

A fellow said that he had tried everything else and failed, so he was sure God had called him into the ministry. Does God ever call failures?

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

"I Should Like To Know"

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 8:29.

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WHOLE NUMBER 864

A Bible Study Relative To The Trinity

In dealing with the TRINITY we are dealing with the mystery of the being of God, hence we cannot fully explain or fully understand. All we can know is what has been revealed to us in the Scriptures.

People Who Deny The Trinity

The Mohammedans deny the Trinity. They consider that Jesus was a prophet, but they are ready to fight when one insists that He was deity.

The Unitarians deny the Trinity. They are Rationalists, hence they deny what they can't fully understand.

Some modern sects, like the Jehovah's Witnesses, deny the Trinity, since they do not believe

By ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

in the eternal existence of Jesus Christ.

The more radical Modernists deny the Trinity, since Modernism is a form of Rationalism.

The Bible Teaches It

Those who deny the Trinity take issue squarely with the Word of God. But—let us ask, what is the doctrine of the Trinity? The great theologian, A. H. Strong, has given a good definition in these words: "In the nature of the one God, there are three eternal distinctions which are represented to us under the figure of persons,

and these three are equal."

A good illustration of the Trinity is a human being, made "in the image and likeness of God." A man is ONE being, yet he is body, soul, and spirit. There is no denial of this, yet we cannot fully explain it. How much less we can expect to fully explain the mystery of God's being, if we can't explain our own?

Let us note what the Scriptures say:

1. The eternal Father is God. Read John 6:27 and I Peter 1:1-2.
2. The eternal Son is God. Read Rom. 9:5. Attributes are attributed to him that could only be at-

(Continued on page eight)

1. Do you believe that since the Lord Jesus Christ's resurrection He should be given His complete title and called the Lord Jesus Christ instead of Jesus? I often hear preachers pray "in Jesus' name," and it hurts me as He is the Lord Jesus Christ to me.

The writer prefers the full title, "the Lord Jesus Christ," but it must be recognized that our Lord was sometimes called simply Jesus by New Testament writers after His resurrection. See Acts 1:1; Rom. 8:11; Phil. 2:10; Heb. 4:14; I John 4:15; Rev. 22:16. In this last passage we have an instance of our Lord referring to Himself as Jesus. Also in many instances in the Acts and epistles He is alluded to by the simple title, "Christ." Therefore we do not have Scriptural ground for insisting that Jesus be called the Lord Jesus Christ in every instance.

2. If a married woman or mother, commits adultery, knowing before she does so, that it is against God's plan, is it possible that she is a saved person (as she claims to be) or is she mistaken about her soul's condition?

Yes, it is possible that such a woman is saved. David was a

saved man when he committed adultery with Bathsheba, and then had her husband killed that he might have undisputed possession of her. This is not to minimize or excuse the sin of adultery, but only to recognize the Word of God as our authority on such matters.

3. If a saved woman commits adultery, will God forgive her?

Legally (with respect to the penalty of the law), all of the sins of believers have been forgiven already. Rom. 4:7,8; 8:33,34; 10:4. Experimentally (with respect to the fellowship and blessings of God), believers obtain forgiveness for any and every sin committed according to I John 1:9. But let it be said that the believer who sins grievously will suffer many temporal consequences therefrom according to Gal. 6:7,8.

4. When did Jacob fulfill the vow recorded in Gen. 28:20-22, and to whom did he give the tenth?

The Bible does not record the fulfillment. If Jacob fulfilled his vow (and we have no good reason for assuming that he did not), the

(Continued on page eight)

We Couldn't Resist Sharing Some More Of These Most Wonderfully Encouraging Letters From Our Most Wonderful Subscribers

BELIEVES THE LORD WILL BLESS EDITOR WITH GREATER WORK*

Huntington, W. Va.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

You will find enclosed a small donation of \$5.00. Please use this as you see fit.

I was sorry to hear of your resignation, but I am thankful that you are continuing with TBE. The paper is a blessing to me.

Bro. Gilpin, God certainly knows best, it will work for the better. Men have never been able to stop the work of God. They will not stop you, for I feel God will bless you and guide you so that you will do even greater work for Him that loved us.

Lord bless Bro. Gilpin, is my prayer this morning.

Don Robinson

BRO. HALLUM REMEMBERS THAT H. B. TAYLOR WENT THROUGH SIMILAR EXPERIENCES

Iquitos, Peru, S. A.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I noticed on the envelope in which was enclosed THE BAPTIST EXAMINER there were 30 cents in postage stamps. I did not realize that it cost so much to bring the Examiner here, but of course I want it to continue to come that way, so I am sending a

little more in the form of a check to help bring it to me.

I don't think I need to say that I truly appreciate TBE. I doubt that there is another religious paper doing so much for the truth.

Also I want to say that we deeply sympathize with you and your fine family because of what you have had to experience. I have the utmost confidence in you and shall continue to cooperate with you in any way I can. I send my best wishes to the rest of your family.

I suppose you know that the same kind of scandalous talk was whispered about H. B. Taylor some time before he died, but I never gave it the least credit.

Yours in the Lord's service,
Eld. R. P. Hallum

MY OLD BUDDY EASTEP BELIEVES WE ARE IN THE LAST DAYS

Covington, Ky.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I have intended writing you for quite a while.

I sympathize with you in what happened at Russell. Any more, I don't try to analyze anything, because we cannot. The only answer seems that these are the "last days," and as the age closes we can expect opposition to the truth. I verily believe that if the trend continues we will re-live the days of the martyrs.

I do often pray for the many preachers I know and your name

is mentioned too at His throne.

Yours in Christ,
Eld. D. B. Eastep

BRO. "JAKE" SAYS IT WOULD BE TRAGIC IF TBE WERE DISCONTINUED

Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Thank you for your letter of October 22.

Your resignation and calling off of the Thanksgiving Conference came as a great surprise and I know it will prove a great disappointment to many who have looked forward to that spiritual feast. But as you say, the Lord knows best and we must abide by His will.

I would be ungrateful if I failed to express to you my deep appreciation for your kindness to this humble servant through the years. You have not only led your church to regularly support our ministry but you have on many occasions urged your friends to do so. You have also given a great deal of space to our work in your paper.

I am glad that your friends are rallying around you. It would be tragic if THE BAPTIST EXAMINER were discontinued.

OUR RADIO MINISTRY

WWKO-1420 ON THE DIAL
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY
Sunday-8:30-9:00 A. M.

There are so few publications today which earnestly contend for the faith.

Kindly remember me to Mrs. Gilpin and the children. May God's richest blessing be upon each one of you.

Yours in His service,
Eld. Jacob Gartenhaus

OHIO PASTOR KNOWS NO PAPER AS TRUE TO BIBLE AS TBE

Rushtown, Ohio

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Some two months ago you came upon our heart almost continually. We wondered why it was. Knowing that God does not do such things without cause, we prayed that our Father would be honored and you blessed and strengthened.

Later when we heard of your trouble we understood why you had been on our heart.

We trust that God has given you a new vision of His faithfulness and ability.

I am glad that THE BAPTIST EXAMINER is still to be published. It is vitally needed in these days of compromise and looseness. While I do not always agree with some things taught in it, yet generally speaking, I do not know of a paper that is as true to the Bible and hence, to Baptist teaching as THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. We trust that it may continue till Jesus comes. Enclosed is an offering from Bethany Baptist

Church to help in its publication. Remember His grace is sufficient and that He will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory through Christ Jesus.

I am glad that your sickness is clearing up. He healeth all our diseases. Praise His name!

Things are going fairly well with us here at Bethany. We hope we will continue to abound in His work. In closing we wish for you God's best as He Himself has defined it, "Now the God of Peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the Sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

Pray for us.

Yours in Christ,
Eld. W. M. Smith

REMINDS EDITOR OF A HELPFUL SCRIPTURE

Hampton, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Enclosed find check for \$5.00 to be used in any way you see best. I know what you are facing and the Scripture that helped me is Isaiah 28.

Sincerely,
W. W. Pope
(Continued on page three)

BIBLE MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is a useful science to men—and to God. There are some thrilling mathematics lessons in the history of the early church. After the wonders of Pentecost, when the fully surrendered Twelve, particularly Peter, began their ministry, "there were added unto them about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41). And "the Lord ADDED to the church daily" (Acts 2:47). But when later the seven Spirit-filled deacons were called, leading the movement of laymen and lay women to active service, the word for the increase of the soul-harvest is changed. "The number of the disciples MULTIPLIED in Jerusalem exceedingly." (Acts 6:7.) Has your church, your Sunday School, your Bible class, your home passed from Addition to Multiplication in soul-winning? If not, why not?

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

"The Importance Of The Word Of God"

This message was preached on Thanksgiving evening at the First Missionary Baptist Church of Arabia, Ohio, of which church Bro. Austin Fields is pastor. It was indeed a glorious evening of rich fellowship for your editor, with a pastor and people who rejoiced in the Word of God.

"Preach the word."

—II Tim. 4:2.

In view of the fact that this is Thanksgiving day, an experience of the long ago comes treading in to my memory. I judge that the

reason I think of it is because that on Thanksgiving day we usually have a big dinner, ordinarily having a little bit more to eat than usual.

We had been married just a few months when we had company for the first time. Mrs. Gilpin wanted everything to be just perfect. It was her people that were coming to see us, and I think that maybe besides wanting everything just perfect, she probably wanted to show me off a little bit, too. I've always thought that that entered into it. At any rate, she insisted that I was to carve

the chicken at the table. I hadn't had much experience in carving chicken up to that time. Oh, I had had a lot of experience with chicken. There had been a lot of them that had entered the ministry by way of my mouth, and I knew a good deal about chicken from a gustatory experience, but I did not know anything about how a chicken was put together. So far as I was concerned, all the chicken that I had ever had anything to do with in the past was already cut in pieces before they fried it, and it was a new ex-

(Continued on page two)

Solomon said: "My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of His correction: for whom the Lord loveth He correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth."—Prov. 3:11,12.

Dear suffering one, you are very dear to the heart of your Heavenly Father. Just before Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane, He said, "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."

Do not doubt your Heavenly Father's love when He corrects you. "For He maketh sore, and bindeth up: He woundeth, and His hands make whole."—Job 5:18.

These are school days for God's children. God makes no mistakes, (Continued on page eight)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN — EDITOR
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Subscriptions are stopped at expiration unless renewed or special arrangements are made for their continuation.

\$ A-MONTH-CLUB \$

Our records show that we now have \$303.00 in this fund as a result of gifts received this week from the following:

Mrs. F. R. Parrish, Carrsville, Virginia.

Mrs. Edith Baker, Lincoln Park, Michigan.

