

## In The Potter's Hands

WHOLE NUMBER 703

—Author Unknown

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## THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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### "The Giant With The Wounded Heel."

(Continued from page one)  
LIKE FOR YOU TO NOTICE  
THIS PROPHECY.

I might make mention of the fact that this is the fountain head of all prophecies. It is the first prophecy that is given within the Word of God. It is a prophecy concerning the Lord Jesus Christ. There are multitudes of similar prophecies that are given throughout the balance of the Old Testament, but this is the first. As I say, it is the fountain head of all prophecies, for all the balance of the prophecies flow out, and stem from, this one text of Scripture.

It is a rather interesting text to me and one which is very easily explained. It is a text, beloved, which is taken from the time when God was pronouncing a sentence of condemnation upon Adam and Eve, and upon the serpent, for the part that each had had in the transgression, that had taken place in the Garden of Eden. When God called these three up for judgment, He questioned Adam first. Then, He asked the woman as to why it was that she had sinned, and she in turn followed the example set by Adam, for she passed the blame from herself over to the serpent, which is a common characteristic of humanity. Adam passed the blame to Eve, and Eve passed the blame to the serpent, which is exactly like people do today; for not one of us want to accept our share of the responsibility at any time, but rather, all of us have a desire to pass the responsibility to somebody else. To be sure, we may be guilty and we may be sinning, but we don't want to admit it and we want somebody else to bear the responsibility. Thus Adam shifted the responsibility to Eve, and Eve shifted it on the serpent, and when there was nobody else for the serpent to shift the responsibility upon, all he could do was to plead guilty, and God then pronounces a sentence.

In the sentence which God pronounces upon the serpent, He says that there will be an eternal enmity existing between the woman and the serpent. An enmity that has existed from that day down to this, between the literal snake and the woman. I think primarily by way of an explanation of this verse that I can say that it literally refers to the enmity that shall forever exist between the serpent on the one hand, and the woman on the other.

God goes further and says that that enmity is going to be carried on between the seed of the serpent and the seed of the woman. To be sure, beloved, the woman's seed is a reference to the Lord Jesus Christ. There never was but one that could be called the seed of the woman,

and that is Jesus. All others of the human family, born from the days of Adam on down to this time — all others have been as a result of the combined seed of Adam and Eve, and man and woman. But, beloved, there is only one that can be called the seed of the woman, and that is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. He literally was the seed of the woman, for He had no human father. He literally was the seed of the woman, for there was no human father to beget the Lord Jesus Christ. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit in Mary. I insist upon this, that we recognize Jesus only as the seed of the woman.

This text tells us not only that there is going to be an enmity between the woman and the serpent, and between the woman's seed, which is Jesus, and the seed of the serpent through all days to come, but it tells us that ultimately the seed of the woman is going to bruise the head of the serpent. That part of the prophecy has not as yet been fulfilled. The serpent represents the Devil, and, beloved, the Devil surely hasn't had his head bruised yet. Yet this is a prophecy that the Lord Jesus Christ will someday completely bruise the head of the Devil.

I know that sometime every vestige of the work of Satan is going to be destroyed. I know that sometime everything that the Devil sponsors today is coming to an end. I know that ultimately the Devil's kingdom is going to come to nought. I know that eventually the Lord Jesus Christ is going to reign supreme, and the Devil will be completely and finally recognized as a defeated enemy, but, beloved, he isn't such yet. He is very much alive in this world today. We rub elbows and we brush shoulders with him everyday. There isn't a day that goes by but what we come in contact with the Devil in some form or other. Some day, though, the Word of God says, his head is going to be bruised, but, beloved, that isn't true yet. The old Devil is still very much alive.

As Peter says:

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."  
—I Pet. 5:8.

He hasn't been bruised yet, but he is going to be bruised. His head shall one day be crushed. The kingdom of Satan will one day be destroyed. I know it will come to pass because God said it within His Word. I am not concerned one particle but what someday this Scripture will be fulfilled. It will never be fulfilled on the basis of man's plans and man's schemes. It will never be fulfilled until the Lord Jesus Christ comes again. Someday, in God's own appointed time, the head of the serpent is going to be crushed beneath the heel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and Jesus Christ is going to be supreme, and He is going to reign with the Devil's kingdom completely gone.

