

Plant a smile and reap another, plant a frown and reap a wrinkle.

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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WHOLE NUMBER 720

## Minifying God While Magnifying Man

ROY MASON  
Tampa, Florida

that to us the stars are innumerable.

To sum up—God is presented as eternal, almighty, all knowing, while man is but a creature for a day, wholly dependent upon the bounty of God for even the breath of life.

### GOD BELITTLED BY MAN

Man, the puny creature, has sought to belittle the great God. This has been, and is being done in a number of different ways:

#### By Evolution

Evolution has been defined

as "Man's best guess without God." Evolution seeks to remove God as Creator, or else to put him so far away that he may well be forgotten.

#### By Modernism

Modernism is essentially anti-supernaturalism. It denies the supernatural and miraculous, it seeks to make Christianity a form of evolutionary religious development.

#### Pantheism

Pantheism identifies God with creation, and makes the universe and God one and the same. Christian Science is a form of (Continued on Page Four)

## We Wish You A Most Thankful Thanksgiving



## How A Child Who Knew Gods Word Silenced A Priest

On being asked by a priest to attend his religious instruction, a little girl refused, saying it was against her father's wishes. The priest said that she should obey him and not her father. "Oh, sir, we are taught in the Bible, 'Honour thy father and thy mother,'" she said. "You have no business to read the Bible," said the priest. "But, sir, our Saviour said, 'Search the scriptures!'" (John 8:17). "That was only to the Jews, and not to children, and you be pleased out of school!" she said. (Continued on Page Four)

### HERE'S A NEW RELIGIOUS SECT

In Detroit—not Los Angeles this time—a new sect has been established. It is called: "Universal Triumph of the Dominion of God." Its colored leader is Dr. James F. Jones.

Claiming a following of 6,230,000 persons, the Dr. Jones is on a tour of Western cities to raise \$500,000 to erect a shrine in memory of his mother.

He said the articles of jewelry he wore were gifts; that a diamond bracelet was worth \$17,000, a watch \$12,000 and a 51-carat topaz ring \$10,000.

In Detroit, he said, he lives in a 54-room "castle" which contains furnishings valued at \$197,000. A piano, which he said was a gift from Mrs. Edsel Ford, worth \$7,500, contains a bed and watchman who guards the premises.

Accompanying Dr. Jones are two chauffeurs, two secretaries, two cooks and a maid.

Born in Alabama 45 years ago, Dr. Jones established his order in 1945 "after being awakened from sleep by a touch and hearing a voice telling me to get up, go across the street and stand under a lamp."

Obeying, he said the voice told (Continued on Page Four)

## THE MOURNER'S BENCH

"But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Matt. 15:9.

One of the most firmly established religious customs in the southern part of the United States is the practice of the "Mourner's Bench" in revival meetings. Although from the south it has spread into some other sections of the country, yet it remains peculiarly a Southern custom.

Many honest and conscientious Christians have never questioned the scripturalness of this traditional practice, and take it as a matter of course in religious affairs, because they have never known anything else. It is held up by many preachers and churches as the backbone of "old-fashioned religion", and to them it is unthinkable that this custom should be questioned.

The writer once believed in and practiced a modified form of the "Mourner's Bench", but when asked for scriptural authority and example for it, he discovered, after a long and stubborn search, that there is not one single scripture in all the New Testament, when rightly applied, that supports such

a practice.

When he made this jarring discovery, he immediately launched into a period of research to determine, if possible, when and where such a widely practiced and fervently accepted custom began. His research carried him to the Congressional Library in Washington, the largest library in the world, where he had unlimited resources and expert assistance. There he found that this practice is a comparatively modern custom, and that it is so little known in most sections of America that there is very little historical

reference to it, and no books at all on the subject.

No record of the use of anything like the "Mourner's Bench" can be found until about the beginning of the 19th century. It seems rather certain that one of the first users of the "Mourner's Bench" was a negro preacher in Edgefield County, South Carolina, about 1830. This negro, Henry Adams, preached to both whites and blacks, and adopted the plan of asking those interested to come to the front of the church house where he would pray for them.