Bro. Bernard Waggoner, Chicago, Illinois.

Mrs. Parrish's letter follows:

Carrsville, Virginia

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

We were happy to see in the last EXAMINER that things are working out for you and the Lord is blessing. We are still praying for you and the wonderful work you are doing.

Am enclosing our dollar for the month of Dec. The extra 50c is our little girl's tithe money. She is not a member of any church and wanted to send it to you.

God bless you always, Bro. Gilpin, and supply your every need is our prayer.

In His Name,
Mrs. F. R. Parrish

Our hearts were encouraged by this letter from Bro. Waggoner:

Chicago, Illinois

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

My Brother in Christ, I am sending you \$12.00 for the \$-A-Month Club, for THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, as it has been such a blessing to me and still is every time I read it.

I thank the Lord for men like you that are not afraid to print the truth as it is written.

May the Lord be with you, lead, guide and direct in all that you do is my prayer.

Bernard Waggoner

Out in Lordsburg, New Mexico, the Lord laid it on the heart of Bro. L. A. Jarrell, to suggest that each reader contribute \$1.00 a month toward the payment of our note for \$1,000.00 (and interest) which comes due June 27. Quite a few have been responding thus and accordingly we now have \$303.00 in this fund. We realize that this is a long way from our goal, but it is a start in the right direction, and in view of the promises many of our readers have made, we believe that when our note comes due, God will have given us the needed funds.

It has been a joy to me even since 1939 to give you my best as editor. I truly thank God for the cooperation of our subscribers and the financial help which has been given. Only because of this marvelous cooperation have we been able to keep this paper in the mails. Truly as we print this last issue of the old year, we thank God and take courage.

The Word

(Continued from page one)
perience for me, when we sat down to the table, for me to undertake to attempt to carve that chicken. I started cutting straight across the bird, and somehow, I ran into a bone. It looked to me like there ought to be some joints some place, but I could not find any, and I slopped gravy out of one side of the dish, and out the other side all over the tablecloth,

as that bird scooted backwards and forwards, and I had a hard time manipulating the knife and the fork and the bird all at the same time. Well, beloved, to make a long story short, when the meal was ended, I said, "I'm going to the store and buy another chicken and you are going to cook it, and I am going to sit down here and learn to carve that chicken — to learn how it is put together, so that I can learn how to take it apart." Beloved, I look back upon that experience, as one experience where I learned the meaning of a text of Scripture, when our Lord said:

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, RIGHTLY DIVIDING the word of truth."—II Tim. 2:15.

If a man does not know how to divide the Word of God, he will make just as big a mess in preaching, as I made carving the chicken that day, for the man who does not know how to rightly divide God's Word will apply to the sinner that which is spoken to the saint, and will apply to the saint that which was spoken to the sinner. The man who does not know how to rightly divide the Word of God will apply to Israel that which was written only to a New Testament church, and vice versa. I insist, beloved, that there is many a preacher who does not know how to rightly divide the Word of God, and as a result, he slops spiritual gravy all over his congregation every time that he gets up to preach.

In view of this, we need to remember that our Lord said, "Preach the Word."

THE WORLD DOES NOT WANT GOD'S WORD.

The majority of professing Christians do not seem to want God's Word. It is a definite fact that the world does not want the Word of God. The prophet said:

"That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that WILL NOT HEAR the law of the Lord: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits."—Isa. 30:9,10.

The same thing happened in the days of the prophet, Jeremiah. Listen:

"The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and MY PEOPLE LOVE TO HAVE IT SO: and what will ye do in the end thereof?"

—Jer. 5:31.

In the days of Isaiah and in the days of Jeremiah, they did not like to hear God's Word. Even God in New Testament days says that His preachers will preach a lie and will prophesy falsely.

"I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom: Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they WILL NOT ENDURE SOUND DOCTRINE; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."—I Tim. 4:1-4.

Two thousand years ago, by inspiration, the Apostle Paul spoke of this very hour in which we are living. He said that it was man's duty to preach the Word, with the understanding that the time would come when men would not endure sound doctrine. He even went so far as to declare that the day would come when people wouldn't want sound doctrine, but rather, they would want teachers who would scratch their itching ears. I judge, beloved, that it must be very pleasant for an individual to have somebody to scratch his back. I imagine that it must be very pleasant for an individual to have someone who would even go further and tickle his itching ears. Paul said that the day would come when the world at large, including New Testament churches, would repudiate the Word of God to such an extent that they

I. Zacharias Troubled At The Presence Of The Angel. Luke 1:12,13.

All through the Bible, the nearer men came to God, the more they feared God. Isaiah is a good example. Cf. Isa. 6:5. On the isle of Patmos, the Apostle John likewise feared when in God's presence. Cf. Rev. 1:17. Job had a good opinion of himself and talked boldly of his desire to meet the Almighty face to face, but when the Almighty came, and Job stood in the white light of the holiness of God, though he was the best and saintliest man of his day, he cried out concerning his sinfulness. Cf. Job. 42:3-6. Thus it appears that the uniform teaching of the Bible is that the nearer we approach to God and the clearer our vision of Him becomes, the more sensibly do we feel our infirmities.

Whenever you hear one making the extravagant boast of his sinlessness, you may know that the boast argues his distance from God, rather than his nearness to God. This is a hard blow for the Holy Rollers, but it is the teaching of God's Word.

II. Zacharias' Prayer For A Child. Luke 1:13.

Zacharias' prayer was in harmony with the purposes of God, and thus he was guided in his praying by the Holy Spirit. There is quite a similarity in the situation here and that of Hannah. Cf. I Sam. 1:10-23.

God's people ought to pray about everything they do. We get into lots of trouble by not doing so. Cf. Josh. 9:14. Marriage is honorable indeed (Heb. 13:4), when all the events connected with it are wrought out first in prayer.

III. John Baptist's Name A Revelation From God. Luke 1:13.

Note also John 1:6 and Mt. 3:1. John 1:6 shows that John was sent of God on a mission. Thus he was a Missionary. Mt. 3:1 calls him a Baptist. Therefore he was a Missionary Baptist. Mt. 3:1 also declares that he was a preacher. Logically then, John the Baptist was a Missionary Baptist Preacher, and actually the first Missionary Baptist Preacher that the world ever saw. From the days of John the Baptist unto the present, there has never been a day but what there have been Missionary Baptist Preachers existing within the world.

IV. Dedicated To God Before Birth. Luke 1:14,15.

Many babies are born against the desires of their parents. So far as the parents are concerned, many are born by accident. Many are the result of merely human instinct. But not so with John the Baptist. He was dedicated to God even before he was conceived. The time to dedicate children to God is at least ten months before they are born.

V. Israel's Departure From God. Luke 1:16,17.

The implication of these verses is that the children of Israel generally had departed from the Lord. Malachi, the last of the O. T. prophets had implied the spiritual degeneracy of Israel. Cf. Mal. 4:4-6. That Israel had virtually departed from God is evident from the work of John the Baptist. He came to tell men that the Light (Jesus) was shining. None but the blind need be told that the light is shining. Even when told that the Light was shining, Israel was unable to comprehend. Cf. John 1:5. The leading Jew of Jerusalem in the early days of John and Jesus was Nicodemus, and even he was unsaved. John 3:1-7. Truly Israel had departed far from God.

VI. Zacharias' Doubt. Luke 1:18-20.

He should have remembered similar experiences of others within the Word of God. The case of Abraham and Sarah (Gen. 17:15-17; Gen. 18:14, 15), of Isaac and Rebecca (Gen. 25:21), and that of Hannah (I Sam. 1:10-23), should have been sufficient to have convinced Zacharias. In spite

of his faith in God, and his familiarity with the O. T. Scriptures, he doubted as to the genuineness of this revelation from God.

Good man that he was, he hadn't gotten the "second definite work of Grace" that some folk speak of. He still was the possessor of a fleshly nature, just like all the balance of God's children. Zacharias' sin of doubt was proof of the presence of his fleshly nature, which carnality persists in all of God's children. Cf. Prov. 24:9; Rom. 7:15-25; Gal. 5:17-21; I John 1:8-10.

VII. Zacharias' Chastisement. Luke 1:20.

As a result of his doubt, God chastened Zacharias with dumbness during the entirety of Elizabeth's pregnancy and until John was circumcised. Cf. Lu. 1:57-64. No child of God can sin without the chastening hand of God falling upon him. No Christian ever loses his salvation by sinning. Instead he gains thereby—he gains stripes from the whipping that God gives him. Cf. Psalm 89:30-33; I Cor. 11:30; Heb. 12:5-11. The only professor whom God doesn't chasten, to keep him in line, is an unsaved church member, whom God calls a "spiritual bastard." Cf. Heb. 12:8.

This is mighty hard on the folk who claim to be living above sin. If God whips them, the whipping merely proves that they sin like all the rest of us. If He doesn't whip them, then the absence of the whipping proves that they are nothing more than "spiritual bastards"—unsaved church members.

VIII. The Sovereignty Of God. Luke 1:57.

Why didn't God chose someone else instead of Elizabeth to bear the fore-runner of the Lord Jesus? He might have, but He didn't. He could have, but instead He chose Elizabeth. Why? His sovereignty is the only answer. It was the same in His choice of Mary to be the mother of Jesus. Cf. Luke 1:49.

It is always well to keep in mind that our God is a God of sovereignty. In all that He does, He acts according to His sovereign purposes. Cf. Isa. 40:10,12,15,17,22; Prov. 21:1.

IX. Zacharias Praised God. Luke 1:64.

Just as soon as his tongue was loosed, his first utterances were words of praise and prophecy. If God's people were to praise God more, doubtless we would have more for which to praise God. Cf. Phil. 4:6.

X. Why God Sent John The Baptist Into The World. Cf. John 1:33.

God sent him to institute baptism. By baptism, I mean immersion. Further, I mean Baptist baptism. The only baptism that he knew anything about was immersion. Cf. Mark 1:5; Mt. 3:13-16; John 3:23.

Jesus wasn't satisfied with anything except the baptism that John administered. He walked 60 miles to secure it. He knew that the Father had sent John to institute baptism. He knew that this Baptist preacher was the only one on earth who had the authority from God to baptize. Thus Jesus sought John that the latter might baptize Him.

Since God gave the authority to baptize to this first Missionary Baptist Preacher, then the only ones this side of Heaven who have the authority to baptize are true Missionary Baptists.

The only kind of baptism that Jesus recognized when here in this world was that administered by John the Baptist. It will be the only kind that will be recognized in Heaven. Even God the Father was pleased with the baptism John administered. Cf. Mt. 3:17. Since Jesus and the Father were both satisfied with John the Baptist's baptism—that which God sent him to this world to institute—then we ought not be satisfied with anything less than that which is satisfactory with God the Father and the Son.

