

We lie to God in prayer if we do not rely upon Him after prayer.

MISSIONARY PREMILLENNIAL BIBLICAL BAPTISTIC

The Baptist Examiner

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

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God Does Not Want Us Ignorant

(No. 1)

ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

Then there are the fundamental things pertaining to God and to eternity that are still more important. These are things that we cannot afford to be ignorant of.

In reading the Scriptures we come across the expression, "I would not have you ignorant", and similar expressions. When the Lord specifically tells us not to be ignorant about a thing, he certainly wants us to know about that thing. So, the things he tells us not to be ignorant of, must surely be of importance. Let us note some of the things about which God does not want us to be ignorant.

God does not want us to be ignorant concerning His way of

getting right with Him. (Romans 10:3) It is charged here that the Jews "being ignorant of God's righteousness" were going about to establish "their own righteousness." Their righteousness consisted in an outward obedience to the Law of Moses. They were great on rules and regulations—some written, and some oral and traditional. So busy were they at that—they ignored God's way of getting right with him. What is that way? It is the way of receiving the Son of God, who to the believer is "made righteousness and redemption." People in droves today, are repeating the blunder of the Jews. They argue their (Continued on page four)

THE BIBLE, OUR GUIDE

J. S. Hunnicutt
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It would be difficult indeed for anyone who has been an ardent lover and lifetime student of the Word of God, to make its teachings run parallel with the trend of modern thought. All the religious denominations of the present day have sought to construct theories suitable to their own tastes, without any apparent regard for the Word of God. I regret that after forty-five years of almost daily study of the Scriptures, honesty compels me to say I know of no religious denomination that will now take the Word of God as a whole. Yet so many among them have assumed the roll of teachers of the Word who show a sad lack of knowledge of the Scriptures, and these blind guides are always dangerous leaders of the people. James sounded a warning note against this careless practice of the churches, "My brethren, be not many masters (teachers), knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation" (Jas. 3:1). Church members and preachers alike

show plainly enough that they do not take the Word of God seriously. They do not receive it as Divinely inspired, as coming from the very heart of God Himself. They do not believe it to be the living Word which is "Quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and joints and marrow." The Bible, a book so common. Yes, it is to be found in almost every home, kept there as an ornament to look upon, but not to be studied. It is both the most loved and most hated of all books. Hated a great deal more than it is loved, ten thousand to one.

The churches make much ado about the Bible as a book to carry to church on Sunday, but during the week they turn to fiction and the story magazines. (The dog returns to his own vomit, and the sow to her wallowing in the mire.)

The modernists of these most dangerous of all days in the history of the world, are inviting the swift judgments of Almighty God upon the world (Continued on page three)

THE LORD'S PEOPLE - ARE YOU ONE OF THEM?

By HARM RUST
Worthington, Minn.

John 2:12 to 14).

This is not written to people of different ages but to those of various spiritual development. Among the Lord's people are those of little understanding, like little children, some with greater development like vigorous young men and some who are like older men well developed. "Stedfast unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." Every member of the Lord's family have their sins forgiven them, "For his name's sake." All of the Lord's people have known the Father and also the Son for without that they could not be the Lord's people. For we read "And this is eternal life, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." (John 17:3). Those of the Lord's people who have experienced growth have become strong in faith. That means too that they are strong in the Lord. The word of God abideth in them, "And ye have overcome the wicked one." These are qualities of a regenerate church.

But the Lord's people need building up. "But ye beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life." (Jude 20-21). In most church activity far more effort is used in trying to get new people in than is used for strengthening of the brethren. The result too often seems to be that more go out than come in.

THE LORD'S PEOPLE HAVE LIFE AND MAY HAVE IT MORE ABUNDANTLY. Our Saviour said, "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10).

All of the Lord's people have life through our Lord Jesus Christ but it seems all do not have it more abundantly though that provision is made for them in the same Saviour. So much of the ministry in most of our churches does not seem to be

directed to helping the Lord's people have "Life more abundantly." There are those who profess salvation and immediately become turned toward the secular and trivial rather than the Spiritual. Many in our churches demand entertainment instead of sound solid preaching of the word of God, prayer, praise and fellowship with Spiritual people. It sometimes seems that the demand for amusement in our churches is almost overwhelming. It seems too that many ministers are well equipped to entertain but not so "Apt to teach," or to "Preach the word." The Lord's people can develop and become strong if they will hear more and more the word of God and have less of secular entertainment.

I fear there are many of the Lord's people going through life lacking complete spiritual development. Can it be that Christianity is in a crippled condition because the Lord's people have not been scripturally ministered to? Just at a time when they should have the best they are

perhaps receiving the poorest. "Feed the flock of God which is among you." Not "With the husks that the swine did eat."

THE LORD'S PEOPLE HAVE NOURISHMENT FOR NEW BORN BABIES. "Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings. As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: if so be that ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious." (1st. Pt., 2:1 to 3). Newborn babes are beginners in the Christian life. It is important that as we first become Christians we have a desire to hear the word of God. When we (Continued on page four)

BUT FOR A MOMENT

Dr. Harry A. Ironside used to tell the story of an old Negro who loved the Lord and the Word of God very much. He could not read very well, and often he was not able to grasp the real meaning of the Scriptures, but he read them none the less.