The oldest building in America where a "Mourner's Bench" was found was built in 1780, but there is no proof that the bench was put in the building when it was first built.

David Burris, in this tract on "The Altar and the Mercy Seat", says, "The 'Mourner's Bench' had its beginning in 1794, and is at least 1700 years too young to be the New Testament way of leading lost sinners to Christ."

James R. Joy, secretary of the Methodist Historical Society of New York City says, "The 'Mourner's Bench' and 'Anxious Seat' were terms that came into use in America in the early part (Continued on Page Four)



The First Baptist Church of Russell, Kentucky gives you a most cordial invitation to attend the Thanksgiving services at eight-thirty o'clock Thursday morning, November 27, 1952.

## The First Baptist Pulpit

### "The Red Heifer"

(Read Numbers 19)

I want to preach to you this morning, beloved, from this nineteenth chapter of the Book of Numbers—the ordinance of the red heifer.

God's child is a person of two natures. This is not anything extraordinary by way of announcement, and yet, beloved, it is a fact that all too few, even of Christian people, seem to realize. Every person who is here within this house of God today, who is saved, has two natures. He has the nature of God that was put there the day

he was saved, and then he has the nature of the flesh that was put there the day he was formed in his mother's womb. Listen:

"This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."—Gal. 5:16.

If there were no other verse in all the Bible but this one alone, I would know that every saved person was the possessor of two separate and distinct natures—one called the nature of the flesh and the other the nature of the Spirit. You have an old fleshly nature inside you.

If you are saved this morning, thank God too that you have a spiritual nature inside you.

Now because of that fleshly nature, you don't always do everything you want to do, and you don't always do everything you should do. I say, because of that fleshly nature, there are lots of things this Bible demands of us that you and I fail to do. Every saved person, so this Bible says, is a saint. Because of that old fleshly nature, you don't always act like a saint. To tell you the truth, (Continued on Page Two)

## A Two-Cent Patty Of Butter Cost A Banker His Job

An outstanding man was employed in the leading bank of a great midwestern city. Outstanding was he in appearance, mentality and personality.

The members of the Board of Directors were so impressed they decided to promote him. This promotion was to mean to the young man prestige, greatly increased income, much authority and above all, grave responsibility. One of the directors was absent from the meeting when the action was taken. However, he was approached by one of the other directors. He (Continued on Page Four)

## WOMAN SNAKE HANDLER DIES

In the August issue of Time there was printed an account of the recent tragic experience of a California woman snake-tamer. Entitled "Creeping Death," the article read thus:

"Of all her snakes, 64 year old Grace Wiley loved the cobras best. They were the most intelligent, she thought, and the most easily tamed. 'It's just that people are afraid to tame them,' she often said.

But Grace Wiley had never been afraid. She handled her reptiles patiently and lovingly, filled one room of her Cypress, Calif., home with over 100 snakes, King and Queen, the cobras; Roxy, the 9 foot python; Perk, the water moccasin.

Last week, she agreed to pose for pictures with her newest pet—a 5 foot cobra, she had just received from India.

To get into position for the picture, she patted his head, stroked his back, quietly coaxed him to extend his head. As the cobra's head began to bob rhythmically back and forth, Mrs. Wiley felt that it was not responding well. "It's getting nervous," she said, "I had better put it back." As she reached for it, the cobra struck.

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To make mistakes is human--to repeat old mistakes is stupid.

## THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN — EDITOR

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### WHY THE LETTER ON THIS PAGE

Up until three years ago, at the Thanksgiving season, I used to send a letter to our readers, telling them of God's blessings for the year, and reminding them of our needs in carrying on our printed ministry.

The cost of mailing such a letter is tremendous. Three-cent stamps for such really costs money. In addition there is the cost of envelopes, paper, printing and addressing of envelopes. You can readily see that it costs several hundred dollars for such a mailing.

This year, due to increased costs of paper, and higher wages, we are more hard pressed financially than ever in the history of the paper. Frankly, we don't have the money with which to mail our usual Thanksgiving letter.