Questions For Discussion

1. Indicate the time, place, and principal characters of the lesson.
2. For what had Zacharias been praying?
3. What is known about the angel who appeared to Zacharias?
4. Compare Elizabeth and Hannah. Compare their sons.
5. Why did Zacharias fear? How did the angel allay his fears?
6. Indicate the favorable factors in the birth

and development of John.

7. What is the importance of consecrating children to God? When should this be done?
8. Describe the ministry of John the Baptist as foretold by Gabriel. How was John like Elijah?
9. How did Zacharias respond to Gabriel's good news? What purpose was accomplished by the dumbness which came upon him?
10. Relate the experiences in Mary's visit to Elizabeth's home.

WORLD NEEDS. We read:

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a DISCERNER of the thoughts and intents of the heart."—Heb. 4:12.

The word "discerner" in the original Greek language is the word for "critic," and it literally says that the Word of God is a critic of the thoughts and the intents of the heart.

(Continued on page five)

Letters

(Continued from page one)

THIS KANSAS LADY LOVES TBE MORE THAN ANY OTHER

Easton, Kansas

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I am enclosing check for \$1.00 for a 2-year subscription to THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. I do not want to miss any of the issues. I love the paper more than any other.

I am praying for you daily and believe all will be for the best. My heart goes out in sympathy for you and your family.

Your Sister in Christ,
Ida Sparks

ARKANSAS PASTOR UNDERSTANDS OUR PROBLEMS

Springfield, Ark.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

After 42 years of pastoral work, I know something of your trouble. Some folk can't be pleased. I've thought many times I would love to sit and listen to you preach. I have feasted so much by reading THE BAPTIST EXAMINER.

"I Should Like To Know" is worth the price of the paper. The paper is worth many times the price it is costing us. I join you in giving thanks to our Lord, for the school teacher for her help in making the paper so wonderful, and for your wonderful wife, and for those wonderful girls, to stay by their beloved father in his "sifting" by the Devil. As a general rule at their age everything and everybody "is better counsel than father." We join you in giving thanks to our Heavenly Father, for every aid that is given you in this great trial that you are going through at this time. I'm now 72 years of age and I'm living on charity, not able to take manual labor any more. I'm enclosing a dollar bill, and hope I'll be able to let you hear from me again. May the richest of our Lord's blessings be with you all as you make the great paper.

Eld. Terry Cole

GLAD FOR TBE AND ITS BLESSINGS

Plant City, Florida

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

It has been a long time since I've written to you, but how sad I feel at this news in the Oct. 16th issue of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Truly my heart goes out to you in this hour of trial and persecution.

I pray God's will be done in all your undertakings and I pray that He will give you physical strength for the days ahead.

How I rejoice with you that God in this miraculous way has answered your prayers concerning the brain tumor.

I'm so glad THE BAPTIST EXAMINER will continue to come each week. This is a great paper and I know that scores of readers have been blessed and enlightened by its pages through the years. It certainly is a blessing to me.

May God bless you and your family and lead you in the way that He would have you go. "Trust in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength."—Isa. 26:4.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. Robert Porter

AGED LAYMAN IS NOT SURPRISED AT EDITOR'S PROBLEMS

Doyline, Louisiana

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I am 80 years old. I am not a preacher. I am the son of an old time Bible Baptist preacher and I have been a Baptist 62 years. I was ordained a deacon 44 years ago. My wife and I moved from place to place for years. We lived in three Parishes in Louisiana and several communities in each Parish. So we have had our membership in 8 local Baptist churches. (Wife is now dead).

I was in the Grand Cane Association in DeSoto Parish when the 75 million campaign was hatched and I denounced it in the Second Baptist Church of Mansfield, La. I also become very unpopular and was persecuted for it.

So we moved back to Belmont, La., in Sabine Parish, where we were married and had lived 21

years, and had been members of Union Baptist Church there. But we were so unpopular there on account of the stand we had taken against the Southern Baptist program, we did not deposit our membership back in Union Baptist Church.

In 1930 we moved back to Castor, La., in Bienville Parish. We put our letters in New Ebenezer Church, where I was converted and baptized 62 years ago. Well we could not tolerate the Southern Baptist program, so in 1945 we were excluded from the church. There had not been a member excluded in the 15 years that we had been here. Nor has there been one excluded since we were. We went a hundred miles to the Bible Baptist Church at Hornbeck, La., and made our statements and were received into the church.

So Bro. Gilpin, I can sympathize with you in your present condition, but I am not at all surprised at it, for we are living in the time that people will not endure sound doctrine. May the Lord bless you and keep you loyal and true to Him and His Word.

R. E. Murphey

STUDENT SPEAKS OF EDITOR'S RESIGNATION AS A TRAGEDY

Springfield, Mo.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I am writing to you with reference to some tracts you may possibly have published. I am particularly concerned about any tracts or booklets you may have on the doctrine of election. I appreciate your stand on many things, and particularly on the doctrine of election.

If you have any tracts, I would appreciate your sending me one copy of each one of them. We distribute hundreds of tracts in the city of Springfield each week, as well as in the outlying area of Springfield. After seeing your samples, I could order more of them.

I am very sorry to hear about the tragedy in the First Baptist Church of Russell. Be assured of my personal prayer for you.

"... the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."—Psa. 84:11.

Yours in Him,
Eld. Eli Harju

BY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE HE URGES EDITOR TO CONTINUE TBE

Gallagher, W. Va.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Just a few words to let you know that we of the Lord's people here have not forgotten you in your time of trouble and distress when the world rulers of the darkness have arrayed themselves against you and your great work in producing and distributing TBE.

I would like to say at this point that we are indeed sorry to learn of your troubles both physical and spiritual, and to tell you that you have not only our deepest sympathy but also our sincere prayers to God in support of this very worthy work, and of your infirmity.

I would also like to add that as for myself I have been blessed tremendously by your ministry. I love God's blessed Word and I believe it the way you preach it. In times like this we are made to remember such Scriptures as II Cor. 4:8-18, and in reading them, we take fresh courage.

Almost from the time I was saved God in His all wise providence, placed in my hands THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, and in those lonely days of my Christian life, when I was very ignorant of Bible doctrine, it was a great help in leading me to a greater knowledge of God's Word, a better conception of His divine glory, and a better understanding of His marvelous purpose in the redemption of His elect people through our Lord Jesus Christ.

These are a few of the reasons, Bro. Gilpin, why I believe that God is using THE BAPTIST EXAMINER as a part of His pur-

pose in the proclamation of the Gospel, and in view of these and other cases, I shall not enumerate at this time, I would sincerely urge you to continue the publication of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER.

Yours in His service,
James A. Pruitt

THIS FAMILY SAYS THEY GET MANY BLESSINGS FROM TBE

Bastrop, La.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Enclosed find a check for \$5.00. Please send me the book, "Unto Him That Loved Us," which is \$1.00, the balance you can use any way you need it most.

I am really sorry about your trouble in the church. Just keep praying and trusting the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the only one we can look to for peace and happiness in the next world. There is no peace on this earth.

So just keep the good paper going and everything will work out perfectly for them that serve and love the Lord. The paper is just wonderful and we get lots of blessings from it.

Praying for you in your sorrow and trouble.

Sincerely,
Mr. and Mrs. Harold M. Perry

W. VA. LADY PAINED BY ANNOUNCEMENT OF EDITOR'S RESIGNATION

Teays, West Virginia

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

After reading your good paper, THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, last week, brought much pain and sorrow to my heart, but remember He said in His precious word that He would never leave us nor forsake us, that He would stand by us in every trial and temptation. Think how Satan robbed Job of all his earthly goods and afflicted him with boils. Read Job 23:6. And He also said, "Though he slay me, yet will I serve Him."

Christ also said that we wouldn't be tempted above that we were able to bear. Just keep praying and trusting and holding on to God's unchanging hand and if it seems as though you can't go forward, stand still and hold fast to that which you have. Here are some Scriptures that I believe you will find comfort in reading as I have in the past: Romans 8:28; Romans 8:31-39; I Peter 4:12-19.

A sister in Christ,
Mrs. Sarah Fletcher

PRAYING FOR TBE AND ITS EDITOR

Pfafftown, N. C.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Just a few lines to let you know I'm praying for you, and that THE BAPTIST EXAMINER might keep on blessing many, many hearts throughout the land.

I believe the Lord is going to take care of you and supply all your needs.

L. H. Creech

THANKS GOD FOR EDITOR'S WIFE AND FAMILY

Lordsburg, N. M.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Believing in you personally to be loyal to the Cross of our Lord Jesus, and believing the statements of your fine daughters, who stand by you in the name of Jesus Christ, I claim you to be my Christian brother.

If big money was mine I would send it to you to invest in your missionary work. Would gladly give you \$1,000, but with trust in the God of the universe, and praying to Him that it may be His will to put it into the heart of some one who has the big money, to send all he can to you, I send the little herein (\$5.00). It is not as much as the widow's mite, for she gave all she had. However, worldly bills have to be paid and with faith in God's Word, it is my hope to have a little here and there for you.

It is worldly grief when friends (we thought were) turn back and leave us alone, and even gossip

about us. That is nothing to make me feel sorry for you. God will take care of you through men who believe in Him, to pay your way here as long as He allows you to stay on earth. My sorrow and grief in your situation is for the members of the church who would stand to the death for the name of Christ. They will be left without a shepherd, if it is not God's will to call a man who is faithful to Him. They may get one of these speakers, called a preacher, but if he is not true to the Cross, they will be grieved and feel as sheep without a shepherd. Those who love tickling of the ear, their ears itching for pleasing words, will have high carnival with glee that they do not have to be cut like they were when you told them the unadulterated truth. The Bible cuts and they do not like it. I pray that God will give the true ones a shepherd.

The world will say you are having hard luck. Thank God there is no luck. There is a Lord who knows it all and you are only getting a test. God has taken the hedge from about you and told the Devil to do with you what he will, but will not permit him to take your life. You may lose more, so-called friends, and you may come to hard times, socially, but God will take care of you. Some men know how it feels for the wife to come and say: "What! do you still retain your integrity? Curse God and die." And prosper better after than before he knew her. Thank God your wife and family believe in the same God you do. Your test could be worse, and some of us know. May God have mercy on those with itching ears.

I pray and hope it is God's will that a large number respond to your financial pressure next summer so it will not be a burden. And that it is His will for us to get more and more power into THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Never saw you, nor family, but God's spirit tells me you are true, and I love your whole family for Him.