In a prayer meeting one night the people in the audience were asked to give in turn a passage of Scripture that had blessed them. When the old man got to his feet, he said: "De words in de Bible dat means mos' to me are dese — 'An it came to pass.'"

The minister asked him to explain. "Well," the old man replied, "when troubles come and I don' know whether to turn dis way or dat, when I jus' don' know what to do, I 'members dese words: 'An it came to pass'—and I knows that day ain't here to stay."

Great faith, that!—and how true it is that whatever our affliction may be, it is light and but for a moment, and it "worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" (2 Cor. 4:17).

—The Pilgrim

The First Baptist Pulpit

"GODLY COMPANIONS"

"I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts." — Psa. 119:63.

It is my purpose tonight, by God's grace, to preach to you on the subject of "Godly Companions." Frankly, you and I who are saved ought never seek to have, nor to possess, any other than Godly companions, and because of this fact, I want to burn it into your very soul that the only way that you can be happy as a child of God is as a possessor of Godly com-

panions.

At the very outset, please do not misunderstand me, for the Christian is certainly to have good will toward all with whom he comes in contact. There isn't a person whom you might meet in the week before you, saved or unsaved, moral or immoral, good or bad, but what you ought to have good will toward that individual.

You ought to have good will toward him from a material point of view, and certainly from a spiritual point of view

you owe to that individual the very best of good will. The Word of God makes that clear to us, for we read:

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." —Gal. 6:10.

While we are enjoined to especially do good in behalf of those who are saved, we are told that we are to do good unto all men. I say then, beloved, that so far as you and I as (Continued on page two)

MILLIONAIRE GOES ON A LAST FLING

A large cotton plantation owner in Alabama retired at 75 with a million dollars in the bank. With nothing to worry about, and life on a lavish scale, he decided to have one "last glorious fling."

He had it. At 80 he arranged for another "last fling"—this time in Mexico and South America. It lasted three years. He returned to the United States with a million on his hand and money for another "last fling."

And another. And still another. Each time he expected death to claim him, but death stepped aside, so to speak, and left him time for yet another gleaming whirl.

One day came the startling revelation that he still had time but no money left. For sixteen months he faced life anew—on a \$50 a month old age pension! At long last death had its day. He died at 97!

To the end, the impoverished millionaire said: "My one mistake was that I outlived my money. I have no regrets, the going was good while it lasted." The press said nothing of the (Continued on page four)

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"Godly Companions"

(Continued from page one)

God's people are concerned, every Christian ought to have good will toward everybody with whom he comes in contact every day.

You ought not feel like one woman of whom I heard today. Before services this morning a Baptist preacher came to see me, and in the course of the conversation he told me of an experience that had come to him this past week. One woman whom I led to Jesus, or at least had made a profession of faith under my ministry in another town, and whom I had baptized, said that if she saw me suffering in Hell and she had the privilege and the opportunity of doing anything in my behalf, that she would turn her back and say "Suffer on." In the first place, beloved, she isn't going to see me in Hell. That is a foregone conclusion based on the eternal Word of God. Knowing assuredly that God will keep His word, I am not going there. But that woman was definitely wrong in her attitude. Any Christian wouldn't make a statement like that. Now a church member, an unsaved, religious, hellion can very easily talk thus, but God's child doesn't want to see anybody in Hell.

I say to you tonight, as a Christian, you and I ought to have good will toward everybody with whom we meet and those with whom we come in contact every day. It is true that the Word of God tells us that we are to especially be careful that we exert that good will toward those of the household of faith, but in that same breath the Apostle Paul makes it clear that we are not to stop when we have exerted good will toward only the redeemed, but rather that we are to exert every bit of good will we have in behalf of all men that we meet.

Though that be true, beloved, still we are to be very, very careful as to the companionships and the friendships that we form here within this world. As a child of God I ought to seek to do good in behalf of everybody that crosses my pathway every day and yet I ought to be mighty careful and exceedingly cautious as to the friendships and the companionships that I form of those whom I meet from day to day.

We read:

"Help, Lord; FOR THE GODLY MAN CEASETH; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. They speak vanity every one with his neighbor: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak." —Psa. 12:1, 2.

I suppose things were rather

A New Start

I will start anew this morning with a higher, fairer creed;

I will cease to stand complaining of my ruthless neighbor's greed;

I will cease to sit repining while my duty's call is clear;

I will waste no moment whining, and my heart shall know no fear.

I will look sometimes about me for the things that merit praise;

I will search for hidden beauties that elude the grumbler's gaze.

I will try to find contentment in the paths that I must tread;

I will cease to have resentment when another moves ahead.

I will not be swayed by envy when my rival's strength is shown;

I will not deny his merit, but I'll strive to prove my own;

I will try to see the beauty spread before me, rain or shine;

I will cease to preach your duty, and be more concerned with mine.

bad back in the days when the Psalmist lived. I rather imagine, beloved, that David found it a very lonely walk. I rather imagine that God's children were very scarce in those days, for David said, "Help, Lord; for the godly man ceaseth." Now David wanted the right kind of companionships; he wanted Godly companions, but he found that there were mighty few Godly people with whom he could fellowship and make his friends and have for earthly companions.

