

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 774

Ten Reasons For Not Observing Xmas

REASON NO. 1

"Christmas" is a word unknown in the Bible. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God." II Tim. 3:16. "... holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." II Pet. 1:21. "Let the words of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom." Col. 3:16. "If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book." Rev. 22:18.

We see danger in adding to the Word of God, and Christmas is an uninspired word and cannot be added to the Holy Scriptures.

REASON NO. 2

History records, like encyclopedias which are noted for their authenticity and reliability, give facts that Christmas is of heathen origin. It is traced back to sun and fire worshippers in the time of Nimrod, his birthday being celebrated by the ancient Babylonians, while all this originated in heathendom and resulted in pagan festivals, centuries later called Christmas. We are therefore warned by the scriptural record: "Learn not the way of the heathen." Jer. 2:2. But somehow the Christian has learned it.

REASON NO. 3

Various records show us that the blending of Christ's birth and Dec. 25th came from Catholicism. The Catholic Church claims authorship of choosing the name "Christ" to connect with their "mass." Here we see that Christmas is a human invention, hence it's not scriptural. Furthermore this church is prayed in Rev. 17, especially v. 1 where it says: "Upon her forehead was the name written, mystery, Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth..." Where are those Christians that wish to follow such examples?

THE BOOK OF THE HOUR

"The Mythical Book of the Southern Baptist Seminary" is the title of a 150 page book of facts relative to the heresy of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky.

It was written by Bro. Raymond Waugh, who was expelled because he dared expose the Scriptural rottenness of the institution. We consider Bro. Waugh one of the finest Christian men we've ever met, and rejoice that God gave him the courage to prepare this book.

This book is a "must" of all Christian reading. We urge our readers to order a copy immediately. The price is only \$1.50. Order it directly from the author: Raymond Waugh, P. O. Box 505, Louisville, Kentucky.

May God grant that the impact of this book shall be felt for many years to come.

REASON NO. 4

We have no scriptural record that the disciples ever celebrated the birth of Christ. History reveals that not until about the fourth century did the church at Jerusalem (A. D. 440) first celebrate this day, and the Church of Rome attached the name Christ to it and placed it into the winter month of December which has now for centuries been the traditional month of the year.

Adam Clark in his Commentary writes like this: "We find that the sheep were kept out in the open country during the whole of the summer and as these shepherds had not yet brought home their flocks, it is a presumptive argument that October had not yet commenced, and that consequently our Lord was not born on the 25th of December, when no flocks were out in the fields; nor could He have been born later than September as the flocks were still in the fields by night. On this very ground the Nativity in December should be given up." To the writer's mind this is sound and true reasoning.

REASON NO. 5

Nowhere in Scripture are we commanded to commemorate the birth of our Lord, and the Father did not deem it advisable to make the date known, hence it remains unknown, and is not to be remembered. Paul says in II Cor. 5:16: "Though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more." We understand Paul to mean we are to know Christ spiritually and not after the flesh or to repeat over and over again His infancy which is of no value to our spiritual life. However, we are commanded to remember Him in His death (but no special day of the year is specified for this). He Himself says: "Take eat, this is my body which is broken for you. This do in remembrance of me." Luke 22:19; I Cor. 11:24.

To commemorate His death is scriptural, to commemorate His birth is non-scriptural and with

Paul we say: "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross (not his birth) of our Lord Jesus Christ." Gal. 6:14.

REASON NO. 6

The fact that there are only two incidents of birthday celebrations recorded in the Bible is evidently for our warning and our learning. One is Pharaoh's big ado, which resulted in the chief baker being hung. Thus ended the tragedy of a big special day. Gen. 40:20-22. The other incident was a big day for Herod, and his celebration ended in the beheading of John the Baptist. Mark 6:21-27. And the special day called Christmas is a similar day with the numerous fatalities which end the day in thousands of homes with untold misery, sorrow and grief.

REASON NO. 7

By searching the Word of God we find the story of the birth of Jesus. The shepherds and the wise men are no connection with Christmas whatsoever. To make comparison the wise men gave their gifts to Jesus (or rather, to His mother for Him), not to one another and this was not even on His birthday but a period of days afterwards; not in a stable, but in a house. This story is greatly misconstrued and a mass of con-

OUR WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAMS

KFKA — 1310 On The Dial
Greeley, Colo.
Sunday, 2:00-2:30 p. m.

WIRO — 1230 On The Dial
Ironton, Ohio
Sunday, 9:00 p. m.

WHJC — 1360 On The Dial
Matewan, W. Va.
Saturday, 10:30-11:00 a. m.

WHTN — 800 On The Dial
Huntington, W. Va.
Sunday, 7:45 a. m.

WSNJ — 1240 On The Dial
Bridgeton, N. J.
Sunday, 2:45 p. m.

The First Baptist Pulpit

"The Security Of The Saved"

This sermon was preached twenty-one years ago. More than 100,000 copies have been sent out in tract form, previous to this printing.