In His blessed name,
L. E. Jarrell

SMALL COUNTRY CHURCH ENJOYS TBE AND SUPPORTS IT

Buchanan, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Enclosed is \$10.00, sent by the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, to be used for THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. We enjoy TBE very much, and thank God for the privilege of reading it.

We also enjoy your radio broadcast each Sunday morning.

We have been praying for you in your hour of trouble.

Dad Vanhorn's family greatly appreciated your visit to his bedside. He is going about now, and hears your sermon plainly by means of his hearing-aid.

Yours in Christ,
Charles P. Ross

KNOWS GOD IS ABLE TO KEEP US KEEPING ON

Hornbeck, La.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Just a line to let you know that I thank God for your paper and for you. I only started taking it this year but praised God for the sound doctrine that I find therein.

I am pastor of an independent Baptist church here in Louisiana. We have around 135 to 155 attendance here in our church each Sunday. I know what you are talking about when you speak of the situation you have there. But I know that our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is able to make a way to keep such a glorious work as you are carrying on, to keep on, keeping on.

I know one thing for sure and that is any preacher that is

(Continued on page four)

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ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Letters

(Continued from page three)
preaching the whole counsel of God in this day and time finds very few that will endure sound doctrine. But praise God! I love it and am free in my Christ to preach it as God gives it to me, so I will go to God in prayer for you, and love you as Christ would have me do.

I am enclosing an offering to help along and hope to be able to send more. Would love to hear from you anytime and pray sometime that I may meet you face to face. May the blessing of Almighty God be with you and yours.

A brother in Christ,
M. G. Rachal

ANOTHER PASTOR KNOWS WHAT EDITOR PASSED THROUGH

Brookville, Ind.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Greetings in the name of our blessed Lord and Saviour.

I have had a desire to write to you ever since I received TBE which carried the announcement of your resignation from your pastorate in the First Baptist Church in Russell, Ky.

From my own past experience of resigning from the church that my family and I had put our very lives into, while serving her as pastor, I know there is nothing one can say to help heal the wounds wherewith you have been wounded. I can only say I know a bit of what you have been going through in the past that brought your soul to this agonizing decision. Just remember that He who called you into this work desires and deserves and demands all the glory from every angle that we can consider these "trials of our faith" from, and it is ours to trust Him with our experiences as well as it is to trust Him for the soul's salvation. We are not our own and what happens to us is not ours, but our Master's business.

I am sending a dollar for Bro. Mason's book that you sent me for which I am so thankful. I wish I could place an order for several of them, but to my sorrow it is not possible at this time. I also am sending another dollar for the purchase of as many copies of TBE dated October 16, 1954 as it will buy. I could use a large supply of this particular issue, so if you have more than the dollars worth that you would like to see well placed, you may send as many as you care to. Since our town is said to be about 50% Catholic, I want to have them read the article "Wake Up America" with which I fully agree.

I am looking forward to the time that you can preach for us here in the church in Brookville and if you ever pass this way unexpectedly be sure to look me up.

Tell your daughters that they are worthy of commendation for the way that they have stood by you in your hour of need and I know that you must be very proud of them. If a husband and father can retain the honor of his family, what more does he need to whip the Devil out of a bunch of Diotrefes? Many times it is best to withdraw from the battle just long enough to bring up more reinforcements, so remember that we are never defeated until we are quit and I don't think you are a quitter, are you? God bless you, and don't forget to keep yourself out of all this, and let God get in it, and I know you will see many spiritual blessings brought your way from "Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever." Amen.

Bro. Steve Casteel

CHRISTIANS FOR OVER 50 YEARS; LOOK FORWARD FOR THE COMING OF TBE

Newnata, Ark.

Dear Sir:

I read your letter in the paper, and we are praying that God will lead you on as He has in the past.

We have been Christians for over fifty years and know that the Devil continually attacks those who try to live for the Lord. But you know that God has said, "All things work together for good to them that love the Lord." So just lift your head and lean on the Lord and He will see you through.

We sure hope and pray that you will keep the paper rolling for we think it is the finest one out. We surely enjoy reading it and look forward to its coming each week.

Lucy and Doss Trammell

THINKS TBE THE BEST PUBLICATION

Bushnell, Ill.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Your BAPTIST EXAMINER has been doing a lot of good here among folk who are spiritually minded and I am sure you will continue the publication each week. In my understanding it is the best publication on the exposition of sin and the upholding of righteousness that has dared to come out and proclaim it to the lost. We need more men who will oppose the many and uphold the light for lost men.

May God bless you richly and your Christian family and keep you safe. I am sorry the folk in Russell don't abide by plain preaching. We all need to be spirit-filled, rejoicing in our precious Saviour, Christ Jesus, then love would reign and rule. No law but love, no fellowship but Christ. Life is short—'twill soon be past; only what we do for Christ will last.

God bless you and your family,
F. W. Grow

TBE HAS BEEN A BLESSING TO THIS PASTOR AND HIS CHURCH

Birmingham, Ala.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

We were broken hearted when we heard of your resignation. We are sure that our Sovereign God had His purpose in it all. We are confident that He who is all wise has permitted it for His glory and your good. Your ministry still continues as ever through TBE. It has been such a blessing to me and our church.

Enclosed is five dollars for your work. This is a gift from our little church. Please send a few extra copies of TBE to my address that we may place them in the church each week for those who wish to take one.

May the Lord continue to bless you. We are praying for your health.

Yours in Christ,
Eld. Ferrell Griswold

REJOICES OVER LETTERS AS THEY APPEAR IN TBE

Melbourne, Florida

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I can't tell you how I rejoiced when I received the November 6th issue with those letters from so many of your friends. I am happy that they were thoughtful to write such nice letters. And now that you have no salary, I am expressing my feeling by sending you a gift of ten dollars. As I can't add anything to all those letters, I only rejoice and am exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in Heaven.

Use the money for any of your needs.

Yours in Christ,
William McTaggart

ENJOYS TBE AND BELIEVES IT TEACHES THE TRUTH

Murray, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Just a few lines to let you all know that you have our sympathy

and prayers in your hour of sorrow. We enjoy your paper and have wished we could hear you preach, for we think you teach the truth in your paper and we thank the Lord for preachers who preach and teach the Bible. Just remember that the Lord will not leave us nor forsake us. Read Psa. 37:13,14; John 15:20-21; 16:33.

May the Lord give you all grace to endure the persecution, is our prayer.

May God bless you and yours.
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ellis

THANKS GOD THAT TBE IS STILL TO BE PRINTED

Repton, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Our hearts were saddened when we read of your resignation, but we thank God that we can still have TBE. We would never want to do without it, as it means so much to us. We love the paper for the truth it stands for, and we see how well the Devil would like to destroy it.

Enclosed is a small offering to be used as you see fit. We learned to love and respect you for the good sermons you brought to us in the paper, and we often said we would like so much to hear and see you in person.

We pray the Lord will bless you and your family, and are sure He has a far greater work for you in the future.

May we always receive THE BAPTIST EXAMINER until the Lord sees fit for you to bring it to a close.

Yours in Christ,
Mr. and Mrs. Dean Nunn

THANKS THE LORD FOR THE EDITOR

Monterey, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

We are indeed sorry about your trouble. The truth is what most people of today don't want. I thank the Lord there are still some preachers like you that stand for the truth. I do hope you can keep the paper coming. I am sending an offering of \$5.00. We enjoy the paper a lot.

May the Lord bless you and your family.

Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Noel

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CLASS OF TENNESSEE CHURCH SEND OFFERING

Memphis, Tennessee

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I am sorry to hear about the difficulty you have been having, and I know that God will stand by you. I hope God's blessings will rest upon you, that He will continue to give you health and strength and supply your every need. Keep TBE in the mail, it sure has meant a lot to me and I know that it has meant a lot to others. Enclosed you will find \$5.00 for your press and also \$5.00 for you to use as you see fit. It is sent by the Young People's Class of the Woodlawn Terrace Baptist Church. Cut down on the number of papers you have been sending to Mr. King in Memphis, as lots of our members have subscribed for the paper. We have appreciated you sending them so very much. Our prayers are with you and your family, and may God's riches be yours to enjoy.

From a Christian friend,
Mrs. W. T. Firecash

EXPECTS TBE TO HAVE GREATER WITNESS THAN EVER

Poca, West Virginia

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I was somewhat surprised when I heard you had given up the Russell church. I believe very firmly in a sovereign God, who works all things after the counsel of His will. I am sure He has forced His child to take a step of faith which He would not otherwise have taken. I have every reason to believe that the work of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER is of the Lord. I have no fear of a serious setback in its publication or its mission. I am prayerfully looking forward to a time when it will have a greater witness than

ever before.

Yours in Him,
Eld. C. W. Shafer

SENDS OFFERING AND PROMISES TO JOIN OUR DOLLAR-A-MONTH CLUB TOO

Mt. Vernon, Illinois

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I am sending a small offering as a token of the love God has put in my heart for you. "Rejoice and be exceedingly glad for great is your reward in Heaven."

This is to be used for your paper, your personal needs, or in any way you see fit to use it. It is God's money, you are His steward, He will direct you and provide for you.

You can depend on me for \$12 for the indebtedness on your press for next year.

Yours in Christ's work,
Myron L. Randall

BELIEVES NO OTHER PREACHER HAS LEFT AS DEEP IMPRESSION AS EDITOR

North Kenova, Ohio

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I have read with pleasure the many nice things preachers have said about you. When I read those statements, my mind turned to the words of St. Paul when he said, "We rejoice in the hope of the glory of God, and not only so, but we glory in tribulation also."

Anybody can rejoice in hope, but to glory in tribulation is a very different business. It is a much harder and more difficult thing to keep the light burning in the midst of the storm, than when it is sheltered and enclosed in the lantern.

It is well that we should know what stuff there is in the men with whom we labor through life's short days, doing and carrying in their breasts those lion-like hearts which neither treachery nor death can force one inch from the path of duty.

I have known John R. Gilpin for more than twenty-five years and all through these many years I have never known him to fail at any time to declare the "whole counsel of God." I have studied and weighed carefully the results of his ministry and so far as I have been able to keep statistics in spiritual matters, there is not another preacher in the Tri-State region, who by word or pen has left as deep an impression on the minds of the multitudes as John R. Gilpin, and I doubt very much if there is another preacher with as many friends as John R. Gilpin has today.

Very Sincerely,
Eld. L. D. Gibson

SAYS TBE HAS BEEN A HELP IN INDIANA

Milford, Indiana

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I certainly was surprised when I found out that you are no longer pastoring the First Baptist Church at Russell, Kentucky.