#### II

HOWEVER, BEFORE THE TIME COMES THAT THE DEVIL IS GOING TO BE DESTROYED, THE DEVIL IS GOING TO BRUISE THE HEEL OF THE SEED OF THE WOMAN, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

If you will study through the New Testament from the birth of the Lord Jesus, you will find that the Devil has always fought against Him.

Take for example when the Son of God was first born, and when He was yet a babe, the Devil stirred up Herod, to the extent that Herod tried to kill the Lord Jesus. In his attempt to do so, he killed all the babes

of Bethlehem that were two years old and under, in an effort to kill the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. We read:

"Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men." — Mt. 2:16.

Herod's attempt to kill the Lord Jesus was Satan inspired. There isn't a doubt in my mind but what the slaughter of these innocent babes of Bethlehem took place because the Devil was the sponsor of it, and the author of it, and he did it in an effort to get rid of the Lord Jesus Christ, just as soon as Jesus was born.

Later on we find that when Jesus began His ministry, when He announced Himself as the fulfillment of the Bible's prophecy, His enemies tried to throw Him over a cliff, in an effort to kill Him. Listen:

"And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, and rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. But He, passing through the midst of them, went his way."  
—Luke 4:28-30.

It was the Devil, beloved, that was back of the attempt on the life of Jesus. Just like the Devil had Herod to kill those innocent babes of Bethlehem, so the Devil saw to it that there was an attempt made upon the life of the Lord Jesus Christ here in the city of Nazareth the very day that Jesus announced that He was the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecy.

If you would see how the Devil worked to destroy the Lord Jesus, look at him in all of his cunning when He came at Jesus in the personality of Simon Peter.

"Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan." — Mt. 16:22-23.

Notice that Simon Peter rebuked Jesus. Simon Peter tried to persuade Jesus it wouldn't be necessary that He go to the Cross. Then it was that Jesus turned to him and said, "Get thee behind me, Satan." He realized that it was the Devil who was working through Simon Peter, and that it wasn't actually Simon Peter that was saying and doing this, but that it was the Devil working through him.

I say then, beloved, in the light of these experiences — in the instance where that Herod had the babes of Bethlehem killed; in the instance when we find the people of Nazareth trying to throw Jesus headlong over the brow of the hill; in the instance when the Devil, through Simon Peter, tried to persuade Jesus not to go to the Cross — in these three instances we can see that it is the Devil fighting against the Lord Jesus Christ.

Notice also how the power of the Devil is seen in the garden of Gethsemane, so much so that even Jesus prayed if it be the Father's will, that the cup might pass from Him — that He might not have to go to Calvary. The Word of God doesn't tell us, but I am satisfied that it was Satan dealing a blow at the Lord Jesus Christ. If you will, go to Calvary and you will find that the proverbial tail of the Devil was wrapped all the way around the Cross and, beloved, at the Cross of Calvary the Devil did his utmost against the Lord Jesus Christ.

I say, then, beloved, all the way through the Word of God, especially from the beginning of the New Testament, Satan has always fought against the Lord Jesus, bruising the heel of the Son of God. As it was prophesied in the Old Testament, so the Devil bit mighty deeply into His heel. Every attempt that was made upon the life of Jesus while He was here in the days of His flesh, was the Devil attempting to bite into His heel. When Jesus came to Gethsemane, the Devil took a tremendous bite into the heel of Jesus, and when Jesus came to Calvary, it was there that the Devil bit most strongly and deeply into the heel of the Son of God.

#### III

I WOULD REMIND YOU TODAY THAT THE DEVIL STILL PERSISTS IN HIS EFFORTS TO BITE INTO THE HEEL OF THE SON OF GOD.

The same spirit that motivated the Devil to seek to destroy Jesus throughout the days of His earthly ministry — that same spirit that caused him to seek to damage the Son of God at Calvary — that same spirit motivates Satan today. Everywhere you look in all the realm of Christendom today, you can see that Christendom is limping. Why? Because Jesus Christ is the giant with the wounded heel, and the Devil is still persisting in his efforts to destroy and wreck and undermine and negate the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ. I say there are evidences of such everywhere.

First of all, look at your own life. See how imperfect you are. After all of these years of hearing God's Word, and after all of these years of studying the Bible, and after all of these years of trying to grow in grace, isn't it surprising how imperfect you are today? You don't have to look round about you to find imperfection in others; you can look closer home and find imperfection in yourself.