When I was seventeen years old, I was called into the ministry. For the past ten years, I have been trying to preach the Gospel. All of these 27 years have been spent in school: grammar, high, college, seminary, and the school of practical experience. During these years of schooling, I have learned only three lessons that are really

worthwhile.

I was born a totally depraved, vicious sinner; but I did not know it. My parents say that evidences of that sinful disposition began to manifest themselves before I was three days old. The first day I went to school I rebelled at the authority of the school. I had numerous disputes with other students. Some of these disputes ended in blows. I did not know why it was that I preferred to lie rather than to tell the truth; nor why it was that I rebelled at all authority, and defied any-

As A Christian--On Whose Side Are You Fighting?

By ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

When a country is at war, its citizens should certainly not give help to the enemy. A person so doing would be branded as a traitor. If you as an individual had a professed friend—one who claimed to love you very much—you would lose faith in that friend if you learned that he was closely associating himself with someone who was at bitter enmity with you.

Now there is a great struggle on between God and Satan, and those who are Christians are certainly supposed to be on God's side, but what is the situation? It is that most professing Christians give most of their time and money and service to the forces that are aligned under Satan, against God. They support the institutions of the devil, and patronize them freely. They join right in with the world system that is arrayed against God. Is this consistent? Is it right? Does it make sense? Yet, that is the situation as concerns the whole group of worldly church members, and the worldly ones far outnumber all the rest.

glomeration springs from it. This Christmas - Yuletide season is overflowed with literature and greeting cards with untrue representations, pictures have been seen with the parents in the stable with three wise men in their presence giving gifts (the Bible is silent on how many wise men there were). Again, pictures are seen with the shepherds out with their flocks, and a star in the distance. Others portray much snow to help beautify the scene and thousands of people are confused by such falsification, simply because such cards are made to sell.

REASON NO. 8

The untold sum of the Lord's money (Haggai 2:8) that is spent for worthless, useless trinkets and toys of all description in connection with the eating and over-eating from nuts and candies to the feastings on roast turkey and chicken and all kinds of dainties, including headaches, stomach disorders and other ailments as often result from the occasion, all this has by no means any connection with the scriptural story of the Saviour's birth.

REASON NO. 9

The partiality which is often exercised in the giving of gifts is another sign in failing to har-

The system that we call "the world" is organized and operated by Satan—is under his dominance and control. That is exactly what we are taught in the Scriptures. (James 4:4; I John 2:15-17). That is why it will be necessary for Christ to completely destroy the whole world system upon his return, and that is exactly what he will do, as He takes over the rulership of this earth Himself.

In The World, But Not Of The World

We are born into a world that is under the dominance of the usurper ruler, Satan, and we can't help ourselves. Then, if you are a Christian, when you received Christ into your life, you were REBORN. You became a citizen of God's Kingdom. We who are Christians are still living here in the world, but we should NOT BE OF THE WORLD. We should be "Pilgrims and Strangers" here journeying toward our real destination. (See Heb. 11:10; 14:16). (See also Phil. 3:20 Revised Version). A Christian might be likened unto a diver, who moves

(Continued on page four)

monize with scriptural principles. We do not object to the spirit of giving gifts, but why wait till this traditional month of December? Often the method of giving fails to reveal the spirit of charity. The majority method of giving—gifts will only be given to those from whom we expect to receive again in return; this spirit of giving is entirely besides the Scriptures. Listen. The greatest gift that ever was given to the world was Jesus Christ Himself; not as a babe but as a sacrificial lamb, a crucified Saviour, in the redemptive work of salvation. This is by far the greater gift than His birth, and in return the greatest gift we can give is our all to Him who loved us and gave Himself for us. How foolish and embarrassing does our method of giving look to the Lord Jesus? For instance, think of the inconsistency of us to give Henry Jones a birthday. But that is the way we use Christ when this special pagan feast day comes. Then we give every Tom, Dick and Harry a present, thinking we have done a good deed towards Christ. Who? Yes, who

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HOW CHRISTIANITY CAN TRANSFORM

In the year 1832 Charles Darwin made his famous voyage around the world in the ship Beagle. He visited the coast of Terra del Fuego in South America, and later wrote: "The Fuegians are in a more miserable state of barbarism than I ever expected to have seen any human being." He thought these people, whom he regarded as being below the domestic animals, could never be civilized. But on the second visit, in 1869, after missionary work had been done among these people, he found them in a comparative state of civilization, and wrote: "I certainly should have predicted that not all the missionaries in the world could have done what has been done. It is wonderful and it shames me, as I have always prophesied a failure. It is a grand success." It is a spiritual revolution and not evolution that takes Satan out of a man.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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"The Security Of The Saved"

(Continued from page one)
from birth, with vicious desires and unholy passions; condemned before God. Thus I learned my first lesson.