What was true in the days of the Psalmist is just as true today. You know lots of people who are speaking acquaintances, but there are mighty few of those whom you know who are godly and fit to be companions and friends.

The Apostle Paul warns us against being aligned with those who are not living for the Lord. Listen:

"Be ye not UNEQUALLY YOKED TOGETHER with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?" — II Cor. 6:14.

Paul makes it clear that God's child ought to be mighty cautious and not be unequally yoked with an unbeliever. That is one big reason why it is your pastor has never had any fellowship with the fraternal organizations. If I were to do so, I would have to be leagued and yoked with unbelievers, and God's Word definitely and positively forbids it for a Christian. That is one reason why that a child of God ought never marry anybody but a child of God. The Word of God tells us that we are to have no fellowship with those who know not the Lord. There's many a professing Christian today who is burdened and hindered and hampered and handicapped in his own Christian profession because the professing Christian is married to a worldling who knows not the Lord Jesus Christ.

I tell you, beloved, what is true so far as fraternal organizations and marriages is con-

cerned is likewise true of friendships and companionships that you and I form. The Word of God says, "Don't be unequally yoked together with unbelievers." Many and many a child of God has learned to his sorrow that the unequal yoke has been the means of causing him untold grief as a child of God when he has tried to live for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let me give you an example of that. In the Old Testament we have the story of a man named Jehoshaphat. His life's history is given us in the seventeenth and eighteenth chapters of II Chronicles. There wasn't a man in the Old Testament who was a greater man than was Jehoshaphat. Maybe you don't recall his life's history, but briefly let me say that he came as the son of a godly father, named Asa. When Jehoshaphat became the king over Judah, he lived just like his godly father had lived before him. In fact, Jehoshaphat out-stripped his father in his godliness. The Bible tells us that he tore down the altar of Baal and that he refused to allow the people of Judah to worship Baal and to go after false gods. The Bible tells how that he established the religion of the Lord throughout all the land, to the extent that religious influences permeated the lives of those of Judah, doubtlessly more in the reign of Jehoshaphat than at any other time in all of Israel's history. As a result, there came about a great revival in the land of Judah. You can read that that revival was the means of causing the law of God to be taught throughout all that land, even beyond the borders of Canaan, and the people from afar began to realize that God was with Jehoshaphat and that Jehoshaphat was blessed because God was with him. All the nations sent him presents. As time passed by, Jehoshaphat became a mighty man of God, but Jehoshaphat made a mistake. While he was king of the southern kingdom of Judah, Ahab was king of the northern tribes of Samaria. One day Ahab said to Jehoshaphat, "I

am going to war against the Syrians. Will you go with me?" Without taking the matter to the Lord and without considering the will of God for his life, Jehoshaphat immediately said, "I am as thou art, and my people as thy people; and we will be with thee in the war." Jehoshaphat was making an alliance, a friendship, a league, a companionship with a man who was a servant of the Devil. The Devil never had a greater ambassador than was Ahab. For Jehoshaphat to make a league meant that Jehoshaphat was departing from his former position of living for God.

After Jehoshaphat had promised to go to war with Ahab, his conscience began to bother him, and he said, "Maybe we had better pray about this matter. Haven't you some preachers who can take this matter to the Lord and see whether or not we will be blessed in going?" When Ahab called all of his preachers together and they found out Ahab wanted to go to war, they shook their heads in the affirmative that that was the thing to do. One fellow even made a pair of horns and rushed around with those horns on his head and said, "You will be able with horns like these to push the Syrians into the sea." Somehow the display that Ahab's preachers put on didn't satisfy Jehoshaphat, and he said, "Haven't you any other preacher beside this crowd? I am just not certain whether I like the tone of their voices." Ahab said, "There is another. There is Micaiah, but he never does preach the kind of preaching I like for him to preach. He always has a negative note." But at Jehoshaphat's request Micaiah was called. When they asked him what would be the outcome, he positively told Jehoshaphat and Ahab that what they were about to attempt to do would end in disaster for both of them. Ahab immediately had him shut up in prison and said, "I will leave you to suffer in prison on a bread and water diet until I return," and said the prophet of God, "If you return, then that will prove that the Lord has not spoken to me. But you are going forth to die in battle."

Now let's see what happened to Jehoshaphat as a result of that ungodly alliance which he made with Ahab — as a result of that ungodly companionship and friendship which was formed with the Baal worshipper named Ahab. When they got to battle, Ahab said to Jehoshaphat, "Let's disguise ourselves. You dress like me, and I will dress like you." Strangely, Jehoshaphat fell for that. He must have been a gullible soul to have believed anything that Ahab told him. He and Ahab changed clothes, and when one of the Syrians saw Jehoshaphat dressed as Ahab, he said, "There is King Ahab." They were just about to kill him when Jehoshaphat revealed his identity and was spared. In that battle Ahab himself perished by the arrow.

Now, beloved, listen, Jehoshaphat didn't have one particle bit of business to make an alliance with Ahab. God's man didn't have any business aligning himself with a man of the Devil. A man who served the Lord and who taught the law of God had no business making a friendship nor a companionship with a man who served Baal. He did wrong when he did it. Notice what happened when he got back from the war. "And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him,

and said to king Jehoshaphat, "Shouldst thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the Lord? therefore is wrath kindled against thee from before the Lord." — II Chron. 19:2.