Therefore, we are printing our letter in this issue, with the prayer that God will bless it and us as He has blessed us in the years gone by. We've never needed your help more than we need it now. May it please God to give us a most liberal offering this year!



### "The Red Heifer"

(Continued from Page One)

beloved, a lot of us act a great deal more like the devil than we do like a saint, all because of that old fleshly nature that we carry around inside.

This Bible tells us that we are pilgrims here within this world and our sojourn within this life is likened unto a pilgrimage, but because of that old fleshly nature, we don't always act like pilgrims. Sometimes we act like we own this place. Sometimes we act like we were going to stay here forever. Sometimes we act like we have completely forgotten about the fact that we are just pilgrims passing through, and that our journeying is unto another land.

Beloved, we are not the only folk who have had this same problem, for the Jews, God's chosen people, from the days of Abraham, had this very same problem with which to contend—the problem of the old fleshly nature. God knew they had that problem and they knew it, and because both they and God knew that the Jews possessed a fleshly, devilish, carnal nature that was contrary to God, because both God and the Jews knew this, God gave the Jews this ordinance of the red heifer, so that I might say, beloved, when God gave the ordinance of the red heifer, He gave it to help the Jews solve the problem of the fleshly nature of which each was the possessor.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER  
NOVEMBER 15, 1952  
PAGE TWO

# An Open Letter To All Our Readers



Dear Friends Of The Baptist Examiner:

Greetings in the name of Jesus and praise to God for His goodness to all. As this Thanksgiving season approaches, I bow my head in gratitude, knowing that "every good and perfect gift cometh from above."

I thank God for all the material benefits He has given us. We are blessed far greater than we deserve. How each of us should thank the God who cares for every sparrow, in view of the necessities of life He gives us every day.

I am thankful for a year of rich blessings in the church of which I am pastor. As many of you know, I am in my twenty-fourth year as pastor of The First Baptist Church of Russell. How marvelous to be pastor of a great church which loves God's Word!

I am thankful for THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Many have been its enemies through the years, and yet God has wondrously blessed its ministry in saving the lost and edifying the saved. Many times the encouragement has not been too great, the difficulties have been numerous, and defeat seemed inevitable. However, I thank Him that He has kept the paper in the mails and thus blessed our editorial efforts.

I am thankful for the host of loyal friends who have stood with me with their prayers, financial support, and encouragement. Moses had an Aaron and Hur to hold up his hands. I've had many to thus help me.

However, we are in need this year as never before financially. The largest deficit we've ever had now faces us. I've said this for ~~three~~ years in succession, but it is more true this year than ever before. I am hereby asking all our friends whom the Lord has prospered to give as the Spirit of God directs toward our publishing work. Let me personally urge you to be extraordinarily generous now, as we need your gift to carry on. The high cost of living has limited in their giving hundreds of people with medium or small incomes who have heretofore been most faithful. Increased paper costs and higher wages have wrought havoc with us financially this year. Will those of you whom God has prospered make up for the limitations of others and our extra costs at this time?

We feel that there are many readers who could lift the entire amount of our deficit, and never miss the money. May I ask you to send a gift commensurate with the blessing you have received in order that our publishing work may be carried on to the fullest. Only a comparative few will support the ministry of this paper. Will you be one of the few?

We depend upon this Thanksgiving offering each year to lift our burdens at the close of the year. Your help this year will be most deeply appreciated, for we need your help as never before.

In Jesus name, I pray that you may have a most thankful Thanksgiving, and that you'll enable us to do likewise by your gifts.

Yours, Forever In Him,

John R. Gilpin

I  
I WOULD LIKE FOR US TO GET THIS STORY AND THE EXPOSITION OF THIS NINETEENTH CHAPTER OF NUMBERS.

God, acting through Moses and Aaron, as His appointed leaders of the Jews, told them as they were leading Israel through the wilderness that He was giving to them a new ordinance, the ordinance of the red heifer.