Just how to rid myself of the sin I possessed, I did not know. I had attended a church of another denomination and had heard men speculate about the plan of salvation. I had heard them say with emphasis: "No man can know that he is saved until he gets to Heaven." I had heard them sing:

"'Tis a point I long to know
Oft it causes anxious thought.
Do I love the Lord, or no?
Am I His, or am I not?"

That type of religion made no appeal to me. If I had possessed that kind of religion I would have been no better off than I was; I was already in a state of indecision. Then, one night I sat in a Baptist church and heard the Scripture: "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." (I John 1:7). Like a drowning man grasping at a straw, I laid hold of this; and sang that night with others that trusted in the same Saviour:

"Happy night, happy night,
when Jesus washed my black heart white;
He taught me how to sing and shout, and be a Christian out and out,
Happy night, happy night, when Jesus washed my black heart white."

Then I could say with Paul: "I know whom I have believed." (II Tim. 1:12). There was no guess-work about this. I could say with Naaman: "Now I know there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel." (II Kings 5:15). As my second great lesson, I had learned that I was a sinner saved by grace.

I was so happy in the Lord that I felt this experience just could not last. I concluded that it must end some time. But, lo, it has not ended; but has grown sweeter with each passing day. Thus I learned my third great lesson,—that I was saved eternally, and could never be lost. This was the greatest lesson of all. Now with Paul, I say: "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will finish it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Phil. 1:6); or with Peter: "Kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (I Pet. 1:5); or still again with my blessed Lord: "No man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." (John 10:29).

It is this third lesson I set myself to the task of proving.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE TWO

DECEMBER 5, 1953

Faith knows that God's bonds are as good as ready money.

The problem of the oldest book in the Bible—the book of Job—is the eternal security of the believer. The Devil was the first preacher of apostasy when he lied to God, saying that Job would apostatize under his difficulties. God gave the Devil more advantage with Job than the Devil ever has had with a believer since. Job had no one to intercede on his behalf — no Christ to pray for him that his faith fail not, yet we hear him declare:

"Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither; the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." (Job. 1:21).

If the Devil couldn't cause Job to "fall from grace" under adverse circumstances, without a high priest to intercede on his behalf, how can the Devil cause a believer to "fall from grace" today, when each child of God has an intercessor pleading for him in glory?

Thus God proved through Job that the Devil lied when he preached apostasy.

mium on these two black sins. Yet by and by we hear him say: "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he deliveth him in his way. Though he fall he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand." (Ps. 37:23, 24).

Peter likewise fell when he denied the Lord and punctuated his denial with profanity. Still the fall didn't kill him, and presently we hear him speak: "You who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (I Pet. 1:5).

I grew up on a farm where we used to raise cattle, sheep and hogs. In preparing the hogs for the show ring at the fairs, I used to wash them weekly, trim their nails and polish their bristles. When I had finished, I used to say, "Now, Mr. Hog, stay clean." Did he mind? Immediately he would make his way to the first convenient mudhole and lay down on one side. Then, as if not content with the damage done, he would roll over to completely ruin my hour's work.

he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." These texts teach us that the power to keep lies outside the sphere of personal ability, and that God keeps us from the power of external, internal, and infernal agencies. When the jewel of my soul is surrendered to God's keeping, He is responsible for my eternal security.

"Firm as His throne the promise stands,
And He can well secure,
What I've committed to His hands,
Till the decisive hour."

I would be unsafe to attempt to walk the streets of any town with \$1,000 in my pocket. I hand it through the bank window to the cashier and he keeps it since he has the ability to do so. I haven't the power to keep my salvation, since the Devil is stronger than I, but I can commit myself unto God, who is "able to keep." Then do I realize: "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk not

create that which God has created? Perish the thought! Each of the redeemed is created of God. Since that which has been created can not be uncreated, then each believer is eternally secure.

4. EACH BELIEVER IS BORN OF GOD.

"Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God." (I John 5:1). When a child is born into this world it can never be unborn. Since that which is born can not be unborn, then everyone who has been "born again" is forever saved.

The Bible speaks of the natural birth as the first birth; it speaks of the spiritual birth as the second birth; there is none other birth spoken of. If one might be lost, after being saved, he would be lost eternally as the Bible does not mention the third, or fourth, or any birth after we are once born of God.

John R. Gilpin, Jr., is my son since he was born such. Regardless of what he does he will always be my son. I am a child

Why Should The Spirit Of Mortal Be Proud?

OH, WHY should the spirit of mortal be proud?
Like a swift-fleeting meteor, a fast-flying cloud,
A flash of the lightning, a break of the wave,
He passes from life to his rest in the grave,

The leaves of the oak and the willows shall fade,
Be scattered around, and together be laid;
And the young and the old, and the low and the high
Shall molder to dust, and together shall lie.

The hand of the king who the scepter hath borne,
The brow of the priest who the miter hath worn,
The eye of the sage and the heart of the brave
Are hidden and lost in the depths of the grave.

The peasant whose lot was to sow and to reap,
The herdsman who climbed with his goats to the steep,
The beggar who wandered in search of his bread,
Have faded away like the grass that we tread.