Beloved, you can turn all way through the Bible and will find over and over again that God warns us lest we become the ones who form such companionships.

The Psalmist David said: "Do not I hate them, O Lord, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise against thee? I hate them with perfect hatred: I count mine enemies." — Psa. 139:21.

Oh, how many times to the contrary you and I have formed companionships and friendships, and made leagues and alliances with men and women of the world who are the enemies of our God. How we need to remember these thundering, ringing, soul-searching words of David!

Notice that this same thing is brought out in the book of Proverbs.

"He that walketh with simple men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed." — Prov. 13:20.

The word "fool" doesn't mean a thing in the world to do with a person who is mentally incompetent. The word "fool," as God loved, has to do with a man who has made the religion of the Lord Jesus a matter of foolishness and mockery, and says that a companion of such a man will be destroyed.

Listen again: "Having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof: FROM SUCH TURN AWAY." — II Tim. 3:5.

Our Lord even says that we are not to make our friendships nor our companionships with those who have merely a form of godliness. Every man who has made a profession of faith has a form of godliness. Who ever his profession of faith is, be, whatever direction it is, take, that is his form of godliness. Beloved, there's many a man who has made a profession of God within his life.

I was reading in the paper this last week of a man who spoke to a Presbyterian organization here in the State the day before, yet I had heard that same man who addressed this Presbyterian congregation blaspheme the name of my God repeatedly. Plenty of people have a form of godliness, but few know anything about the power of God with their lives. Plenty of folk have a form of godliness, but they deny the power of God. God says to us, "From such turn away." I have no business making friendships, nor having companionships with even a Baptist who denies the power of God.

I grant you, beloved, it would be a mighty lonely walk if most of God's children would have if we would adhere faithfully to the Word of God. You turn away from those who deny the power of God and are going to have to turn your back upon many of those who are now your bosom companions. If you hate those who hate the Lord, you are going to find yourself a most unpopular child of God. If you count as your enemy those who are the enemies of our Lord, you will find yourself treading a very lonely pathway in traveling through this world. Beloved, that is exactly what God says relative to our companionships. Listen to what the Apostle Paul says: "Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers." — II Cor. 6:14.

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"Godly Companions"

(Continued from page two)
Paul says concerning this same question:

"Be not deceived: EVIL COMMUNICATIONS CORRUPT GOOD MANNERS. Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame." — I Cor. 15:33-34.

Let's get an illustration of how this is true.

I don't believe there was ever any man in the New Testament who was greater than the Apostle Peter. He was saved under the ministry of John the Baptist. He became one of Jesus' first disciples and was named as one of the twelve apostles sent forth by the Lord Jesus Christ. After he went out as an apostle, he became one of the three favorite apostles that entered into an inner relationship with Jesus Christ that none others enjoyed. Peter, James and John went with Jesus upon the Mount of Transfiguration, and they went into the Garden of Gethsemane with Jesus. They enjoyed a position in life that none of the other apostles enjoyed. Surely, beloved, you can't read the experience of this man Simon Peter without realizing that he was God's man in every particular. He was highly favored, wonderfully honored, and singularly blessed of God, but, beloved, evil communications corrupted his good manners.

On the night that our Lord was arrested it is said that Simon Peter did something that the rest of the apostles didn't do. They turned and fled away, but Simon Peter followed afar off. Ordinarily, we emphasize the fact that he was afar off and we fail to emphasize the fact that he was following at all.

All the balance of them had turned and fled. Simon Peter was the only one who was following. When they took Jesus into the Council Chamber, Simon Peter sauntered around with the crowd that was milling about in the courtyard. The enemies of his Lord had built a campfire, and Simon Peter gathered around that campfire and warmed his hands. By so doing, he compromised by his denial, and finally he blasphemed his Lord, trying to talk himself out of sharing the same fate of the Lord Jesus Christ. How what had happened, beloved? Evil communications corrupted him and his good manners.

I tell you, my brother, my sister, if you and I want to please our Lord, we are to seek for godly companions, and only godly companions are to be had; and if we do so, we will find a lonely pathway that we will have to travel. Listen:

"Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare him; for I CALLED HIM ALONE, and blessed him, and increased him." — Isa. 51:2.

In Abraham's day there was not anybody else for him to walk with. There wasn't anybody in this world that he could have fellowship with. He had to lead a lonely life if he lived for the Lord.

Listen again:
"This thou knowest, that all them which are in Asia BE TURNED AWAY FROM ME; of whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes." — II Tim. 1:15.

Paul has come down to the end of his way. He has dotted the New Testament land with New Testament churches. He has traveled innumerable miles and preached numberless sermons. He has lived for the Lord. He has borne stripe after stripe.

One hundred ninety-nine stripes have fallen upon his bare back. He has been stoned and left for dead. He has been, as his enemies thought, killed and left by the wayside. The Apostle Paul has had one torturous experience after another and one heartache after another, and now all of his Asiatic friends turn from him. I tell you, beloved, it is a lonely pathway for the child of God who serves Him. No marriages, no friendships, no lodge affiliations, no companionships with this world — with those who hate the things of the Lord Jesus Christ.