Look at our denomination. Beloved, we have an overlordship in our Baptist denomination today that is equal to the hierarchy of the Catholics. So far as I am concerned, a Baptist hierarchy is not one bit better than a Catholic hierarchy. Either one smells to high heaven. I am saying to you frankly, we have a denominational overlordship whereby our denomination is controlled by a very, very few, to the extent that any pastor, such as myself, who dares to lift his voice in opposition against the things that are taking place today, is squeezed out little by little. Why should these things be? It is the giant with a wounded heel. Everywhere you turn, you will find in Christendom evidences of the wounded heel today.

Look at our seminaries. I have so many times called attention to the seminary down at Louisville, to the heresies that are propagated there. I have so many times called attention to the heretical speakers that they have there. It seems to me, beloved, that it is most pathetic that whenever they want an outstanding speaker to come before the student body of the seminary at Louisville, that they assiduously and painstakingly try to secure the most outstanding modernist and the most glaring heretic in the country. I look upon the seminary with its millions of dollars by way of investment which could be of tremendous value to the Lord Jesus Christ, and I think that it is an evidence that there are wounds in Christianity — the heel of Jesus has been wounded.

Sometime ago, I was in Louisville and was talking to a Baptist pastor who told me that al-

most 50 per cent of the church of Long Run Association, surrounding the seminary, would accept and receive alien immersion as valid baptism. Can you imagine, beloved, churches in sight and sound of the seminary, accepting alien immersion as valid baptism! It certainly shows me that the Devil is mighty deeply in the heel of Jesus Christ at the Cross, and he is still persisting in his efforts.

Let's think about our church and some of the problems that we have had through the years. I said in the beginning that there were many occasions when I might have preached this sermon if I had had the impression to have done so. I go back this morning and think of many times in the past that I have been your pastor when we have seen evidence of the serpent's bite — when I have been able to look close to home, and see how the serpent was biting deeply, in an effort to destroy the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ, for which the Baptist church stands. Not once, but twice, but many, many times can I look back over the years since I have been your pastor and can see this thing to be true. Oh, how many times I think of the years seen since the Devil when he has persisted in his efforts to destroy, to undermine, to wreck, to negate, to nullify, and to kill the work of this church! I look at it today and I think it is certain evidence that Christianity has been wounded by Satan.

Then I look round about and I think of this so-called revival meeting that has been in progress at Greenup, Kentucky for the past three weeks — is scheduled to go on through the month of June. I think this so-called revival meeting held by a man who claims to be a Baptist — Rolfe Barnard. The last week in the course of the message, he announced bluntly that he believed in the mourner's bench and that he could give Scripture to prove it. I wonder, beloved, if you ever in a million years would give the Scripture which he gave to prove it. He read:

"If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad? But if all prophesy, and ye come in one that believeth, or one unlearned, he is converted of all, he is judged of his heart made manifest: so falling down on his face will worship God, and say that God is in you of a truth." — I Cor. 14:23-25.

Without taking the time to offer to you a careful and analytic exegesis of that text, let me say that any man who would cite that Scripture to prove the mourner's bench, is far from even truthful in regard to his attitude at explaining the Word of God. Of all the perversions that I ever heard of, I have never known a Holy Roller who perverted God's Word more than for Barnard to cite that Scripture in I Corinthians to prove the mourner's bench.

Then this last week he has been having women to testify and to take an active part in the church. He said that Baptists couldn't trace their history through the ages — that the persons who could trace their identity back to the days of Jesus were the Catholics. So as I am concerned, beloved, I will give him my permission to make a beeline back to the any time he wants to go. I would seem to me that if I believed that, that would be the place I'd want to be.

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## "The Giant With The Wounded Heel."

(Continued from page two)

He went further to say that he had learned that the preachers of Greenup County didn't want holy living, and he called attention to the Salem Church that they had rebuked him last Sunday, which was true. He said that the pastor at Wurtland and the pastor at Raceland and the pastor at Russell had rebuked him because he believed in holy living. Listen, beloved, there isn't any preacher that he referred to, but what he believes in holy living and I don't doubt but what practices as much as he does, but, beloved, there isn't a one of us who believes in Holy Rollerism like he does. It isn't a question of Holy Rollerism; it is a question of Holy Rollerism, for he went on to say in the same sermon that he would rather be a member of a Holy Roller church and in an effort to be a member of the Baptist church that wouldn't let the women testify and speak in public. My suggestion to him would be to affiliate with them that is where he wants to be. Now, beloved, that man claims to be a Baptist preacher. He sails under the name of a Baptist evangelist. Whenever I think of this, I am reminded that Christianity is wounded in its heel. Rolfe Barnard would be the heretic he is, otherwise.