The thoughts we are thinking, our fathers would think;
From the death we are shrinking from, they, too
would shrink;
To the life we are clinging to, they, too, would cling;
But it speeds from the earth like a bird on the wing.

They loved—but their story we cannot unfold;
They scorned—but the heart of the haughty is cold;
They grieved—but no wail from their slumber may come;
They joyed—but the voice of their goodness is dumb.

Yea, hope and despondence, and pleasure and pain,
Are mingled together in sunshine and rain;
And the smile and the tear, and the song and the dirge,
Still follow each other like surge upon surge.

'Tis the wink of the eye, 'tis the draught of a breath
From the blossom of health to the paleness of death;
From the gilded saloon to the bier and the shroud—
Oh, why should the spirit of mortal be proud!

—William Knox

In a sermon a short time before his death, W. H. Griffith-Thomas said:

- "(1) Physical life is the union of body with spirit.
- "(2) Spiritual life is the union of spirit with God.
- "(3) Eternal life is the union of the spirit with God forever."

It is the last of these that I am interested in just now. And at the outset, let me say that I do not mean to say that a Christian will never fall into sin. To say that one never sins is to brand one's self as a liar:

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." (I John 1:8).

A child of God may, through Satan's subtlety, fall often into sin, but a fall does not always kill. Many have fallen from great heights and lived to tell the story. Many also have fallen into sin and lived to tell of their redemption through grace alone.

"Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy; when I fall I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me. I will bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against him, until he plead my cause, and execute judgment for me. He will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness." (Micah 7:8, 9).

David committed adultery and then murdered a man to cover it. Surely no one puts a pre-

Why was the hog content in the mud? It was his nature and he was only acting accordingly.

I saw a pet lamb fall into the same mud-slough one day. Strangely, the sheep did not wallow therein, but got out at once, acting very much ashamed of himself. Why didn't the sheep wallow there as the hogs did daily? He was a sheep and it was contrary to his nature.

Whenever one falls in sins and wallows there, it proves he has never been saved—the old hog nature is just manifesting itself, in spite of church membership, baptism, and reformation. God's dear sheep may fall in sin, but he won't remain there long, but ashamed of himself, will seek out the Lord, confess his wrongs, and repent of his sins. Accordingly I say that a saved sinner can never lose his salvation, since:

1. HE IS KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD. Jude 24—"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy." I Peter 1:5—"Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." Heb. 7:25—"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." II Tim. 1:12—"For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that

after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Rom. 8:1).

2. THE DEVIL CAN NOT TAKE ONE OUT OF GOD'S HAND.

The Devil exerts a powerful influence. He has had 6000 years' experience. Yet he can go no farther than God permits him. God permitted Satan to touch Job's property but he could not harm a single hair of Job's head. Cf. Job 1:12. Later God permitted him to touch Job's body, but he could not take his life. Cf. Job 2:6. Since Satan can go no farther than he is permitted of God, a believer can never be lost, for God will not permit the Devil to pass the sacred precincts of God's saving grace. "But he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not." (I John 5:18).

If Satan can overcome one of God's children, he can overcome all. If he has the power to get all and yet allows one to go to Heaven, would not that one be saved by the grace of Satan? Yet the Bible plan of salvation is by the Grace of God through faith. Eph. 2:8, "For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God."

3. EACH OF THE REDEEMED IS A NEW CREATION.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature (creation)." (II Cor. 5:17). This world and all that is therein is God's creation. Can man un-

of God, by the new birth (John 3:7). I shall always be a son of God (I John 3:2), irrespective of what the Devil may do in my life.