In contrast, if you want to see some individuals who sought godly companions, then turn to the book of Daniel and read the story of Shadrach, Meshack, and Abednego. There were plenty of folk within the king's college with whom they could have associated, but all that crowd in the king's college were winebibbers, and they were violators of the law of God in that they were pork eaters. God's men of the Old Testament had those two things forbidden unto them. Daniel, Shadrach, Meshack, and Abednego said, "We will walk with God, but we won't walk with this crowd." Beloved, did it pay for them to form godly companions and an alliance among themselves? The Word of God says that when they put Daniel to a test, he was ten times more intelligent than anybody in the king's court.

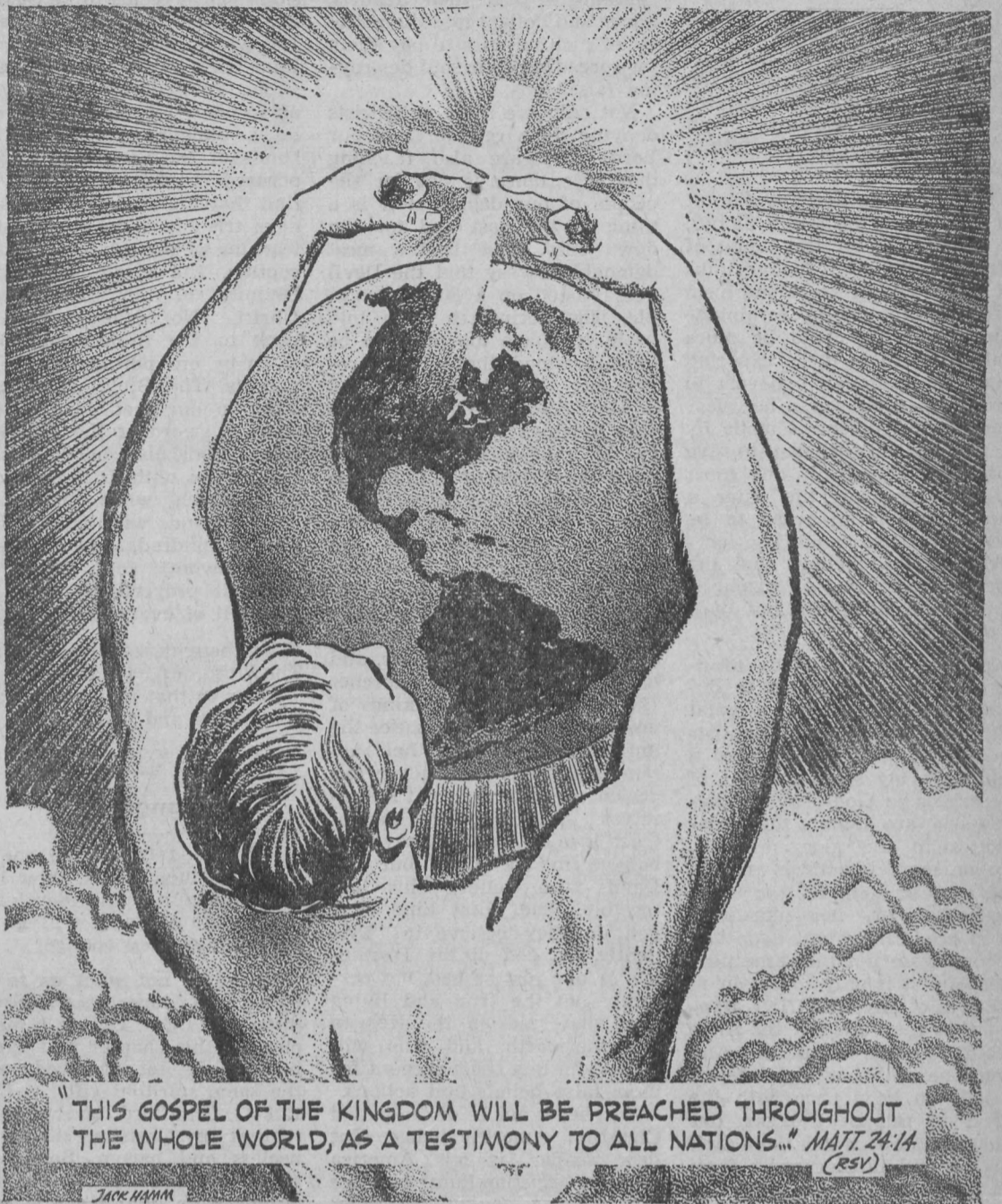
Listen, beloved, God is going to keep His word. You need not doubt in putting God to the test. If you live for God and you come clean so far as the things of this world are concerned, and you form your friends and companions around the Word of God, you will find that God will do for you just what God did for Daniel.

In the Old Testament we have the story of a man named Moses who was used of God to lead three million Jews out of Egypt unto Canaan. Of that group, probably 600,000 were men, while all the balance were women and children. He had the task of leading three million of them for forty years through the wilderness, providing food for them to eat and water for them to drink, getting directions from God as the cloud moved above them. For forty years Moses did it.