In giving this ordinance, God told the Jews they were to choose a red heifer, not one that was red and spotted, not one that was red and striped with gray and white, but rather, they were to choose a heifer that was entirely red, without one white hair upon that beast.

When we remember that we have our salvation by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, we are reminded that through that sac-



In trying to show our thankfulness to God this year, why not remember our publishing work with a worthy offering?

rifice we have the color of blood—the color of red. Therefore, this red heifer was, even by its color, a type of the Lord Jesus Christ and His perfect sacrifice that was wrought for us at Calvary.

This heifer was to be not only entirely red in color, but it was likewise to be without a blemish. This is to say, beloved, the horns, the hooves and in every particular that beast was to be one of positive perfection. There was to be no blemish upon this red heifer.

Surely, beloved, our Lord Jesus Christ perfectly fulfills the type, for we read in I Peter 1:18, 19—

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversa-

tion received by tradition of your fathers: But with the precious blood of Christ, as a lamb WITHOUT BLEMISH AND WITHOUT SPOT."

Beloved, as that red heifer was to be positively perfect without a single blemish, so Jesus Christ was without a single blemish. There was not one single sin stain, blemish, nor imperfection that might have marred the character of the Son of God.

It tells us also that this heifer was to be one of which had never yet been yoked. That is to say, that heifer was to be one that had never been worked. It was one that never had known it was to wear a yoke. So beloved, the Son of God was yoked with sin in any manner. Not only was He without blemish and without sin, never was yoked in any way with sin. As this red heifer never worn a yoke, so the Son of God never was yoked with sin in any wise.

We are told, beloved, they were to bring this heifer without the camp that it might be slain. That meant she was to be driven up to the east end of the tabernacle yard where the gate opened the beasts of sacrifice to be taken into the tabernacle yard, and there the red heifer was slain as a sacrifice.



I am thankful to be able to edit THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Are you thankful for it? So, how thankful? Your offering will be most deeply appreciated.

Nineteen hundred years ago outside of Judiasm, for Judiasm had rejected Him—outside the camp, for He was not even allowed to be crucified within the city—they led Jesus as He carried His own cross, up to Calvary. Outside the camp the Son of God was slaughtered—sacrificed, just like this red heifer was slaughtered and sacrificed outside the camp in order to take care of that sinful nature those Jews found themselves the possessors of. After this red heifer had been slain, then they took that heifer, her hide, hair, flesh, entrails, even the blood itself so that every particle of that red heifer was laid upon the altar to be burned and burned and burned until it was entirely reduced to ashes.

Oh, do you want to know my Lord's suffering at Calvary? Look at that red heifer. Hooves, hair, hide, entrails, blood—the entirety—burned and burned until there is nothing left but a handful of ashes. Do you want to know my Lord's suffering at Calvary? As that red heifer was reduced to ashes, so Jesus Christ suffered the flames of Hell in your behalf and in our behalf. He suffered our sins in order to keep you and me from the flames of Hell. Beloved, the Son of God did not come to this world to teach us how to live; He came to set for us an example—the Son of God came to show us how to live. (Continued on Page Three)



OF WORLD-WIDE IMPORTANCE

MAY I MAKE THE RIGHT DECISIONS, OH GOD...



"IF ANY OF YOU LACK WISDOM, LET HIM ASK OF GOD, THAT GIVETH TO ALL MEN LIBERALLY, AND UPBRAIDETH NOT; AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN HIM. BUT LET HIM ASK IN FAITH..." JAMES 1:5,6

"The Red Heifer"

(Continued from Page Two)

...with the Christ, as T BLEN SPOT." ...at red ly perfect blemish ...ist was sh. There in stain, perfection the ch God. ...that this e one ...yet com ...say, that ne that n ...It was t known ...yoke. Su ...of God n ...n in any s He with out sin, in any ed heifer e, so the s yoked ...beloved, ng this he mp that at meant ...ven up to ernacle co ate opened crifice to ernacle co the red he crifice.

THAT SO FAR AS YOU AND I ARE CONCERNED. Does this have any relationship to us to-day? You might think that this happened so long ago and thus be inclined to think there could be no application of what happened in the wilderness with the Jews and what happens in Russell with us Gentiles. Let's see.