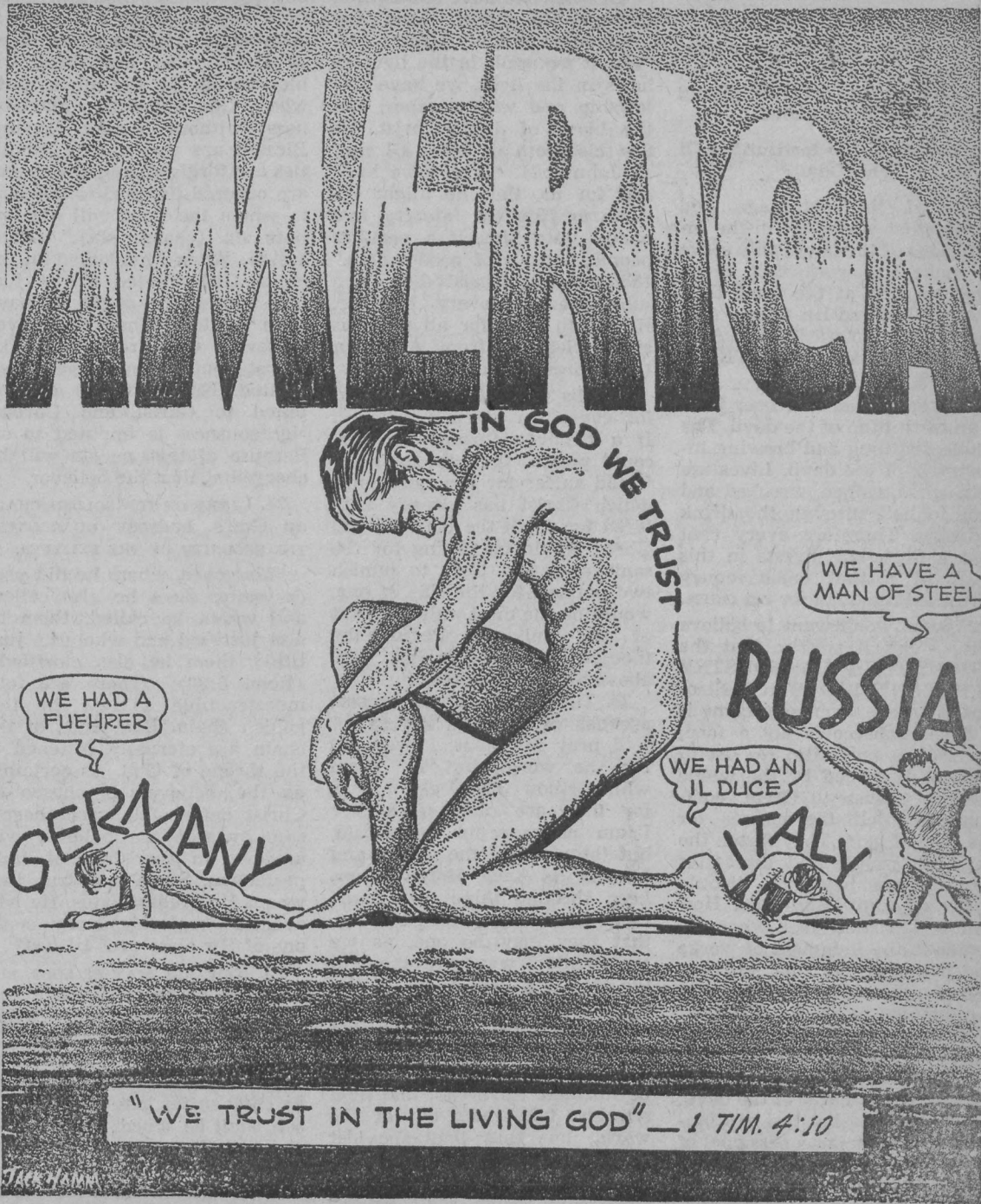
5. THE SAVED ARE BORN OF INCORRUPTIBLE SEED.

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." (I Pet. 1:23). The first chapter of Genesis ten times declares that everything produces "after his kind." According to this law of Genesis, the new nature which is born of God is incorruptible. Since one is born of incorruptible seed, either the theory of evolution that like begets unlike is true (God forbid), or else our salvation is eternal.

6. BY THE NEW BIRTH EACH CHILD OF GOD PARTAKES OF THE DIVINE NATURE.

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature." (II Pet. 1:4). When one is saved the nature of God is placed within. Would it be possible for God to die and for Divinity to have an end? We shrink at the thought. Until God might die, the believer will not die, as each believer has a nature like the nature of God. If the child of God has something of the nature of God then would not something of the nature of God be lost if the child (Continued on page three)

THE BACKBONE TO BALANCE THESE UNITED STATES



"The Security Of The Saved"

(Continued from page two)
of God is lost?

7. IF THE DEATH WE INHERIT FROM ADAM IS ETERNAL, THEN THE LIFE WE INHERIT FROM CHRIST IS ETERNAL.

"That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord." (Rom. 5:21). Surely no one will deny that we are eternally dead in Adam. Cf. Eph. 2:1. "Even so" we are eternally alive and secure in Christ.

8. EACH OF THE SAVED IS HID WITH CHRIST IN GOD.

"For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God." (Col. 3:3). We shall let a piece of paper one inch square represent my soul. The backs of my Bible represent God and the pages thereof represent Christ. I put the paper inside of my Bible and close it. I open it and turn the pages of the Book. The piece of paper is so small in comparison with the backs and pages that I can not find it. I am thus hid "with Christ in God." How, then, can Satan rob me of my salvation?

9. BELIEVERS ARE SEALED UNTIL THE DAY OF REDEMPTION.

"Who hath also sealed us, and given us the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts." (II Cor. 1:22). "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." (Eph. 4:30). The Holy Spirit Himself is the seal. We are securely kept by Him unto the day of redemption. The day of redemption is the time of Christ's second coming. Cf. Luke 21:28; Rom. 8:23. We are, therefore, eternally secure in Christ, for no one can reverse the sealing sealed by the King. And a stone was brought and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel." (Dan. 6:17). "Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse." (Esther 8:8).