I think this morning of those two preachers at Greenup that have been no little burden to me through the past several months — Brethren Spurlock and Pemberton. I saw months ago a definite trend on their part by way of a departure from the faith. I tried my best to help those brethren and to see that they got their feet on the ground and stood firm for the Word of God, but instead, beloved, they have gone farther and farther from the truth, until now for several months they have been preaching that a man has to keep the law in order to be saved — that man can no longer be saved by grace through faith as the Word of God says. They say that in addition to grace and faith, he must keep the law. If he deviates from the law in one particular, he cannot be saved. Even Brother Spurlock went so far as to say this last week that he was living now a life of absolute perfection. They have instituted a mourner's bench and down at the mourner's bench with other people, praying with sinners that they might be saved, and still further, they are encouraging the women to speak out publicly, whereas it used to be that they stood up and contended against these things.

Beloved, to me that is only another indication of a wounded heel. It is only another indication that Christendom has been wounded mightily deeply by Satan. I would like to cite you another instance. I am thinking of a young man who was a member of this church, who was loved by the membership of our church in an unusual way. I am speaking of Brother Hieronimus. He went to Pennsylvania to preach and, as you may recall, when he was here, he worked for a meat company as a meat salesman. He has made application of recent date with Wilson & Company, nationally known meat packers, to become a salesman for them. When he made his application, he stated that he was a student of the Tri-State Baptist Bible School from the year 1944 to 1947. To tell you frankly, the Tri-State Baptist Bible School has been

out of existence since before 1944, and furthermore, I never even saw the boy until a good deal after the time he was supposed to be in school here. This couldn't be a mistake. It could not be anything but a deliberate lie. When I think of it this morning, I go back in my mind to Calvary and I see the Devil as he bites deeply into the heel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and I see from that time on how the Devil has continued in his efforts to nip at, and to bite at the heel of Christendom day by day.

I think about our mission work this morning. At the close of the services Wednesday night after I had told you of the things that had taken place relative to our mission work, especially as to the resignation of Lawrence Smith, some folk said that I was worrying too much. I was reminded by several members of the church that God was still on His throne and that God would take care of it. I grant you that that is true and I recognize that that is so, but, beloved, to me it is nothing short of deep grief to my soul when I think about the things that I told you on Wednesday night of the lying and the thievery that has been uncovered on the part of one of our missionaries — Lawrence Smith — how he was sailing under false colors when he was here of recent date to speak to our church on a Sunday, and how that even when he was here, his life was filled with duplicity and hypocrisy and lying and thievery. I recognize the fact that God is on his throne. I recognize the fact that God allows and God permits such things to come to pass, but, beloved, when I think of it this morning, I would say to you, it is nothing short of further evidence of "the giant with the wounded heel." Every place you look, and every way you turn, shows that the Devil is constantly striving, and constantly attempting, to destroy the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ.

### IV

#### WHAT IS GOING TO BE OUR ATTITUDE IN VIEW OF SUCH?

Because Rolfe Barnard preaches more like a Holy Roller, even though he claims to be a Baptist, am I going to give up? Am I going to side in with him? Because those two brethren that I have sponsored in the past, and have tried to help as much as I could, — Spurlock and Pemberton — have definitely departed from the faith, shall I myself give up and go along with them? Because a man who was excluded from the membership of our church goes out and deliberately lies about his whereabouts between 1944 and 1947, am I going to placidly fold my arms and let that pass by? When Wilson & Company writes me two different times and asks me relative to the man, shall I sit quietly by, and say nothing about it, and allow such to pass on? What attitude shall we take, beloved, when one of our missionaries into whom we have put thousands of dollars, and in whom we had reposed confidence in an unusual way, — what shall we do when such a missionary becomes unfaithful to his trust? What shall be our attitude? Shall I give up? Shall we as a church give up? When others compromise as to the seminaries, shall we compromise and follow suit? Shall we go along with the denomination as it constantly gets farther and farther from the truth?