As I was reading your article concerning it, I remembered the words of the apostle Paul in II Tim 3:12, "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

I certainly know that God has wonderfully blessed THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. And the help it is to His (Christ) saints (Baptists) and others who certainly need the help of a good fundamental Baptist paper. I pray that God will continually bless as only He (God) can do. TBE has certainly been a help to our people up here in northern Indiana. May God's richest blessings be upon your work and your paper.

Eld. R. E. Hawkins

BELIEVES EDITOR'S RESIGNATION FOR THE BEST—MORE TIME FOR TBE

Kevil, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I have been reading with much interest what others have to say about your resignation. No doubt

the Devil meant it for evil, but God has meant it for good. This may be selfishness on my part, but personally, if it's God's Will, then I'm glad because you will have more time for your paper. I heard you once from the pulpit of the First Baptist Church at Russell, but I doubt if I will ever be there again. But each week you preach to me through your paper. And then, too, your paper will wait until I can get other things off my mind and I can sit down and absorb it.

And here is another thing: Some time in 1955 I hope the Lord leads you to make a tour. You can announce it in your paper and we who read your paper will enjoy having you visit with us and hearing you preach. That's the only way a lot of people will ever get to see you this side of Heaven.

Hoping I can be of help to you in the near future in a financial way, I remain,

Yours most sincerely,
Raymond Tatum

FORMER MEMBER OF RUSSELL CHURCH IS STILL THE EDITOR'S FRIEND

Lexington, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Am sending you five dollars. Wish I could make it a lot more. Hope you get enough through Thanksgiving to pay the paper out of debt. I am praying the Lord will prosper you greatly in His work. I believe you are doing just what He would have you do, for I feel sure those wonderful sermons in your paper will reach many more souls than you could ever reach in the pulpit, and no one with a broad mind will believe Satan's lies.

I still count you and your family among my best friends. I could never forget the many times you have been a friend in need, and the saying goes, "a friend in need is a friend indeed."

You took me in when I was sick and cared for me. All the time I was in Russell, your home was my home.

I have thanked the good Lord many times for you and your wonderful family, and I remember you always in my prayers. I am not much at expressing myself, but I just wanted you to know I am all for you and wish I could help more. May the good Lord bless you.

Your friend in Christ,
Lilly Morgan

ONLY THING WRONG WITH TBE—IT ISN'T A DAILY

Marion, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Enclosed is five dollars. One dollar for the book, "The Church That Jesus Built," the four dollars to be used as your heart desires. Wish it could have been four hundred instead.

Bro. Gilpin I can't tell you how much we enjoy your paper, THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Just one thing wrong, that is, it should be daily instead of weekly. We have learned so much from reading it.

We'll be praying for you and yours this Thanksgiving season and may God spare you many more years to spread the True Gospel.

Yours in Christ,
Geo. W. Rowland

WE TRULY THANK GOD FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THIS LETTER

Miami, Florida

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Since reading of your resignation as pastor of the First Baptist Church in Russell, Kentucky, we cannot understand how a church that has been under your leadership for twenty-five years and has listened to your wonderful sermons, can consider for a moment of accepting that resignation. There are so few pastors who are willing to give out the whole counsel of God these days, a church should consider itself greatly privileged to have such a pastor as you have been. Then too, they should be proud of the (Continued on page five)

The Word

(Continued from page two)

Ever since I was a boy, we have had stalking through the world that which calls itself Higher Criticism, which is nothing else than German rationalism, or infidelity, just parading under another name. Well, beloved, those individuals who say that they are higher critics, take the Word of God, and tell you what part is inspired, and what is not inspired—what part is true, and what part is not true. They will try to tell you which part is fable and which part is fiction. They will attempt to tell you which part is false and which part is true. They set themselves up as critics of the Word of God. Instead, beloved, they ought to get down in the dust and let the Word of God be the critic of them. That is exactly what this text tells us it is to do. It is a discernment of the thoughts and the intents of the heart. It is a critic of the thoughts and the intents of an individual's heart. I tell you, beloved, whether the world wants the Word of God or not makes no difference. It is what the world needs, regardless of what it wants, because the world needs a critic—a critic that has the light of God to flash before us—a critic that has the light of God to shine upon us—a critic that has the light to illuminate the darkness of our souls.

III

GOD'S WORD WILL LAST FOREVER.

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words SHALL NOT PASS AWAY."—Mt. 24:33.

Though the world does not want the Word of God, still the world needs the Word of God, and thank God, the Word of God is going to last forever. This old Word will be as fresh in eternity as though it were written yesterday. The Word of God—this Bible, will last forever.

"I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be FOR EVER."

—Eccl. 3:14.

Beloved, I know that whatsoever God doeth is eternal, because God Himself is eternal. God wrote the Bible. I make no apology for believing this. Instead, I insist that every word from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21 was written by Almighty God. I do not say that the men who wrote the Bible were inspired, but rather, I say that the Bible itself was inspired by Almighty God. Beloved, because it was written by God, and since all God does is forever, then the Bible will last forever.

"Last eve, I paused by the blacksmith's door,

And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime,

And then, looking in upon the floor,

I saw old hammers worn with beating years of time.

"How many anvils have you had," said I,

"To wear and batter these hammers so?"

"Only one," said he,

"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know."

And so, I thought, the anvil of God's Word,

For ages skeptics' blows have beat upon,

And though the sound of falling blows was heard,

The anvil is unhurt, the hammers are gone."

Beloved, the world does not want the Word of God, but the world needs the Word of God, and that Word of God will last forever.

IV

THE WORD OF GOD IS FINAL.

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

"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from

the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."—Rev. 22:18,19.

This would tell us that God's Word is final. You are not to add to the Bible, and you are not to take from it. It is to be accepted as it stands. It is a unit and is not to be divided. You are not to say, "I will accept one part and reject another." You are to take it all as it stands, for it is the Word of God in its entirety. We have no right to skip a chapter. We have no right to skip a book. We have no right to turn to the New Testament and say that we will take the New and reject the Old. We have no right to say that we will go to Pentecost and that we will reject all that come prior to Pentecost. We have no right to say that we will do anything to the Word of the Lord except to say, "Speak Lord, for thy servant heareth." Beloved, the Word of God is final in every particular.

That is why it is that we do not accept infant baptism. If I did not believe that the Word of God were final, I would have baptized a little baby some time ago. I married a young lady some few years ago, and in a few months she came back with a friend of hers to get married. After I married this friend, this first girl called me off to one side and said, "Bro. Gilpin, I want to tell you a little secret. I am going to have a baby before long. You were so nice to me when I came to be married that I wonder if I could bring my baby back, and have you baptize it for me." Now, beloved, you know that there is nothing I would rather do than to have baptized this little baby. I would like to have done it, just to be courteous and kind to her, but I could not do it, because the Word of God is final, for you cannot find infant baptism in the Bible.

Beloved, because the Word of God is final, we do not have anything to do with Christmas. You will never read in this Bible one place where we are commanded to celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. There are only two birthday celebrations in the Bible, and both of them ended pretty badly. One was the big ado they had in the days of Pharaoh in the Old Testament, and it ended with the chief baker getting hung. The other was Herod's birthday, and ended with the beheading of John the Baptist.

There is not one thing in the Bible about the celebration of the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. The birth of the Lord Jesus Christ in itself, means no more to me than the birth of any other babe. The only reason why the birth of Jesus Christ might mean any more to me than the birth of any other babe is, because it brought the Lord Jesus down to this world so that He might become my Saviour. Beloved, we are not to worship the babe of Bethlehem; it is the Christ of Calvary that saves, and Him we are to worship. His death we are commanded to remember by the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, yet nothing is said as to commemorating His birth. Since the Word of God is final, we must reject Christmas in its entirety.

Because the Bible is final, we do not have Easter celebrations in our churches where our churches are true and Scriptural. I can not for the life of me see how a preacher can substitute a day for an ordinance. We have an ordinance whereby we are to remember the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Every time that a believer is taken down into the waters of the baptism to be buried with our Lord, we have a picture of the resurrection of Jesus, as well as a picture of the believer's resurrection in the days that are to come. Beloved, I can't see how that any preacher who would want to be true to his God would ever dare to substitute a day for an ordinance—the ordinance that our Lord created.

Sometime ago, an old preacher whom I knew, died. He was one of my predecessors in Russell, having been pastor there for four-

teen years. When he died, I went to his funeral. I had hardly gotten in the building when they called for all the preachers to come up, to sit on the rostrum during the service. Just about the time when I was getting out of my seat, I looked over and a great big fat sister that weighed about 250 pounds was parading up there to sit on the rostrum, along with ten or twelve men. I sat down where I was. Three or four people who knew me came around and said, "They want all the preachers up on the rostrum." Beloved, I didn't go. If I had gone up there and sat down, I would have said by my presence that I accepted that woman to be as truly a God-called preacher as anyone else. Beloved, God never called a woman to preach in all of the ages of this world. Now, I am not a woman-hater, and I am not going to try to be offensive to any woman, and I am not going to do anything at anytime to try to make me look as mean and as selfish as possible, but God said within His Word, giving the qualifications for a preacher, that he is to be a "husband of one wife." I would like to see the woman that can meet God's qualifications for a preacher.

We believe that the Bible is final, and therefore women preachers, and Easter, and Christmas, and infant baptism are to be rejected.

V

THE WORD OF GOD WILL BE RECEIVED BY EVERY BELIEVER.

"He that is of God heareth God's words."—John 8:47.

You say, "Brother So-and-so is a good man, but he just doesn't believe everything that we preach. He comes to church every once in a while, and he always gets offended when he comes." Beloved, you can believe he is a good man if you want to, but you and I have a different definition for the word "good." Here is a text that says, "He that is of God heareth God's words," and the man who won't hear the Word of God proves that he is a stranger to God.

There are people who insist that

THE CLOISTER OF LOWERED EYELIDS



"O GOD OF OUR SALVATION... WHICH STILLETH THE NOISE... AND THE TUMULT" —PSALM 65:57

JACK HAMM

a man can not be saved unless he comes to a mourner's bench, mourning and praying—teasing God, so to speak, to get God in the notion of saving him. One of them, sometime ago, picked up one end of the bench and set it about three feet out toward the audience, and then walked around to the other end and did the same thing. Then he said, "Do you know what I have done? I have brought salvation three feet nearer to you." Beloved, he hadn't done any such thing. He had just lied on Almighty God. I saw that fellow twist, wiggle, and go through all kinds of gyrations as I preached one day about the mourner's bench, yet lots of folk say that that man is a wonderful preacher and that he loves the Lord. You can say what you want to, but I would consider that man, or any other who had been preached to as much as he has about the wonders of God Almighty's Word—I would consider that he needed some preaching done to himself concerning the saving grace of Almighty God.