10. THE COVENANT BETWEEN GOD AND CHRIST SECURES THE RIGHTEOUS.

"Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy one, and saidst, I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people. Also I will make him my first born, higher than the kings of the earth. My mercy will I keep for him forevermore and my covenant shall stand fast with him. His seed also will I make to endure forever, and his throne as the days of heaven. If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments; if they break my statutes and keep not my commandments; then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless my loving kindness, will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail. My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips." (Ps. 89:19, 27-34). This covenant was made with Christ before the foundation of the world. When His children go astray, He promises chastisement and yet declares He will not withdraw His loving kindness nor suffer His faithfulness to fail.

11. THE COVENANT BETWEEN GOD AND THE RIGHTEOUS SECURES THEM.

"And I will make an ever-

lasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me." (Jer. 32:40). In this covenant two ideas are noteworthy: God will not turn away from the righteous. The righteous shall not depart from God. Certainly this can mean nothing but the eternal and final security of the believer.

12. CHRIST'S STATEMENT AT THE JUDGMENT. Mt. 7:21-23.

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matt. 7:21-23). Christ will say to the lost, "I never knew you." Yet the Scriptures emphatically declare that He intimately knows each believer: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." (John 10:27). "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, 'The Lord knoweth them that are his.'" (II Tim. 2:19). Since the believer is known of Christ, if one should be lost, Christ would be proven a liar (I speak reverently) at the judgment, as there He will say to the damned, "I never knew you." Either we have eternal life when saved, or else Christ will tell a falsehood at the judgment!

13. THE PROMISES OF CHRIST SECURE EACH BELIEVER.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." (John 5:24). "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." (John 6:37). "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." (John 10:28, 29). "Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 1:8). "Being confident of this very thing that he which hath begun a good work in you will finish it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Phil. 1:6). All these are promises concerning the believer's security. If a believer, through sinning, could perish, then God's promises would be valueless. If the promises are valueless, then the whole Bible is valueless and Christ, God, the Holy Spirit, and Christianity are valueless. If one fails, all must fail. However, we prefer to "let God be true, but every man a liar," (Rom. 3:4) for—

"He has never broken any promise spoken, And will keep His promise to me."

14. HE PROMISES ETERNAL LIFE TO HIS SHEEP.

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." (John 10:27-29). Every saved believer is one

of God's sheep. Christ Himself is the Shepherd. No sheep can ever stray so far, but that the Good Shepherd will bring him home again. Luke 15:5, 6: "And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost." God's dear sheep may fall into the mouth of the roaring lion, even Satan (I Pet. 5:8), but the Shepherd will deliver therefrom. (I Sam. 17:34, 35).

15. WHEN A BELIEVER IS SAVED, HE POSSESSES ETERNAL LIFE.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me hath everlasting life." (John 6:47). "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent." (John 17:3). "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." (John 5:24). "And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." (John 11:26). "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." (I John 5:11, 13). The life Christ gives us is eternal — never ending. Forty-three times in the New Testament "everlasting" qualifies the life we receive when we receive Christ. Then it is a 43-0 hope that the

believer is eternally secure. In Mat. 25:46, "everlasting" describes the punishment of the wicked. In Rom. 16:26 "everlasting" describes the character of God's existence. In II Tim. 2:10, "everlasting" describes the duration of Christ in glory. In II Pet. 1:11, "everlasting" describes the duration of Christ's kingdom. Then as long as the wicked are punished, as long as God exists, and as long as Christ's glory exists, and as long as Christ's kingdom continues, just that long the believer has eternal life. If the punishment of the wicked can have an end, if God can have an end, and if Christ's glory and Kingdom have an end, then the believer can perish. In view of this shall we not write in letters of gold across the Heavens, that all may read: ETERNAL SALVATION!

16. ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF THE BELIEVER.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God." (Rom. 8:28). The truth of this comforting statement demands that our salvation be eternal, for this could never be true if a believer could lose his salvation.

17. CHRIST BECOMES THE BELIEVER'S SURETY.

"By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." (Heb. 7:22, 25). "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins

of the whole world." (I John 2:1, 2). Christ's work in Heaven today is that of intercession. He is the lawyer who represents each believer at the bar of God's supreme court. I have a dear friend, who is a lawyer. Suppose I violate some traffic ordinance. I ask him to appear in my behalf in the court. He does not plead the mercy of the court, nor does he ask leniency that I am a preacher. He simply pleads "guilty" to the charge and pays the fine that I may go free. In the court of Heaven, I am charged with innumerable offenses by Satan. (Rev. 12:10). The Son of God is my lawyer. (Heb. 9:24). He does not ask the Father to be merciful, nor does He plead the weakness of my flesh. He is there to plead "guilty" on my behalf, and to pay for my sin with His blood: "He is the propitiation (sacrifice) for our sins." (I John 2:2). Hallelujah! for such a Saviour!

18. GOD PROMISES NEVER TO FORSAKE HIS SAINTS.

"Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation forever." (Psa. 12:7). "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down, for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand. I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his

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On Whose Side?

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about down under the water, but who is "not of" the water, and who gets his life giving atmosphere from above.