I wish you would notice him on one occasion. Once God called him up into the mount to give him the Ten Commandments and the other laws and the directions as to the building of the tabernacle — their place of worship. When Moses came down from the mount and found the people in sin with the golden calf that they had made, he ground it into powder and went back into the mount a second time for a period of forty days with the Lord. The Bible says that when he came down out of the mount at the end of that second forty days, or the end of eighty days of communion with God, the skin of his face was shining. He had been away from the world for eighty days; he had been with God for eighty days; and without the world and with God for eighty days, he was transfigured and transfigured with an holy halo to the extent that even the skin of his face showed forth the glory of God.

I tell you, beloved, I believe that what we read here so far as Moses is concerned is just as possible for God's children down here in this twentieth century. I believe that God's child can live every day with godly companions and friend-

GIRDLING THE GLOBE



"THIS GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM WILL BE PREACHED THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE WORLD, AS A TESTIMONY TO ALL NATIONS." MATT. 24:14 (RSV)

JACK HAMM

ships in the light of this Bible to such an extent that the world will be able to see something of God within the life of that individual as he goes about his daily task every day.

It was thus in the New Testament. Listen:

"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus." — Acts 4:13.

It may be that what I have said doesn't appeal to you. Maybe it doesn't amount to a thing so far as you are concerned. You will go on just as you have in the past, living with the world, fellowshiping with the world, and making friends and companions with the world. Maybe you will go on, beloved, enjoying the world just as you have in the past. Beloved, your face will never show the glory of God like Moses' face unless there is a clean-cut break from the world on your part.

CONCLUSION

Do I speak to somebody tonight who is lost? What I have said doesn't mean anything until Jesus Christ becomes your Saviour. What I have said can amount to absolutely nothing to you until you realize that you are definitely a lost sinner and that you are on the road to Hell, and that only the grace of God can keep you out of Hell. I tell you, lost man, lost woman, if God were to deal with you in justice, he would sink your soul into a Devil's Hell. The only thing that keeps you out of Hell is the mercy of God and His forbearance and that He has passed you by thus far. Oh, might His mercy, His

grace, His kindness, and His forbearance be extended to you to such an extent that you might be persuaded to turn to the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved. God had one remedy for you and that remedy is Calvary. May you as a lost man look up to Jesus and see Him dying for you, and may you trust Him, believe on Him, and receive Him and be saved. The Word of God says, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." May you receive Him and be saved and go out to live for Him with a life of godly companions and godly friendships formed as you travel along life's way.

May God bless you!

The Bible

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by their wilful departure from the true teachings of the Divinely inspired Word of God. They have sought to hide its true teachings from the weak and weary people of God. This they do by totally ignoring a great portion of the written Word, or hiding its teachings with a multiplicity of words which are meaningless to the Lord's people who desire to know the truth. Through their own ignorance of the truth, they juggle with the Scriptures as if the Bible were a book of idle tales. And these modern antichrists now occupy about all the places of importance as leaders in christendom, and the world has run greedily after them. But not the Lord's people, thanks be to God. His people can never be deceived for long into giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons. The elect of

God are immune from the deceptions of antichrists. But in these last days there are few, very few indeed, who are proving that they are the elect of God, and that they love the Word of God sufficiently to study it so as to understand it. It is true the Bible was not written for the "disinterested, lazy and careless class, but for the truly sincere souls who love it, and prayerfully seek daily to know its teachings in order to measure their Christian experience and daily walk by it. These and only these will ever know any part of the teachings of the Bible.

We speak from good authority when we say the modernist leaders in both the Northern and Southern Baptist Conventions are denying the virgin birth of our Lord. Denying the miraculous conception of the Virgin Mary by the over-shadowing of the Holy Ghost. It was reported over the air just recently, that one prominent Baptist leader of the South made the following statement: "I know of no preacher of any note (of any note) who now believes in the virgin birth." This and many other things which the modernists are teaching, and which their followers are accepting, are sufficient to evoke an indignant protest from the very tomb of James Arminius, and he would blush, no doubt, were it possible for him to witness any one of the many popular church services of today. For he certainly had no idea that his heresies would ever become so popular in the modern world, and so

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The Bible

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soul destroying as at this present time. But how true are the words of the apostle with regard to these heretics, "And their words will eat as doth a canker." 2 Tim. 2:17.

Arminianism, the invention of Satan, who is the father of lies, is responsible for this worst of all backward steps in the ranks of the Baptists. i.e. Modernism had its inception in Arminianism. But what could be more natural or more to be expected than for Arminian believers to drift into even worse heresies? For if the Atonement made by Christ was not sufficient to save the believer, and if one must fashion his own life after a mere example in order to be saved, then it would be perfectly easy to believe that the life of Christ was an example, not of the God-Man, but of a good man only.