Several years ago, I preached a sermon for a Sunday School Association. I had gotten there just a little bit before the noon meal and they assigned me to a home where I was to eat. It was a very wonderful home and a wonderful meal, and the wife was as charming a hostess as ever I was with. As we were eating, with ten or twelve preachers gathered around, she turned to me and said, "Bro. Gilpin, do you believe that when God saves a man, He saves him forever?" I said, "Sister, He wouldn't be much of a Saviour if He didn't save you forever." Then I told her that the word "Saviour" signifies "to hold," and that my Lord would not be a Saviour at all if He saved a man today and turned him loose tomorrow to go to Hell. I said, "Suppose a man were drowning out here in the Ohio River, and someone would go out and hold on to him for a little while, and then turn loose, and let that man go down to the bottom of the river. You wouldn't say that that man was his saviour; he would just prolong that man's agony in the water." I said, "If Jesus Christ just saves a man for

a little while and then turns him loose and lets him go to Hell, the Son of Man doesn't deserve to be called a Saviour; He merely prolonged the man's agony here within a sinful world." She said, "I used to believe that, too, but our pastor has taught us better since he came here." I said, "Your pastor has taught you differently from that?" She said, "Oh, yes, our pastor says that he doesn't believe that if a person is saved once, he is saved forever." Right then and there I realized what the subject meant that was assigned to me. The subject that had been assigned to me, I might say, was fully a yard in length. (Continued on page seven)

Letters

(Continued from page four)

fact that their pastor can publish a paper like THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, which reaches so many thousands of people with the gospel message, which is a real missionary ministry without any effort on their part.

We feel the Lord will richly bless you as you carry on the work He has given you. Am enclosing check for \$5.00 to be used in any way you need it most.

When trials come and we get disappointed in people it is such a comfort to know that God, who "has begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Phil. 1:6) and that, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure" and no man or group of men can hinder Him.

My prayer for you is found in Eph. 3:13-21 and I am sure you will have a greater ministry than ever before.

Yours in His service,
Mrs. C. A. Plummer
(Continued on page six)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE FIVE

DECEMBER 25, 1954

Letters

Continued from page five) HAS FAITH IN EDITOR AND THANKS GOD FOR HIS COURAGE

Griffin, Georgia

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I am enclosing five dollars for the 1954 book containing your sermons on Ezekiel. Also one dollar to help you with your finances.

We still have faith in you and thank God for your courage to print the truth.

Your brother in Christ,
L. A. Shepherd

GETS MORE OUT OF TBE THAN ANY OTHER PAPER

San Angelo, Texas

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I noticed in TBE that you had resigned after 25 years of service at Russell, Ky. A pastor has lots with which to contend, that many people know nothing about. May the good Lord bless you in your work and I hope and pray that you can continue to print TBE because it is hard to tell how far reaching and how much good it is doing. Many, many people are being blessed by it that have never written you and many people are for you and the EXAMINER that have never said so by writing.

When a preacher comes out for the Lord and His gospel, the Devil is certainly going to do all that he can to defeat him.

I am sending a personal check for \$2.00. One for THE BAPTIST EXAMINER and use the other one as you see fit.

I get more out of TBE than any other paper. May the good Lord continue to bless you and TBE.

Yours in Christ,
Charles Forbes

WANTS US TO REMEMBER GOD IS STILL ON HIS THRONE

White Plains, Ky.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I was sorry to hear of the trouble in your church. It is heart-breaking to think that after you have served the church so faithfully for over 25 years that they could let the Devil stir up trouble in the church and cause you to resign the care of the church. But remember God is still on His throne and if God be for us who can be against us. I am glad you are going to continue to publish TBE. I enjoy reading it so much. May God bless you is my prayer.

Mrs. Maud Harvey

THANKFUL FOR TBE AT THANKSGIVING TIME

Farmland, Indiana

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Another Thanksgiving Day is near and we all have so many things to be thankful for. One thing we're thankful for is the way God's truths are proclaimed in THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, and for men like you, who stand firmly and boldly on the truth. And we're especially thankful to be able to contribute to this work.

May God bless you and all who help to make it possible for us to receive the Examiner.

Yours in Him,
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Miller

SHOCKED AT SATAN'S EFFORT TO DESTROY ALL FAITHFUL PREACHERS

Rock Mount, N. C.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Your resignation as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Russell was surely a shock to your readers. My! how the Devil is doing all he can to destroy God's ministers, who faithfully preach the whole counsel of God. As you know, our own pastor, Bro. Johnston, has earnestly contended for the faith, once delivered unto the saints, and he too, has suffered persecutions, false accusations, and the enemy has tried so hard to defeat him. "If God be for us, who can be against us," is a wonderful consolation.

I feel my unworthiness and know I'm just a weak Christian,

but I shall surely remember you in prayer and "whate'er befalls us Jesus doeth all things well." We just pray too that your physical condition will continue to improve as it has so miraculously in the past.

I shall always remember a sermon in your paper, years ago and you so often said, that God never does anything too early or too late. He always has an appointed time and we just thank Him for every problem and burden because we know that Rom. 8:28 is so true.

May God continue to bless you and your wonderful Christian family. Your paper is such an inspiration to me. I especially enjoy your sermons on Ezekiel.

Yours in Christ,
Mrs. John James

SEES THE WORK OF JUDAS IN EDITOR'S RESIGNATION

Glenville, W. Va.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I have been thinking I would write you about your resignation. You have always spoken so well of the church, but there is a Judas in every church. So glad THE BAPTIST EXAMINER is still going to be published. It is the best Bible paper I have ever read. You are one God has called to preach His Word. I am sending a little donation to be used for whatever need you may see fit. May God bless you and your family.

Mrs. T. J. Moore

THIS FLORIDIAN CONSIDERS TBE A GREAT PAPER

Plant City, Florida

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Just wish to express my sympathy for you folk in this time of trouble and sorrow. It is a time of trial and testing. Our Lord knows all about it and He gives grace sufficient in every case. He will sustain and keep His own, for He has all power, and not even a sparrow falls without His notice. So when our hearts are broken and we despair, He knows all about it.

We are praying for you that the Lord will open doors to you and give you the opportunity to keep on preaching the Word and I pray He may enable you to do even more and greater work for Him. Remember we are strangers here in a foreign land, but we are here on business for our King.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER is a great paper, and it means a lot to a lot of people. Just read my mother's letter to you in today's TBE. It means so much to her, she is a shut-in.

Again you have my sympathy and prayers. May the Lord bless you in your work for Him.

Nellie M. Bugg

P. S. May the Lord heal you completely. We know He is able.

SOLDIER BOY GLAD TBE IS TO CONTINUE

Ft. Knox, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I too was shocked to hear of your resignation. It is better to dwell in a shack than to live in a mansion of contention, however.

To know you are to continue TBE is consoling.

Pvt. Don Cassidy

BELIEVES EDITOR A MAN OF GOD AND EXPRESSES HER CONFIDENCE

Rush, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I have been meaning to write ever since I read of your resignation. Like so many others, I was shocked and saddened to think all your years of love and labor at the Russell church were so unappreciated. I feel like I am unimportant and very weak, but if it makes you feel encouraged, I want you to know my husband and I have every confidence in you and have always sympathized with you in all your tribulations and trials. We believe you are a true man of God. I get more understanding and light of the Scriptures from your sermons than any

one I ever heard. We listen to you on WWKO every Sunday and look forward to receiving TBE every week. I hope you will never have to quit publishing it. It does me so much good and I am sure everyone else who reads it.

I pray God's blessing on you and all your fine family always, and hope you will live a good many years to give us all the true Scriptural preaching this world is so in need of today.

A faithful friend,
Mrs. Thomas Hutchinson

FLORIDA CHURCH PROVES ITS FAITH BY ITS WORK

Sanford, Florida

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Enclosed you will find a check for \$5.00 from the South Side Baptist Church of Sanford. Our church voted at the last business meeting to send you \$5.00 a month. I think this speaks for itself as to whether we have any confidence in you.

We have known you a long time and we just thank the Lord for someone who will stand up for the true teachings of the New Testament. We know your secretary, Florence, personally and also her sister, Hazel. There never was two finer Christian girls than these. I value their friendship. The old Devil is certainly busy in Russell as well as Sanford. Our prayers are for you that THE BAPTIST EXAMINER will always be published. It is the soundest paper I know of. The enclosed \$5.00 is to keep TBE coming until His return.

Yours in His service,
Eld. Bill Stephens

IN TENNESSEE TBE HAS BEEN A HELP TO THIS CHURCH

Memphis, Tennessee

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

A line or two to give you encouragement. TBE has helped us at Woodlawn Terrace Baptist Church more than a little. It helps us to get the gospel in the home and to indoctrinate the people. It is by far the best Baptist paper we have ever read. Bro. Gilpin have you ever considered printing a Sunday school sheet in the paper? We have tried all kinds of Baptist literature, and not any have met our demand, that is to teach the truth and indoctrinate the students.

A Sunday school sheet in TBE I believe would be a blessing. I think Baptist people would support it 100 per cent. Please give this some consideration, as it may be an answer for a lot of Baptist churches.

May God bless you, your family and paper.

Your Brother in Christ,
Eld. A. B. King

N. Y. LAYMAN BELIEVES TBE A GREAT DOCTRINAL MISSIONARY

Bay Shore, L. I., N. Y.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I was shocked to hear that you resigned your pastorate in Russell, and the circumstances which brought it about, but I believe you made a wise decision in continuing the publication of TBE.

I believe it is impossible to exaggerate the need and importance of your paper which probably stands alone in delivering so completely all the doctrines of the Bible. The need of TBE is colossal. It staggers the imagination in this day when even Baptists dare not preach the whole Bible for fear of offending their fundamentalist brethren, or even the members of their own churches. How mightily Satan is working!

I believe God raised you up in these last days for this very purpose, to sound the alarm through TBE, so that many Christians and Sunday school teachers and preachers may have their eyes opened, especially to the unpreached portions of God's Word, and that they may repent and start house cleaning in their own churches and bar the doors against heretics and preaching

STILL MY FATHER'S CHILD

By MRS. HALEY HUGHES

(Psa. 89:29-36; Heb. 2:5-10)

Off'times I do not trust Him,
My heart is fearful and sad,
Off'times I complain and blame Him,
Because my heart is not glad.

Off'times I'm displeased and unhappy,
Because of my lovely estate,
Off'times my prayers are not answered,
And I become impatient to wait.

Off'times I feel His chastening hand
With the rod, for He will not spoil;
Off'times my iniquity He visits with stripes,
And sets me again at my toil.