Do You Back The Institutions Of The Devil?

All of the patronage and money that we invest in the institutions of the devil, only serve to make his work that much stronger, and at the same time hinders God and His Cause. And that leads us to ask, WHAT ARE SOME OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE DEVIL?

1. Every liquor and beer joint is an institution of the devil. The whole distilling and brewing industry is of the devil. Lives are debauched, ruined, wrecked and sent to hell through the drink industry. Therefore every cent that a Christian invests in this business, is that much money furnished the devil for his cause.

2. Some won't want to believe this — but it is true that the WHOLE TOBACCO INDUSTRY IS SATAN'S INDUSTRY. Nicotine is a dope, even as cocaine is a dope. Tobacco is not a food, nor is it a necessity. No useful purpose is served by the whole tobacco industry. Great companies exploit the masses for the sake of gain. They fasten the habit on people and thereafter those people pay them tribute every day until they die. How will a Christian feel when he stands in the judgment of works and it is revealed that he spent more for cigarettes than he spent to advance the Cause of Christ in the world? That will be the situation with millions.

3. THE MOVIE INDUSTRY is another thing that is of the devil. Hollywood is a hot bed of Communism, as well as a cess pool of sin. Countless lives are moulded by the false standards held up through the movies. Every dollar spent to support this industry, is spent against God and to strengthen His enemies.

We Christians are stewards of life and possessions, and we shall be judged as to how we use all we have. If one is a Christian, he should be "all out" for the Lord. There is no happiness for a Christian otherwise.



"The Security Of The Saved"

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seed is blessed. Depart from evil and do good; and dwell forever more. For the Lord loveth judgment and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved forever; but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off." (Ps. 37:23-28). "Ye that love the Lord, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked." (Psa. 97:10). "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that called you, who also will do it." (I Thess. 5:23-24). "And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom." (II Tim. 4:18).

The saints are God's believing children. These He promises never to forsake. Since God is continually present with the believer, the believer is eternally secure with God.

19. CHRIST'S BLOOD CLEANSSES

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FROM ALL SIN.

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." (Col. 1:14). "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." (I John 1:7). "Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." (Titus 2:14). Christ died as a substitute for every believer. His death paid for all sin. His blood cleanses from ALL sin (past, present, and future).

By His death Christ suffered for every sin of each believer. If a believer through sinning, could perish, then the believer would suffer for the same sins, which Christ has already suffered for. Both the believer and Christ would be paying for the same sins, and God, to punish two persons for the sins of one, would be the most unjust tyrant of the universe. Perish the thought! Our God is just; yea, above all, He is merciful!

20. THE RIGHTeous ARE SECURE, BECAUSE OF CHRIST'S PRAYER.

"I pray for them; I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me, for they are mine. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the Scripture might be fulfilled. I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from evil. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world." (John 17:9, 11, 12, 15, 20, 24). This prayer, breathed by Christ, 2,000 years before all present believers were born, secures us eternally with God.

21. THE MEANING OF REDEMPTION.

"But when the fullness of time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." The Greek word for redeem used in Gal. 4:4, 5, "ex-agerazo," means to "buy out of the market," so that the redeemed are never again to be exposed to sale. Thank Heaven, when Jesus has bought a slave of Satan, the Devil will never again be permitted to even bid for that one, for the redeemed of God is never again to be put up for sale. Hallelujah!

22. CHRIST PROMISES THAT THE BELIEVER SHALL NEVER THIRST.

"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst." (John 4:14). Yet in Hell, one of the pangs of the damned is thirst. "And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame." (Luke 16:24). If a believer is lost and goes to Hell, Christ is proven a liar, since He promises the believer shall never thirst. Again we say, either eternal life, or Christ is a falsifier.

23. THE LORD WILL NOT CHARGE THE BELIEVER WITH SIN.

"But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin (charge sin)." (Rom. 4:5-8). When Christ died on the cross, God treated Christ just like the sinner ought to have been treated. When a believer is saved, God treats him like Christ ought to have been treated. Thus, our sins are imputed to Christ and Christ's righteousness is imputed to us. Because of this, no sin will be charged against the believer.

24. LINKS OF THE GOLDEN CHAIN OF GOD'S PURPOSE GUARANTEES THE SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER.

"Moreover, whom he did predestinate, them he also called; and whom he called, them he also justified and whom he justified, them he also glorified." (Rom. 8:30). These are four indestructible links in this golden chain. Both ends of the chain are eternally fastened to the throne of God. As certainly as the believer is chosen in Christ before the world began, step by step the believer will advance to the stage of final perfection. Since it is true that whom He predestinates, He will eventually glorify, how could one of His elect ever be lost?

25. REWARDS MAY BE LOST, BUT THE SOUL REMAINS SECURE.

"If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." (I Cor. 3:14, 15). The objector asks, "If one did sin and die in impenitence, would he be saved?" It is impossible to suppose any condition that will permit a child of God to be lost in Hell. The passage read tells us what will become of the erring child. His rewards will be lost, yet he will not be lost! His rewards will perish, but he shall be saved, yet so as by fire.