I answer that question this morning, beloved, to say emphatically, "Never!" God's people are not to give up. God's people are not to be quitters. Even though we see all about us evidences of "the Giant with

a wounded heel," God's people are to stand firm and never give up until the battle is won.

The Apostle Paul stood firm. There was a Demas who forsook him. There was a John Mark who turned back. There were some churches that were cold; and there were churches that were worldly. There were some churches that were heretical. There were plenty of persecutions that were heaped upon him, yet he kept on.

"Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory." — II Tim. 2:10. In spite of the hardships, in spite of the difficulties, and in spite of the problems, Paul kept on. When he came to the end of the way, he said:

"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love (Continued on Page Four)

#### "The Sons Of God"

(Continued from page one) my joy, that ye be like minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind."

(Philippians 2:1-2).

Love is the altogether indispensable quality of soul in one who would be a witness for Christ, whether gospel preacher, missionary, or who, in the common walk of life would be a "lightbearer" in this world of

### ALL-TIME BEST SELLER



moral and spiritual darkness.

The worthlessness of all professed Christian activities, not motivated by love, is declared in the 13th of I Corinthians. Eloquence, whether of men or of angels, without love, is but as the clanging of lifeless, brazen instruments. Wisdom, even of the Scriptures; faith to perform miracles; concern for the poor, apart from love, profiteth nothing.

#### Love Toward Sinners

"Covet earnestly the best gifts; and yet show I unto you a more excellent way," (I Cor. 12:13) "the way of loving hearts."

A noted evangelist once said, "If you don't wish to suffer, do not pray for love." But if the sons of God are to bear effectual witness for Christ, they must tread the "more excellent way," even though it bring suffering. The love, then, that can love the unlovely and the hateful, that can reach down to the fallen and perishing, in earnest effort to "snatch them as brands from the burning," is the "more excellent way," the soul-winning love.

In the early days of the writer's Christian life, he became much interested in one of the Rescue Missions of a great city. More than once he has seen the superintendent leave the platform and go down among the men, put his arm about the shoulders of some poor, filthy derelict, and urge upon him the love of God for such as he. He had seen from the platform some evidence of concern about his soul, perhaps a tear upon the cheek. In his love for these lost souls, he was greatly used in "compelling" many of them into the Kingdom of God.

Asked on one such an occasion, "How can you bring your-

self to put your arms about such filthy, ill-smelling men?" he replied, "Oh, I have received such mercy from God, I have not only to tell of this grace, but in some little measure to show it."

These men do not need to be told they are lost: they know that. What they need is to be told lovingly of the love of God for them, and of a Savior mighty to save.

#### Brotherly Love

Then, too, how vitally important is love, brotherly love, among the saints. It alone can preserve the harmony of the "house of God." In the church at Philippi it is evident there was incipient schism, and some were being urged by the apostle to seek to heal the widening breach.

"I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord." (Phil. 4:2).

The great adversary is unceasing in his efforts to disrupt the assemblies of God, and so break down any living testimony. Grace and love abiding in the hearts of saints will bring to naught his evil working. We have read of a famous Italian Cathedral, "the dome of which is so constructed, that sounds beneath it come back in sweet reply of chiming melody, and the clash of discord is changed to harmony as the sesonant vault returns it to the waiting ear." Brotherly love is the harmonizing dome over an assembly of God, and if undamaged the sounds of discord or faction will never be heard.—Light and Liberty.

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Page Three



# Keep this Sacred Privilege...



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

## A-Millennialism

(Continued from page one) position, men have had to try to "save face" by a shift in their doctrine. Thus in our day we have seen the shift from Postmillennialism to what is termed "A-MILLENNIALISM." The advancers of this miserable theory simply deny the MILLENNIUM. Since they can't have a millenium before Jesus comes, THEY JUST WON'T HAVE ONE AT ALL.

### A-MILLENNIALISM IS SIMPLE DENIAL OF THE WORD OF GOD

This doctrine is widely held by the teachers in our rapidly modernizing Seminaries, and by an increasing large number of preachers. Among these are Baptist preachers of our own section of Florida.