Modern "high pressure evangelism" has done much to destroy what was once a great Christian organization. Baptists today, with the exception of a comparatively small number of churches and God-called ministers, who are holding their pastorates to the glory of God, are no more like they were in the days of John Gill or C. H. Spurgeon, no, nor like they were even forty years ago, than if they were not the same people. And it is only too plain in the eyes of any GENUINE Baptist that they are not the same people except in name. And everyone who has had interest enough to keep pace with the trend of Baptist thought, has had occasion to watch them drift farther and farther away from all the best and most important teachings which were once held as dear as life itself by the Baptists. They have also seen the leaders of both conventions espouse the most damnable heresies. And those creeping heresies have been, and are, eating at the very vitals of true Christian beliefs. While the few godly preachers are still holding forth the Word of life, giving their time and talents to the study of the Bible, knowing it to be God's book, given by Divine inspiration, the only book that God ever did or ever will give to a helpless fallen race of people, the only book that tells us of a God-given Saviour, who is Christ our Redeemer, yea, God in the flesh. Without this book we could not even know there is a Heaven or Hell. Those preachers who are still holding this old tear-stained book dear to their hearts, I say, are a small minority, and have been almost crowded out of church society. They are not wanted in the popular churches. The true teaching of the Word of God is not wanted. It is too straight for them. Is it any wonder then that godly men who have loved and revered the Bible, and have given the greater part of their lives to the study and teaching of it, is it any wonder that such men find it necessary to refuse to fellowship with these modern heretics? Is it any wonder that such godly men could no longer tolerate their flat denials of the Divinity and virgin birth of our Lord Jesus Christ? Oh, that God would be pleased to open the blind eyes and unstop the deaf ears of all those who continue to follow these blind guides ig-

norantly, carelessly. And who continue to pour their pennies, dimes and dollars into the pockets of such heretics to pay them for spreading their soul destroying falsehoods.

Not only are those antichrists denying the virgin birth of our Lord, they are also teaching that repentance is not for the people of our day, that it is a thing of the past and for the Jews only. This is the most damnable heresy that the Devil ever foisted on a gullible people. The Scriptures have told us in language too plain to be misunderstood, that without repentance there is no remission of sins. And even now the severe judgments of God Almighty are beginning to descend upon the heads of a Christless Christendom, who have defied the words of our Lord and His apostles. The modernists who know nothing of a Sovereign God and His dealings with men, have courted the world in order to get their support and to make an easy life for themselves, and have built up great churches (?) using any and all kinds of unscriptural means to entice the unregenerate to join their assemblies. They have never experienced repentance themselves and therefore cannot teach it to others. They say they believe in one God, but the Devils also believe this and tremble. And what kind of a god do they believe in? Evidently the god of the Pantheists or one just as bad, but certainly not the true and living God who rules in the Heaven and the earth, and who will hold them to a strict account for their false beliefs and actions.

We hear much of so-called Christian America today. But dear reader, is our America really a Christian land? Is it not rather true that everything points to the fact that God has now taken just about all of His elect out from the Gentiles? For "God did visit the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name." For this very reason, God has now but few true Gospel preachers, and there are few who will hear the true Gospel. True, there are very many preachers so-called, in the world today. And we often hear it said, "There are too many preachers." Shall we ever be persuaded that God knows just exactly what He is doing? "Known unto God are all His works from the beginning of the world." God neither has too many nor too few preachers, but just enough at all times. The "too many" are not God's preachers. The Lord's preachers love the Bible, study it continuously, and preach it boldly, defying the mockery of the modern critics. And they are careful that their churches do not contribute one cent to propagate the heresies so popular today. Men would scorn at the idea of contributing money to pay a hireling for taking the life of a fellow man, but they do not hesitate to contribute their money to pay a hireling for preaching soul-destroying heresies. Which is worse? Our Lord tells us not to fear him who hath power to kill the body, but to fear him who hath power to destroy both soul and body in Hell. It is much worse to spread false teaching to destroy souls than it is to commit murder.

In view of all the evil before our very eyes in these terrible days, I wish to urge the true children of God to "a back to the Bible movement," with sincere prayers that God may enlighten our minds more and more to understand its teachings. But not to the twentieth

century "Revised Standard Version" which seems to be Satan's masterpiece for the last days, and which may prove to be his final trick to deceive. This new Bible, revised by unbelieving modernists, for modernists, can be a dangerous book in the hands of the unskilled. I have perused it for weeks, only to find that the modernist revisers have tried hard to obscure the teaching of the miraculous conception, the virgin birth and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ. No, dear reader, go back to the Bible bequeathed to us by our parents and foreparents. The Bible which is a lamp to our feet, food to our souls, a sword of the Spirit to fight modernist heresies and Satan's lies with. It is the Good Seed which, when planted in good ground, will bring forth, some a hundred, some sixty and some seventy fold. Read it, study it prayerfully. God requires it of every one of us.

"The thoughts of man are lies, The Word of God is true. To bow to that is to be wise; Then hear, and fear, and do."

Ignorant

(Continued from page one) morality, their deeds, their human goodness, while they leave Jesus out. All such will go to hell, unless they change.

God does not want us to be ignorant concerning spiritual gifts. (See I Cor. 12:1) It is made clear in this chapter that every believer is not endowed with the same spiritual gifts. (I Cor. 12:8-11) The Lord never designed that any Christian should be useless and barren. Some are richly endowed, and some are equipped for more lowly service (v 23-24). The richly endowed are not to look down on the others. "Feet" are necessary as well as "eyes." The important thing is for every person to properly exercise his own special gift.