Off'times I am disobedient,
But He loves me all the while,
Off'times I do not walk in His ways,
But I am still my Father's child.

women.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER is one of the greatest doctrinal missionaries of Christ on earth today, and one of the best ways for us laymen to do some sound missionary work is to spread your paper far and wide by sending subscriptions to all the folk we know. To this end I am enclosing \$50.00 of the Lord's money.

My prayer is that God may richly bless you and continue using you in this great ministry.

Yours in Christ,
Bro. and Sis. Alfred H. Riemann

BRO. MOSER THINKS TBE IS REALLY EDITOR'S GREATEST WORK

Little Rock, Ark.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

To say that I was shocked to think that your enemies would stoop so far would be to put it mildly. Let me say now that our whole church is in prayer for you and yours. In the many years that I have been pastor of Central Baptist Church, I have seen the enemies of Christ struck down many times. I tremble to think of what will happen to those who so attack one of God's true messengers. We are living in the last days and every true preacher must expect such dastardly attacks. Our church here is on its knees before the throne of grace for you under these trying circumstances. May God bless you.

Your greatest work is not in the pastoring of the church at Russell, Ky. It is in the publishing of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. We are for you all the way. Here is another check for \$25 for the bundles we receive each week. The papers have been a wonderful blessing to our church.

In Him,
Eld. M. L. Moser

REALLY APPRECIATES TBE ABOVE ALL OTHER PAPERS

Edwardsville, Ill.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I was deeply grieved when I read your Oct. 16 issue, but, oh, how thankful I was that it was the church instead of TBE. I'm not worried about you getting another church, and I believe a better one, but where in the world could we get a better paper than TBE! I get many Christian papers, but I consider this the best.

Sincerely,
Nora E. Wetzel

ENJOYS OUR MESSAGES BY WAY OF RADIO AND TBE

Buchanan, Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Just a few lines to let you know we are still listening and receiving a blessing from your Sunday morning messages. Also enjoying your paper, THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. I was sorry to hear of your resigning the pastorate at Russell, as we had planned for some time to visit your church and meet you personally. How-

ever, in our weakness we realize the great power of God, in bringing about these changes in each of our lives that His will can be accomplished.

Enclosed find \$2.00 for your use as the Lord leads. Trusting the Lord will provide your every need in furthering His gospel.

Yours in Christ,
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sturm

ONLY READ TBE FOR TWO MONTHS, BUT WANTS TO SUPPORT IT

Ellaville, Georgia

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I have been reading your paper for about two months and know that I have never read any better, and hope you will keep it coming to me through the mails.

I am sending an offering to help keep in coming out each week.

J. T. Usry
P. S. Enclosing check for \$15.00.

THANKS GOD FOR TBE SINCE IT HAS MEANT MUCH TO HIM

Joes, Colorado

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

It has been on my heart to write you a letter of encouragement and to send you an offering for TBE. Thank God for this paper. It has meant a lot to me. I rejoice for the stand you have taken in this paper, and for this paper. May the Lord richly bless you in this work is my earnest prayer.

Your Brother in Christ,
Raymond R. Reynolds

THANK GOD FOR THOSE WHO PRAY FOR US PHYSICALLY

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I have been praying the Lord's richest blessings upon you. That your every need be met, that your work of printing, will bring in sufficient that both you and your son will have plenty for the family. I know our Lord hears and answers prayer. Have been praying also for your health. I want to thank you for the invitation to spend Thanksgiving week at your home, but must decline the invitation as it is our busy season at work taking inventory and closing of our fiscal year. Will, however, be thinking of you all and praying for you. The enclosure covers a little extra for Thanksgiving, a bit early, but I like to get the Lord's money out as soon as it comes in, so it can get to work for the Kingdom of God. The Lord bless you and your family always.

Yours in the Saviour,
Edna L. Antusch

The Word

(Continued from page five)

I kept trying to get in my mind what the committee wanted me to preach about. I had a sermon prepared, but I didn't know whether it was anything at all like the subject assigned. However, when that woman told me that her pastor had taught her "better," I knew right then and there what the subject was about. It didn't say one thing about security or any of the great truths of the Bible, but I knew that security was in there by implication. When I went back to the church, they called on me right after dinner, and I read 99 verses of Scripture to that congregation. I got along pretty good for a while with security, but presently a woman that was sitting in the choir came around in front of me and stomped her foot and snorted and ran out of the church. Well, I didn't think too much about it, but it wasn't long before another woman who was sitting back in the congregation got up and came down and stomped her foot and snorted and ran down the aisle. I began to think that it was contagious. Well, I went on preaching until I got to Job, and I said that the very first fellow who preached apostasy, or falling from grace, was the Devil when he preached to God. The book of Job is the oldest book in the Bible, the first book that was written, and I said that when the Devil preached to God and told Him that he could take Job out of His hands if He would give him an opportunity, he preached apostasy, and that every fellow who has preached it down to this time has preached the same old lie that the Devil preached. When I said that, a man who was sitting in the audience came down and snorted and stomped his feet and ran out the door. Brethren, I knew then there was an epidemic on. I went ahead and preached my sermon and when I finished, a man came to me and told me that the man who walked out was the pastor who had "taught them better," the woman from the congregation was his wife, and the woman from the choir was his wife's sister. The man said to me, "Bro. Gilpin, you have offended our pastor today," and I told him that that was exactly what I had tried to do. He said, "Our pastor is a good man, but he just doesn't agree with you on that doctrine." I said, "Your pastor is a son of the Devil. He is not a good man; he is not even a saved man, for no saved man would turn his back on 99 verses of the Word of God on any subject." I read him this text, "He that is of God heareth God's words," and I said, "If your pastor were God's man, he would hear God's words."

About two years ago that pastor was saved. I was on my way toward Gallipolis and a preacher friend that was riding with me, said, "Do you remember Brother So-and-so?" I said that I remembered him well. He told me that he had been saved just a little while before, and that he was preaching security now, even though he had just been saved a little while.

Beloved, "he that is of God, heareth God's words," and the man who won't hear God's words, proves that he isn't of God. We might just as well quit kidding ourselves about all of these good people who do not agree with us. If a man is of God, when he hears God's words, he is going to accept

it. If he doesn't accept it, just preach it to him like you would any lost sinner. The Word of God will be received by the saved, and that is the only crowd that is going to receive it. The only person the Holy Spirit is going to reveal Truth to is one of His elect.

VI

TRUE PREACHERS ARE GOING TO PREACH THE WORD OF GOD.

"For he whom God hath sent, speaketh the words of God."
—John 3:34.

You say, "Brother Gilpin, Brother So-and-so is a good man." Beloved, if he is a good man, he will preach God's Word. There's a fellow who comes to me and says, "Brother Gilpin, there are all of these Protestant churches and Protestant preachers. Do you think God called them to preach?" Beloved, a ten-year-old child ought to know the answer to that. A ten-year-old child ought to have sense enough to know that God never called any Protestant preacher to preach. God isn't going to write a Bible to say one thing and then call a man to preach something entirely different. I have that much sense. I wouldn't write a book to say one thing and then go out and hire a man to say something entirely different.

Certainly if man would act that way, I would think that God—a Sovereign, omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent God, would never write a Bible to teach one thing, and then call a man to preach something entirely different. He whom God has called, speaks the words of God. The man who doesn't speak God's words, proves thereby that God never called him, for when God calls a man to preach, He is going to teach that man, and that man is going to learn and preach what God says to, "for he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God."

Some years ago, a preacher in this area said that whenever he went into a community, before he preached even once, that he endeavored to find out what the people wanted, and then preached accordingly. In the light of this Scripture (John 3:34), then such an individual condemns himself. The man whom God sends does not have his ear to the ground. He is not concerned as to which way the doctrinal currents are moving. He is not trying to straddle a fence, nor is he seeking to be a middle-of-the-road pussyfoot. Rather he desires to know the Bible that he might preach it, for this text declares that if God sends a man, He is going to give him a message to preach.

VII

THE WORD OF GOD IS BEING HUCKSTERED AWAY.

"For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God."
—II Cor. 2:17.

The word "corrupt" means "to huckster," "to peddle," or "to trade."

Let's take a trip down memory's lane, and let me tell you about a boyhood experience. I can remember in the community where I lived the huckster wagon. There was a man who would come eight or ten miles out from town in his wagon and he would have all kinds of commodities to sell. He was a typical huckster. I remember very definitely those scales, and the way in which he read them. Whenever there was something that he wanted to buy from you, he would look up at the scales from the ground and squint and would make it weigh light, but when he had something that you wanted to buy, he would put it on the scales and get up on a high stool and look down at the scale markings and thus make it weigh heavier. He was a huckster. One day he had a horse to sell. He had taken an iron and had burned all the hair off the horse where the trace chains came along the horse's side, to make it look like the horse had been pulling so hard that he had rubbed all the hair off his sides. I saw him take that iron and put it up against the shoulders where the collar

came so that it made him look like he had been pulling so hard that he had blistered his shoulder. When he was trying to sell that horse, I heard him say that he was a good horse, but he "didn't look good." Well he didn't—he was even blind in one eye. That man was a huckster. He traded for anything that came along. It didn't matter what you had to trade, he would trade, and always "skin you too."

Beloved, I challenge you today to deal with any fellow who is a huckster without getting gyped. At the same time I challenge you to deal with a man who will huckster the Word of God without being "hooked" by such an individual.

Paul said that there were individuals who were just hucksters of the Word, who would trade the Word of God off for their own gain.

Now, beloved, all of the Union-tarians are hucksters of the Word. Every fellow who believes in union meetings is a huckster of the Word of God. He is trading off an awful lot of God's Word for pay and popularity. Paul says to mark them which cause divisions and offenses among you and avoid them.

"Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them."—Rom. 16:17.

Beloved, if you are going to avoid them, you can not trade off that passage of Scripture. Every man who goes into union meetings and trades off the Word of God is a huckster, and there is no truth in him.

You remember that man who was married to two women—one young and one old. The old woman liked grey hair, and the young woman liked black hair. That young woman would look at her husband and every time that she saw a grey hair in his head, she would pull it out, and every time that old woman would look at him and see a black hair, she would pull it out. It wasn't long before he became baldheaded. Listen, beloved, let a man go

A PAIR THE REDS CAN'T STAND



"HOW BEAUTIFUL ...
THE FEET OF HIM THAT
BRINGETH GOOD TIDINGS"
—ISA. 52:7

into a union meeting and there is going to be a lot of such pulling done! Here is a fellow who does not like the doctrine of salvation by grace and he pulls that out. Here is another fellow who does not like the security of the saved and he pulls that out. Here is a fellow who does not like the doctrine of believer's baptism and he will pull that out. Here is a fellow who does not like the doctrine of immersion for baptism and he will pull that out. Here is a fellow who does not like the idea of close communion and he will pull that out. Pretty soon, beloved, you have a baldheaded doctrine. Every time that you go into a union revival meeting, beloved, you present a baldheaded doctrine to the world. The individual who does so is just a pure old huckster of the Word.

