must whip up something fancy to remember His resurrection.

2. I don't believe in Easter for it is unscriptural in every detail. He wasn't crucified on Friday. He didn't arise Sunday morning. If you'll read Matt. 12:40 as follows: "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." You'll really have to juggle your figures if you can get three days and three nights from Friday evening until Sunday morning. My arithmetic won't permit me to reckon as such. In Matt. 28:1, "In the end of the Sabbath" or Saturday evening as the Jewish day ended at sundown. Already risen then. What is the meaning of your sunrise service then?

3. I don't like Easter for Baptists have refused to take part in it. Yes, we have some that call themselves Baptists that take part in the Holy Week Services. Neither a man that does so, nor a church that does so, is much of a Baptist. Back in the fourth century after the time was set by the Council of Nicea there were thousands of Baptists slaughtered because they refused to go to Good Friday meetings. Check in any good church history and you'll find that from the fourth century on through the dark ages that there were many Christians (Baptist) slain because they refused to observe Easter.

Let Me Tell You A Story

Between the Old and New Testaments we find a man who was just about as cruel a man as ever lived. He came to Jerusalem and there he took the Jewish women and hung them on crosses and while they were so hung he'd pin their babies to them with a sword. Oh! how he did slay God's people and mercilessly treat them, but that wasn't all that he did. He wasn't satisfied with this but he must humiliate them to the greatest degree, so he marched into the Temple of God and there he took a sow (a hog is defiled to the Jews) and offered her as a sacrifice to his God on the altar of God. How God's people must have felt to see the temple of the living God so mistreated. It was such a filthy



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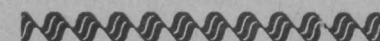
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act that before they would have another service in it they had a purification service to clean that temple. I can see them washing and scrubbing everything in the temple to make it fit for God to dwell in. Oh! what a terrible thing this Antiochus Epiphanes did to them. But was it any more profane for him to offer a sow to his god on God's temple than it is for people today to celebrate a heathen goddess festival in the House of the Lord? I know of a lot of churches that ought to be having a purification service. "That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word." (Eph. 5:26).

4. We don't observe Easter because it brings idolatry into the church. We might as well have the "Baal day" as it is his wife's day that people are observing. It is a pagan festival brought in to appease some of the pagans and to overawe the Barbaric people who were coming into Italy. They worshipped in a manner based on sex and these goddesses sure showed forth sex, fertility, and love (pagan). What do rabbits, eggs, and chickens have to do with Easter? Fertility, Production. You may desire such, but I don't want rabbits hopping around in my theology, nor do I want eggs scrambled in it, nor chickens scratching in it.

5. We should not observe Easter for there is no Bible for observing it. As we said before the translation in Acts 12:4 was very wrong. We have a good translation in the King James version if Bible scholars would only open their minds to God's truths instead of all the tradition that is handed down to them. King James' translators were Episcopal and translated according to the rules laid down by him as head of the Church of England. Look at the end to which some people go to justify their teachings—even as to the changing the Bible. (This isn't the only place that it is changed).

We are to be ruled by the Bible and to use it as our guide so if it isn't in the Bible we have no authority to practice it. Please find for me the place giving authority to practice such heathen worship. Christ could well say of those that teach about Easter the same as He said to the Pharisees in Mark 7:13. "Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered."

If there is ever any weeping in Heaven I can imagine it would be on Easter Sunday. Why? Because of the observing and worship of a pagan goddess—of the multitudes that go to show their new clothes, but more yet of the children that are raked into the church that day without any saving knowledge of Christ. Yea, many are concentrating on that day to see how many they can get to join the church rather than teach Christ as their way of SALVATION. How sad but true!

6. I refuse it because it is a substitution for the remembrance of the resurrection of Christ.

Baptism isn't the only thing that reminds us of Christ's resurrection. Every Lord's Day is a remembrance to us and it comes every week not just once a year. The Devil has tried to stamp out 51 of those remembrances and that is the reason so many people couldn't tell you why we worship on Sunday instead of Saturday. They think of Easter Sunday as the resurrection day but we remember every Sunday, that we worship our Lord Jesus Christ as one risen from the dead for us. "If Christ be not risen our faith is in vain, ye are yet in your

sins." (I Cor. 15:14). The resurrection is our foundation. Truth and every time we stand away from God's house on Sunday we are withholding our testimony of the resurrection of Christ.

The Devil And Easter

He is doing his best to get out of the minds of people the truth of the resurrection of Christ.

1. He tries through the modernist to tell us that Christ didn't come out in bodily form.

2. He tries through Easter to cancel out 51 resurrection remembrance days.

3. Then he takes that one day and fills it so full of eggs, bunnies, chickens, clothes, finery, and display that the thought of the resurrection is almost squeezed out.

4. Then that day is so filled with pleasure and people so intent on going here, there, and yonder that Christ is forgotten except by a small handful of those who are remembering for the 52nd time in the year.

In Closing

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

During the war we've seen pictures of Europe where the roads were filled with refugees marching away, not knowing where they were going. What a pitiful sight to us but not any more pitiful than we'll see this Easter Sunday. Millions will be going to church with no thought of their soul's salvation. Many will turn away after services never hear another one, and the one that they did hear was so full of pomp and display that the plan of salvation was entirely forgotten.

Other millions will not even think of church but with their lunches, bathing suit or fishing pole will be marching down the road to hell, also unaware of where they are going—following the multitude into the vermin pits of a fiery Hell where the fire is never quenched and the worm dieth not. "For wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many be there which go in thereat." "Enter ye in at the strait gate." "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me." Says Jesus. Are you that drove without Christ as your Saviour? If you are, He is sure to be your destination for everyone without Him is sure to perish.

But we can shout "Thank God for the Resurrection!" because His tomb was empty on the first Lord's Day. There is life and salvation and hope for everyone that trusts in Him. The one that arose to save those who believe on Him and to make a home for them with Him for all eternity also will condemn those who reject Him as their Saviour and cast them into Hell for all eternity.

By CARL E. SADLER
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Simon Peter

(Continued from page three)

The Roman Catholic Church has POSTHUMOUSLY awarded the title pope to all previous bishops of Rome to make it appear that an UNBROKEN SUCCESSION of popes proceeded from Peter!

Romanism's foundation swept away—for it either stands or falls depending upon whether or not Peter was the first pope. Since he was not in Rome, nor yet bishop of Rome, nor yet pope of Rome, the Roman church is entirely without foundation, and the whole fabric of popes back to Peter is exploded by the simple facts of well known history!