Many times I go out to make calls and I will perhaps spend an entire afternoon calling upon unsaved people. Maybe I won't talk to a single person in the afternoon but those who are lost. I come in, as I have many times, not only physically exhausted, but spiritually exhausted. What's wrong? I've been touching too many dead bodies.

Let's look at it from this standpoint I was in a home a good many months ago, and the hostess, as the meal was being served, served her neighbors right along with the dinner. The meal was delicious and the neighbors were really done up brown. I learned everything about those neighbors in expressions like this, "I told her enough to last her a month of Sundays." The next one that came in for review, "Well, I certainly gave her a piece of my mind." Presently a third one passed along the parade of life with an expression something like this, "I put the cat on her." I think I was there for an hour or probably an hour and one-half, and when I came away, I came away feeling there had been something pulled out of me spiritually. What was wrong? I had been touching a dead body.

I held a revival meeting down in Central Kentucky a few years ago, in one of those aristocratic churches. The pastor loved to play croquet. I haven't a thing in this world to say against the game itself, but I do think that when we got up in the morning and played croquet from ten o'clock until just time to hurry to the services at night, only taking time out to eat at the noon hour—I do think, and I believe you will agree with me, that he carried croquet to the extreme. In every home we went, we played croquet. Practically every day without exception, from ten o'clock in the morning until nearly seven o'clock at night, it was one continuous game of croquet. We never talked to lost people about their souls—we played croquet with them. We never witnessed for our Lord—we were too busy playing croquet. I said to the pastor the day before the meeting closed, "I'm leaving this meeting to go home with less spirituality than when I came here. A revival meeting ought to inspire first of all the preacher, as well as others, but I am going home with less spirituality than when I came." What was wrong? Just one thing—I had been touching too many dead bodies without any spiritual nourishment.

Many times, especially in my earlier days as a preacher, I have gone into a country community to hold a revival meeting, where I would spend the days of that meeting going from first one home to another. It was not a bit of difficulty to get those country folk to talk about hogs, cattle, sheep and crops. It was the very thing they talked about all of the time, but to get those folk to talk, when we sat down together, about spiritual things and eternal truths pertaining to God's Book and His kingdom, was almost an impossible matter. Many times when I have held revival meetings in country communities under similar circumstances, I have gotten so sick of hogs, cattle, chickens and all things pertaining to the farm that I have longed in my heart to get

away to find someone who knew the Lord Jesus Christ who could talk in terms of spiritual things. What was wrong? I had been touching too many dead bodies.

Sometime ago, three Baptist deacons, not members of this church, without any connection whatsoever to me, decided that they had three things against me and that each of them ought to tell me. They came in. Deacon No. 1 said, "You would accomplish a great deal more in life if you were not too strict." He said, "There are a lot of good people in Ashland who are saved people but not members of any church." That was deacon No. 1's objection to me. Deacon No. 2 said that because of the influence of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER it was impossible in his church to have fellowship in a union meeting. Thank the Lord for that. He wanted union meetings. Deacon

No. 3 was very much perturbed because I dared to say that a woman ought to keep still when she is in the house of God. However, the Bible said it long before I ever said it. I tried to be patient as I heard the criticism leveled at me on the part of Deacons No. 1, 2, and 3. When they left, I said to myself, "Virtue has gone out." If I had analyzed myself then, I could have said, "One thing is wrong—I have been touching too many dead bodies." A few minutes passed by and in came a man who loves the Lord, who carries the Lord Jesus in his heart, and has the smile of Jesus upon his face and that look of heaven in his eyes. He said, "I don't want to take up too much of your time." I said, "Brother, just take it all—it's all yours." He wondered at my attitude. I said, "Just take as long as you want talking about the Lord Jesus or anything pertaining to His Word, His kingdom or His church. I have been touching too many dead bodies and I'm glad to have a chance to touch something besides that which is dead."