God does not want us ignorant concerning the consequences of sin and rebelliousness. (I Cor. 10:1) This is a passage of tremendous force and warning. It shows that the people of God equally privileged and partaking of the blessings of the same redemption, can become disobedient and wilful and backslidden such that they lose God's blessing, and come in for fearful chastisement. In this instance the Lord did not let them enter the Promised Land, but permitted them to die in the wilderness. What were the sins that they were guilty of? Examination of the passage mentioned above will show the following:

- 1. They lusted after evil things (verse 6).
2. They were idolators. Remember the incident of the golden calf?
3. They were fornicators (verse 8).
4. They were grumblers against God and Moses (v. 10).

Many church members of today partake of the same characteristics—or at least some of them. They make their church a place of feasting and amusement. They "eat and drink and rise up to play" (verse 7). They are grumblers (verse 10). They grumble about how things are being run; they grumble at this and at that. Such persons keep churches in a state of perpetual stew. Such persons are back behind the constant moving and shifting about of pastors. Paul tells us that the incident of the wilderness grumblers who were destroyed, is given for an example to us—written for our

"admonition and instruction." Canaan is not typical of heaven in this instance, but rather is typical of full blessing. The redeemed people of God—redeemed from Egyptian slavery did not attain full blessing because of their miserable behavior. Likewise many a saved person of today, falls short of this full blessing of God for the same kind of behavior.

Last Fling

(Continued from page one) man's spiritual condition. At 75 years of age, he had 22 years before him in which to spend a million dollars. He spent it on himself, and even became a burden on taxpayers for 16 months—and had no regrets! How selfish can we become?

That millionaire could have relieved poverty, enlightened ignorance, lifted burdens, met varied needs—and evangelized an entire country!

Wealth is a stewardship. Each person—saved or unsaved—is responsible to use the portion entrusted to him, to God's glory and to the temporal and spiritual welfare of his fellowmen.

"The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts." (Haggai 2:8) We are not to neglect ourselves, but we are not left here to squander a million on "flings."

Someone has said: "After your fling, beware of the sting"—if not in this life then hereafter; for "everyone of us shall give account of himself to God." (Romans 14:11)

The Lord's People

(Continued from page one) have this desire, we shall try to read it, meditate in it, and also hear it whenever we can. And we as ministers, Christian workers and all of us as believers, are in duty bound to hold forth the word of life. Let us make sure we are not trying to use substitutes. Many Christians are not strong but very weak. The apostle Paul had to rebuke the Corinthian Christians because of their lack of growth.

THE LORD'S PEOPLE HAVE NOURISHMENT FOR THE MORE MATURE. "But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." (Heb. 5:14) By strong meat is meant the deeper truths of the Holy Bible. When we first begin the Christian life we cannot expect to understand as much of the word of God as we hope to do after we have been Christians for some time. However, if we hear it faithfully preached and taught and then also read it for ourselves and earnestly pray, the Lord will soon help us to understand more and more of it and as we come to understand we shall be happy in it. The Lord is able to give us understanding in His word if we really desire it and ask Him to enlighten us. We need to read it. It is important to memorize some of it. It is more important still to have it in our hearts to obey it. We shall understand it just as far as we have it in our hearts to be doers of the word of God.

THE LORD'S PEOPLE ARE TO GROW IN GRACE. "Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." (2 Tim. 2:1-3). For every one the time of greatest need is still before us. Sometimes we feel that now the danger is past. The sun is shining. We can smile again through our tears. And all

this is well enough. But the testing of our faith is still before us. Are we prepared? We be able to "Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ?" Will we be able to stand and be strong enough to help the weaker ones? So many in the religious world seem to be of a happy go lucky nature. But scripture presents truth all its intensity as it really is. The apostle Peter admonishes among you, taking the overseers thereof, not by constraint, willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither being Lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away." (1st Pt. 5:2-4).

THE LORD'S PEOPLE ARE TO BE STRONG IN FAITH. Jesus had spoken to the barren fig tree and the disciples were surprised that the tree had withered. "And Jesus answered and saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed and be thou cast into the sea, and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things so ever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." (Mark 11:22-24). Hebrews 11 is a record of heroes of faith and their accomplishments. The Lord's people in the present need faith just as they. "Faith in God" is to begin with, a gift of God but the LORD'S PEOPLE must be built upon it. The true hearing of the word of God will produce people with strong "Faith in God."

THE LORD'S PEOPLE ARE TO BE STRONG IN THE LORD. "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." (Eph. 6:10-11). We are agreed that Christianity confronted with extra-ordinary foes. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Eph. 6:12). There is no powerful instigator of all opposition to THE LORD'S PEOPLE. The Captain of our salvation resisted his every onslaught with the "Sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." At the final thrust, "Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and behold, angels came and ministered unto him." (Matt. 4:1-11).

THE LORD'S PEOPLE ARE IN DANGER. The apostle Paul wrote, "But I fear, lest by some means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty so ye may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." For if he that cometh preached another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye received another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him." (1 Cor. 11:3-4). More Bibles in many languages are being distributed than ever. But I fear that many people read the Bible very lightly. There are few people who know the Bible well enough to be able to discern truth from error. Our Saviour said, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye have eternal life: these they are they which testify of me." (John 5:39). We must try to do research of our own