A-MILLENNIALISM, or the denial of the Millenium, is based largely on the claim that the doctrine of the millenium is grounded on one passage in the Bible—the symbolic passage found in Revelation 20:1-10. This is a blatant falsehood. While the term "thousand years" (Millenium) is confined to this portion of the Bible, THE PERIOD designated here as a thousand years, is mentioned over and

over again in Old Testament and New. But let us suggest in brief some reasons for believing that following the return of Christ, we shall have a millenium:

1—BECAUSE THE SCRIPTURES POINTEDLY SAY SO. (Rev. 20:1-10) Why should we not take this passage to mean what it says?

2—BECAUSE THIS PERIOD IS MINUTELY DESCRIBED in such passages as Isaiah 11:1-9, if the millennial period is not referred to in this passage, in the name of comon sense what IS referred to?

3—BECAUSE UNLESS THIS EARTH ENJOYS A MILLENNIUM, the earth ends a failure with the consequences of the Fall never overcome. Rev. 5:10 says that the redeemed shall "reign on the earth." WHEN if not during the millenium?

4—BECAUSE THE BIBLE SAYS THAT THIS EARTH SHALL BE BROUGHT OUT FROM UNDER THE BONDAGE OF CORRUPTION. (See Romans 8:18-25)

5—BECAUSE JESUS PROMISES A TIME OF REGENERATION (making new of every thing) and he promised that the apostles would sit as judges over the restored 12 tribes of Israel. That is to be when He sits on the throne of his glory. (See Matthew 19:27-29) To this end God has preserved and restored Israel. The period of Christ's reign over this earth—what else should we call it, if not the millenium?

## "The Giant With The Wounded Heel."

(Continued from page three) his appearing." — II Tim. 4:6-8.

The disciples never gave up. Go back to the day when those disciples were out on that lake, the Sea of Galilee, and the storm swooped down upon them. They pulled at the oars. They couldn't stop the storm, but they could pull at the oars.

Beloved, I can't stop the storm from the outside. I can't put an end to the tempest that sweeps down upon us everyday. If I could, beloved, God knows I would. I can't stop the storm, but I can still pull at the oars. God's people need to remember that at Calvary the Devil bit mighty deeply into the heel of Jesus. God's people need to remember that since that day, everywhere you look, you can see evidences of a wounded heel in all forms of Christianity. In view of that fact, we need to remember this truth; It is not ours to give up, but it is ours to keep busy in his kingdom.

Do you remember that the Lord Jesus on one occasion said:

"No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." — Luke 9:62.

Do you remember that in the Old Testament He said:

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wis-

dom, in the grave, whither thou goest." — Eccl. 9:10.

Do you remember what Paul said when he looked backward over his problems, and looked forward at his obligations? He said:

"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, FORGETTING those things which are BEHIND, and REACHING FORTH unto those things which are BEFORE, I PRESS toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." — Phil 3: 13, 14.

Yes, beloved, it is not for you and me to give up. It is not for you and me to compromise. It is not for you and me to take an attitude of complacency. I am certain, beloved, there is no preacher that has ever had many more problems and many more temptations to give up than I. Every once in a while I go back and read for my own benefit this little poem:

"I want to let go, but I won't let go.  
There are battles to fight  
By day and by night,  
For God and the right,  
And I'll never let go.

I want to let go, but I won't let go.  
I'm sick 'tis true,  
Worried and blue,  
And worn through and through,  
But I won't let go.

I want to let go, but I won't

let go.

I will never yield.  
What, lie down on the field  
And surrender my shield?  
No, I'll never let go!

I want to let go, but I won't let go.

May this be my song  
'Mid legions of wrong —  
Oh, God, keep me strong  
That I may never let go!

Someday the Lord Jesus Christ is going to set up His kingdom. Someday the Son of God is going to crush forever the head of the serpent. He does so, God help you, God help me, just to keep keeping on, and serving Lord Jesus until He comes.

When our Lord was here on the days of His flesh, He said on one occasion, "Occupy till I come." He knew that there were going to be lies that would be told. He knew that there would be churches that would be called. He knew that there were going to be false evangelists arise. He knew that there were going to be preachers that would depart from the faith. He knew that there were going to be missionaries that were not going to be faithful. He knew that there were going to be people that were not going to be faithful. He knew all this, yet He said "Occupy till I come."

Oh, may it please God today to help you and me to get a firm grip on Him this morning and to realize that until He comes, it is our business to keep busy in His service.

May God bless you!