Beloved, do you know why you and I don't reach more people for the Lord Jesus Christ? I'll tell you. We touch too many dead bodies. Do you know why it is so easy to find an excuse to stay away from the house of God? We touch too many dead bodies. Do you know why it is when Wednesday night comes and when other services come, it is so easy to stay away from the house of God and go some place else? It is because all during the day you have been touching dead bodies. It is so much easier to stay away because you are contaminated.

I think about the membership of our church, about you and me and those of us who love

the Lord, what we need above everything else is, instead of touching the world so much and having contact with dead bodies so much, we need to have contact with the Lord Jesus Christ.

III

LET'S GET A LESSON OR TWO FROM THIS. CONTACT WITH EVIL DEFILES. Read it.



Show your thankfulness this year by an offering equal to the blessings which you have received from this paper.

"He that toucheth the dead body of any man shall be unclean seven days."—Num. 19:11.

You can't come in contact with evil without being defiled.

Old Noah was used mightily of God, and after God had used him, Noah got drunk. Look at him as he lay down naked, exposing himself. Beloved, Noah's drunkenness, his contact with evil, defiled him. From that time on, you never read that God used Noah another day of his life. He lived 600 years and

(Continued on Page 4)



Our expenses have been greater and our income has been less this year than ever before. I am thankful though to have been able to edit this paper. You can show your thankfulness for it, by your offering.



Be sure to attend the Thanksgiving services at eight-thirty, Thursday morning, November 28.

Oh, here's the reason for the ordinance of the red heifer. Israel has an old nature. Israel's old nature is going to bring some of them to death. When a man died, they were to take some of those ashes, mix them with running water, then dip hyssop into that lye that was made from the ashes of that red heifer and running water, and sprinkle the tent, all that is within that tent and everyone that came near that tent. The Word of God tells us that anyone who has touched in any way at all the dead man or the body of one who has died, or even if he were walking in a graveyard and by chance allowed his foot to tread upon a grave, it was necessary that he be cleansed from this defilement. It did not make any difference in what manner they were in contact with death, they were defiled for seven days. The only way that defilement could be lifted was by taking the ashes of this red heifer, mixing them with running water and sprinkling the individual, or the tent, or whatever had been touched and defiled by death in any way.

II

LET'S SEE WHAT APPLICATION WE CAN MAKE OF



## "The Red Heifer"

(Continued from page three)  
God used him mightily. He lived 350 years after he got drunk, and God laid him on the shelf and never used him again. I tell you, beloved, contact with evil defiles. These individuals could not touch a dead body without being defiled, and you and I can't touch this world without being defiled.

Simon Peter denied his Lord. He warmed his hands at the enemy's camp fire. He had fellowship with those who hated his Lord. Then he looked around and saw Jesus looking at him and the Word of God says, "He went out and wept bitterly." Why? He had had contact with evil, and that evil had defiled him. Listen to God's Word:



Let your thanksgiving really be with giving this year. If you believe in the ministry of this paper, we invite you to share its responsibilities.

"If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me."—Psa. 6:18.

Does evil contaminate? Does evil defile a saved man? Listen: "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."—Isa. 59: 1, 2.

I tell you this morning, beloved, contact with evil defiles God's man. God wants His children to be clean. That fact is proven to us in view of this truth that God gave this ordinance of the red heifer. If God had not cared anything about His people being clean, He never would have given to them the ordinance of the red heifer; however, He wants His people to be clean and He proves that by the fact that He gave this ordinance in order that His people, when they did become defiled, might be cleansed therefrom. A man might step on a grave accidentally, he might, by chance, step on a dead man's bones, or he might, by accident, be defiled in the death of a man. Such might take place and man might be defiled thereby for seven days, but God did not want His children to remain in that condition.

Beloved, you might be defiled by evil this morning, but God does not want you to stay that way. God does not want His children to remain defiled. God wants you to be clean. Listen: "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: 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 2:13, 14.

God doesn't want you to be defiled. He wants you to be purified.

"Who gave himself for our sins, that he might DELIVER US FROM THIS PRESENT EVIL WORLD, according to the

will of God and our Father."—Gal. 1:4.