26. THE SURE FOUNDATION INSURES SAFETY.

"Therefore, thus saith the Lord God, Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation, a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste." (Isa. 28:16). "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 3:11). A substantial foundation insures the safety of all concerned. No man can afford to build for eternity upon a defective foundation.

The Lord Jesus is the only foundation one can build upon with assurance.

"My hope is built on nothing less,

Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;

I dare not trust the sweetest frame,

But wholly lean on Jesus' name."

In His Sermon on the Mount, Christ refers to this foundation. "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock.

"And everyone that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand.

"And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell and great was the fall of it." (Mt. 7:24-27).

When God reaches down and lifts a poor sinner from the pit, He places him upon a sure foundation, so that in the time of testing, he who is anchored to the Rock of Ages, can say, "In Jesus I'm safe evermore." Yea, all the combined forces of Hell and earth can not remove him. With sweet assurance, we triumphantly sing:

"How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word;
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?"

"In every condition, in sickness, in health,
In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth,

At home or abroad, on the land, on the sea;
As thy days may demand, shall thy strength ever be.

"E'en down to old age, all My people shall prove,
My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
Like lambs they shall still in My bosom be borne.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, tho' all Hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

27. IF A BELIEVER COULD PERISH, THEN THE JOY OF HEAVEN IS IN VAIN.

"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." (Luke 15:10).

Here on this earth a poor sinner turns from his sins to Christ as a Saviour. Heaven above sees this transaction and is set rejoicing. Emotion stirs all the heavenly spectators. But this believer later sins enough (who could ever tell when he has crossed that line) to lose his salvation. Then Heaven has been mistaken, their joy has been premature. Can the omniscient God rejoice, if He foreknew that the repentant sinner could eventually perish in sin? How utterly inconceivable!

28. NOTHING CAN SEPARATE A BELIEVER FROM CHRIST.

Twenty centuries ago Paul asked, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" Rom. 8:35). Shall Satan? "But he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not." (I John 5:18). Shall temptation? "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (I Cor. 10:13). Shall sin? "For sin shall not have dominion over you." (Rom. 6:14). Shall the law? "For ye are not under the law, but under grace." (Rom. 6:14). Shall the world? "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." (I John 5:4). Shall the believer? "THEY SHALL NOT DEPART FROM ME." (Jer. 32:40). As it was impossible for Noah to leave the ark after God had shut him in, so it is impossible for the believer to leave Christ. Someone asks, "Can not a believer crawl off the Rock of Ages?" Beloved, where is the child of God who wants to crawl off the Rock of Ages? But listen, Paul mentions ten agencies and agents, including the powers of

Heaven, earth and Hell, which he declares are unable to separate the believer from God. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus Our Lord." (Rom. 8:35-39).

Years ago, at Leicester, England, there was a strike. Property was demolished and homes were ruined in the riot. In one home a lad was playing on the first floor, while his big brother was mending shoes upstairs. Fearing the rioters would break the door down, he stepped to the ladder and called: "Tom, Tom, they are going to smash the door open; make haste and come down." The big brother, a strong, well-built man, put his burly back to the door, while the younger boy went on about his play. Sometimes the Devil comes to this house of mine, and when I fear, lest he take me by force, I rush to the foot of the ascension ladder and cry: "Christ, Christ, make haste and come down: the Devil is about to get me." Like lightning He places Himself at the door of my heart, and there are not enough Devils in all Hell to break the door open with my "elder brother" standing there.

Christmas

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gets the glory? Certainly Christ does not. "Think on these things."

REASON NO. 10

Gal. 4:9, 11 and Col. 2:16 are absolute Scriptures pointing to the disapproval of all special holidays or new moons or Sabbaths. Paul rebuked the Galatians for "turning back again to the weak and beggarly elements." He says: "Ye observe days, months, times and years. I am afraid of you..." No doubt Paul had a vision of the inconsistencies of observing such days by what the Prophet Amos had in view of God's displeasure of Israel's festivals: "I hate, I despise your feast days and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies." Amos 5:21. We believe in Israel's day, Paul's day as well as in our day, the people will blend so much tradition to all these holidays that God saw fit to discard them all with the ceremonial laws. And to this day God has not told us one jot to observe any special days. How could any Christian obtain the thought that Paul was encouraging special days with the above texts? Since he writes that they were only "a shadow of things to come," we are not to worship in the shadow anymore, since the real sacrifice has come.

God placed one day in seven as a "rest day" for us and to "keep it holy." Why do Christians want to celebrate "Christ" with mass? Mass belongs to the Catholic Church and Christ belongs to New Testament Christians.

The master text is: "Learn not the way of the heathen... for the customs of the people are vain." Jer. 10:2-4. Truly we have learned it.

"But from the beginning it was not so." Matt. 19:8.

—Levi Bontrager