You can't help being defiled, but God does not want you to stay that way. He wants you to be clean and He provided a way of restoration so far as these Jews were concerned, and that restoration was that they should take the ashes of that red heifer, mix them with running water and make a lye, dip hyssop into this and sprinkle everything that had become defiled. That was God's way of restoration.

Does God have any way of restoration for His children who have been defiled by the things of this world? Thank God He has. We have His remedy right here within the Word of God. Listen:

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."—John 1:7-10.

As the Jews had the ordinance of the red heifer whereby they could be cleansed from their defilement and brought back to God, so, beloved, God tells us within His Word how we can be restored—if we confess our sins. To whom? Not in the ear of some earthly individual. Not in the ear of somebody else than you yourself, but if you confess those sins into the ear of the perfect one, Jesus Christ, the promise is He will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let me ask you a question this morning: Have you been in contact with the world too much? Do any dead bodies ever touch you? Would you like, this morning, to be brought back to God? There is just one way you can be—if you confess your sins. Oh, may it please the Lord this morning to cause you to have a desire to walk a little closer, to live a little more like Him, and be a little more like Him.

I said, "Let's walk in the fields." He said, "No, walk in the town."

I said, "There are no flowers there."

He said, "No flowers, but a crown."

I said, "But the skies are black, There is nothing but noise and din."

And He wept as He sent me back.

"There is more," He said, "There is sin."

I said, "But the air is thick, And fogs are veiling the sun." He answered, "Yet souls are sick, And souls in the dark undone."

I said, "I shall miss the light, And friends will miss me, they say."

He answered, "Choose tonight If I am to miss you, or they."

I pleaded for time to be given, He said, "Is it hard to decide? It will not seem hard in Heaven To have followed the steps of your Guide."

Then into His hand went mine; And into my heart came He; And I walk in a light divine, The path I had feared to see.

The way to be angry and not sin, is to be angry, as Christ was, at nothing but sin.

## Snake Handler

(Continued from Page One)

For a full 30 seconds she struggled to get the needle-sharp fangs out of her middle finger, pressing with all her strength against the cobra's jaws. When she had torn the snake loose, she carefully returned it to its cage. Then she calmly instructed the reporter to apply tourniquets to her wrist and elbow, and told him where to find stimulants and needles.

But the needles were rusty, and the vials broke in the photographer's hand. "Take me to the hospital at once," she ordered, "this is serious."

But all the medical help and serums at the Long Beach hospital were of no avail to save her life. Exactly one hour and 40 minutes after she had been bitten, her body suddenly stiffened and she lay dead on her hospital bed.

What an analogy! What a lesson! How like sin this is. We play around with sin, and then sin plays around with us, finally destroying us. Sin excused, played with and petted, inevitably sinks its deadly fangs into the very soul. "The sting of death is sin . . ." "And sin when it is finished, bringeth forth, death." It is no light thing to toy with that which results in eternal death.

Examine your own heart and life, are you playing around with sin? Drink, lusts, profanity, pleasure, etc. These are all deadly enemies of the soul and result in destruction.

—The Missionary



Thanksgiving ought to mean the giving of money as well as thanks. We covet your gift for the furtherance of our ministry through this paper.

## A New Sect

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him he was being bequeathed the "dominion which had been taken way from Adam in the Garden of Eden."

The "dominion" he said, has 68 Thankful Centers—place of worship—in the United States, and others in Africa.

It sounds as though this new sect had its origin in spiritism. It does not sound like "Triumph" when the leader must travel to beg money. It sounds as though a serious mistake has been made about Adam's dominion being given to Dr. Jones. In Romans 5:12-21 the "one man" (Adam) is a contrast to the "one Man" (Jesus Christ). And in I Corinthians 15:45-49 we are definitely told that "the first man Adam" gives place to "the last Adam—the Lord from heaven."

The Lord alone is worthy—and capable—of accomplishing the "Universal Triumph of the Dominion of God."

## Minifying God And Magnifying Man

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revived pantheism. It denies the personality of God, rendering him an abstraction such as "love," "light," "good," etc.

### Much of Modern Evangelism

The modern claptrap form of evangelism belittles God. How? Well, in the first place services often start off like a show, with a singer doing stunts and wise cracking. No solemnity—nothing to indicate that people are really lost and in a serious situation. Then the evangelist makes all sorts of evasions. One would think that God is ready to make any concession just to get followers. People are made to feel that they would be doing God a rare favor if they should pay him a little attention and become his follower. There is little of the awful sense of sin—the realization on the part of the sinner that he is hanging over hell by a mere thread—that he is going to have to face a Mighty Judge.

The same light conception of God obtains in much of our Modern church life today. The worship of God is subordinated to eating and drinking and having a good time. God's House is not revered. The preacher—supposedly called of God is reduced to a man-pleasing lacky who must give people what they want under the tacit understanding that they will throw him out if he doesn't. The average church member does not believe that the minister is God's called representative. This is shown by the constant resistance to his preaching and leadership if he goes true to his mission.

Few things of this day are more serious than the low, trivial, trifling conception of God. The public feels that it must be begged to church—that Christians must almost crawl and fawn for favor. Many church members feel that a church is something that should minister to them and serve them and please them, and if they don't like things they are ready to blow up and take out and then endlessly criticize. A church is not a high, holy, divine institution to such a person. What's the matter with people of that kind? They have a trifling conception of God. They fail to realize that they are going to have to appear before God in a solemn and awful judgment. They fail to realize that the God whom they belittle holds their breath under his control and can cut them off any minute. They need the admonition of Jesus sounded down into their very soul, "Fear him that is able to cast both body and soul into hell, yea, I say unto you, FEAR HIM!"

## A Patty Of Butter

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was shown pictures of the young man and informed of his capabilities.

Announcement was made to the members of the Board as to the time of the meeting when the young man would be formally promoted. On the day of the scheduled meeting the director who had been absent lunched at the bank cafeteria.

He had just sat down when his eyes were riveted to a young man in the cafeteria line. From the picture he had seen he made immediate identification. He watched the young man closely.

When the young man got to the butter he took a two-cent patty of butter, lifted up some of the mashed potatoes and slipped it in where it couldn't be



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seen. The cashier checked items and asked, "Is that all?" he replied.

At the meeting one hour later the director who had seen the dishonesty arose and said, "I only do I demand that this young man be given no motion, but I demand that he be fired immediately." Then he told of what he had seen and added, "A man who will sell a two-cent patty of butter for not be trusted with millions of dollars."

Today that same man is belittled and cannot get a position in any leading U. S. bank because he stole a two-cent patty of butter!

Is God any less exacting? What about when we rob God of His tithes, steal His talents, misappropriate His talents? Have we been so dishonest about the vitalities that He can entrust to us great responsibilities? Christian character—honesty, industry, punctuality, spirituality, etc.) is mandatory if we are to win His approval.

"Because thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things."

—John Edmund Hays

## The Mourner's Bench

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of the 19th century at meetings and other revivals.

Why should people, who desire to follow the plain Word of God, practice a custom that is absolutely no scriptural or historical foundation? Why should they depart from the New Testament and adopt a practice originated in the mind of man?

The practice of the "Mourner's Bench" is evil because it draws the attention of the lost person away from Jesus Christ. It centers his attention on something he can and must "do" before the Lord will save him. It is as much "works for salvation" as baptism, or anything else held forth by errorists as an essay for salvation.

One will do well to read the Book of Acts, which is the Spirit's record of what He did with the New Testament churches and preachers, and see how He led them in any such practice. Of course He did not.

—A. M. Overton

## Silencing A Priest

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don't understand it," said the priest in reply.

"But Paul said to Timothy, 'From a child thou hast known the holy scriptures' " (II Timothy 3:15).

"Oh," said the priest, "I was being trained to be a bishop and was taught by the author of the Church."

"Oh, no, sir," said the young man, "he was taught by his mother and his grandmother."

On this the priest turned away, saying she knew enough of the Bible to poison a