All the union Fundamentalists are hucksters of the Word. They would sell out for pay and popularity a lot of the things that they say are non-essentials. Let me tell you something, beloved, there isn't any such thing as a non-essential in this Bible. Every word in the Bible is essential for what it was written, because if it hadn't been essential, God wouldn't have put it in the Book. Whenever any fellow says that there is any portion of the Word of God that is non-essential, he just doesn't know what he is talking about. The Word of God is all essential for what God gave it, and those individuals who talk about the non-essentials, are nothing else but hucksters of the Word of God.

CONCLUSION

Do I speak to some individual who is not saved? If so, there is a text of Scripture that you ought to hear.

"Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE."—John 6:68.

Nobody is saved apart from the Word of God. People are not saved because you tell them a death-bed story and scare them nearly to death. People are not saved because you tell them some kind of

an emotional experience and cause them to cry. Beloved, people are saved because they hear the words of eternal life, which tell them of Jesus.

I look around about, and I think what God has done in this great community. I look at you whom I love—you who have been so kind to me through the years, and I think about those of you who have been saved in this community. I remember the time when I came out here and preached on Bro. Joe Willis' front porch, which I might say gave rise to the movement or the starting of this church. I go back to those days and I think of the numbers that God has saved through your pastor's ministry from that time down to this. Why has He saved them? Just one reason: Because your pastor has honestly preached the words of eternal life. He hasn't played the part of a religious huckster.

That is why I contend for the Word of God. God doesn't save except as the Word of God is preached.

"Being BORN AGAIN, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by THE WORD OF GOD, which liveth and abideth for ever."—I Peter 1:23.

Beloved, if you get to Glory, it will be because the Word of God was preached unto you. You will never get there on any other basis. The most eloquent preacher in the world can never help you, apart from the Bible, to get to Heaven. The only way that men are saved is by the Word of God, which tells about the Son of God, Jesus Christ, Himself.

Might it please God to take hold of some individual who is lost, and reveal His Son to him, and make that individual to be saved, and might it please God that when that individual is saved, he would live for God and grow in grace, as he feeds daily on the Word of God.

May God bless you!

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I Should Like To Know

(Continued from page one)
tithe was very likely paid to Melchizedek or some other priest of God.

5. What religious denomination after the year 70 A. D. was the first to recognize this tax of one-tenth or the tithe?

I do not know and do not consider it of importance to try to find out.

6. Why did it not occur to Baptists prior to the year 1845 that Christ requires the tithe of them?

I do not know and neither does the querist that no Baptists tithed before that date. The question of whether I should tithe or not, does not depend upon whether Jacob fulfilled his vow or on whether any Baptists tithed before 1845; it depends upon the teaching of Scripture, and the leading of the Holy Spirit. I have the example of Abraham and Jacob to encourage me. Certainly the inclusion of tithing in the law shows that God approved of the thing that Abraham and Jacob purposed to do voluntarily. Then I am taught in I Cor. 16:2 to give proportionately, and I cannot do this without deciding on what proportion I shall give. In considering the proper proportion I am deeply impressed that God has never in any case commanded or commended less than a tenth. I don't think I should give less than the Jew did under the law. Thus I am a tither, and I believe God approves. I certainly am not going to be guilty of trying to keep people from giving as much as the tithe, and I would warn the man who does, that he is manifestly gratifying his own whim, rather seeking to promote the cause of Christ. I am quite sure that faithful tithers provide the bulk of money that is now supporting the preaching of the gospel. Before one attributes improper motives to those who advocate tithing, he might very well examine into his own for opposing it. And one should be very careful how he calls faithful brethren false prophets even though he doesn't agree with their presentation of tithing.

7. What is the soul? Is it the breath?

No, the soul is not the breath. Rev. 6:9. Man is my nature made up of a material part, the body; and an immaterial part, the soul. The soul is the part of us that knows, loves, and wills. The soul is the part of us that lives beyond physical death. Luke 16:22,23.

8. Has a Baptist pastor the right to put a preacher in the pulpit without asking his church about it?

A Baptist pastor has no right to put a preacher in the pulpit against the will of his church. However most churches have enough confidence in the pastor to allow him to select his own supplies when he is away. This is the most common practice. This is the way it should be. If a church has a pastor in whom they have so little confidence that they are not willing for him to select his own supplies, then perhaps both the pastor and the church will be better off when their relationship has been dissolved.

9. The church I am a member of uses crackers and grape juice in observing the Lord's Supper. I told my pastor I would never partake of the Supper with the church any more as long as they continued this practice. Am I right or wrong?

You are most definitely right.

10. I just cut out an item from the newspaper telling about the discovery of bones 600,000 years old. How old is this world?

The Bible gives us no way of knowing how old the earth is, but perhaps scholars have given us a fairly accurate chronology of the time that man and animals have

been on the earth according to the Bible. While not caring to bank on the chronology of any one scholar, I would say that according to the Bible, man has been on the earth about 6,000 years—admitting at the same time that this might be as much as 7,500 years. This last figure is approximately the one favored by Albert Hyma, Professor of History in the University of Michigan, and author of "World History—A Christian Interpretation." Even from a scientific view-point candid students have been scaling down the estimated age of man. For instance, Sir J. W. Dawson, in "Modern Science in Bible Lands," says: "The elaborate and careful observations of Bro. Andrews on the raised beaches of Lake Michigan—observations of a much more precise character than any which, in so far as I know, have been made of such deposits in Europe—enable him to calculate the time which has elapsed since North America rose out of the waters of the Glacial Period as between 5,500 and 7,000 years." The wild figures given by some scientists are the result of wishful thinking. Having adopted the theory of evolution (which is utter nonsense), they must allow sufficient time for it. Thus, without foundation in real science, they have manufactured vast ages. Just ignore these wild guesses and feel sorry for those responsible for them.

11. Give the Scripture that gives a man a right to marry again after he has divorced his wife for fornication.

Matt. 19:9. This passage teaches that the man who puts away his wife for fornication and marries another is not guilty of adultery. What sin is he guilty of then? If guilty of no sin in marrying again, then he has the right to do it.

12. Is it possible to change the mind of God through prayer? Did Moses change the mind of God through prayer on one occasion?

The answer to both of these questions is, emphatically NO. God is unchangeable. Job 23:13; Mal. 3:6; James 1:17; Heb. 6:17,18. The preacher who thinks God can be changed by prayer does not know the first letter of sound Bible doctrine, and is to be pitied. So far from changing God by prayer, we are told that we must ask according to His will. I John 5:14. To believe that prayer changes the mind of God is to deny that God knew from the beginning all that He was going to do. It is also to believe that we know better than God, what should be done.

In Ex. 32:14 and like passages, we have what is known as anthropomorphic allusions to God, which represent God as a man; meaning not that God is a man or that He ever really acts as a man, but that He only appears to. Thus we have God's actions described as they appear and not as they really are. There are many more anthropomorphic representations of God in the Bible, such as references to God's hands, eyes, ears, arms, etc., and to His looking down upon and coming down to the earth at various times. Any capable student of the Bible knows that these representations are not to be taken in the absolute sense.

Prayer gets things from God, but He knew from the beginning that He would bestow them. Prayer also changes us and circumstances, but not God.

13. Does the New Testament strictly forbid the use of wine?

No. It forbids only the excessive use of it. I Tim. 3:3,8; Titus 1:7. Paul told Timothy to take wine as a medicine. I Tim. 5:23. Paul put the moderate use of wine on the same basis as eating meat offered to idols, from which one should abstain, if it would cause a brother to stumble. Rom. 14:23. On the cross just before dying, Jesus drank "vinegar," which was sour, intoxicating wine. John 19:28-30. Moreover Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding in Cana. John 2:2-10. The writer is a prohibitionist, but he is ashamed of the near-sighted fanatics who, possessing more zeal than knowledge, try to twist the

Bible and pervert the Lord's Supper in a blind effort to support their cause. The above facts are clear to all except the wilfully blind.

14. Does not wine contain leaven?

Absolutely not, and that is the reason it alone should be used in the Lord's Supper. Grape Juice does not contain leaven, and only fermentation can remove it.

15. If a church uses wine in the Lord's Supper, will it not have to buy it at a liquor store?

No. Either somebody can make it, or it can be ordered from companies that specialize in "sacramental" wine.

16. If a church uses wine in the Lord's Supper, will it not tempt a believer who was formerly a drunkard to turn to drink again?

No. One who professes to be saved and shows such an absence of the grace of God in him that he is tempted to get drunk by taking a little sip of wine in the Lord's Supper will perhaps find on close examination that he has never been saved. I don't believe God saves anybody and leaves him that weak. This idea is the product of blind fanatics who think more of their own undertaking than they do of being faithful to the Word of God.

17. Do we have indication that New Testament churches used wine?

Yes. The church at Corinth used wine. I Cor. 11:21. We have no indication that any other church used anything else.



Trinity

(Continued from page one)
tributed to God. For example read Coloss. 1:16.

3. The eternal Spirit is God. We know this is true because the attributes of God are ascribed to Him. For illustration read Heb. 9:14 and I Cor. 2:10.

Moreover, Father, Son and Holy Spirit are mentioned time and again as on equal footing. One illustration of this is seen in the formula for baptism, where we are told to baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Matt. 28:19).

Some object and say that the doctrine of the Trinity was a late development in the Bible, and that it was not taught for centuries. The answer is, the foundation for that doctrine is laid in the very first chapter of the Bible. The name for God in Gen. 1:1 is what is called a "compound unity." The Hebrew is clear on this. Opponents of the Bible have tried to say that the form of the name suggests a polytheistic conception of God. The truth is, the way is laid—not for polytheism, but for the doctrine of the Trinity. Also it is to be noted that God said, "Let US make man . . ." That fits in exactly with the later development of the doctrine of the Trinity.

At the baptism of Jesus we have all three persons of the Trinity manifested. The Spirit descended visibly "as in the form of a dove." The Son was the one upon whom the Spirit descended, and God the Father's voice was audible, as He said, "This is my beloved Son."

Where The Denial Of The Trinity Leads

It leads to a "man made god." Unitarians, Modernists and others deny the doctrine of the Trinity. In other words, they deny the God of the Bible, and they create a god of their own imagination. Jesus Christ is reduced to a mere man. They make him to be a man different only in degree—not in kind—from other men. They make the Holy Spirit to be merely "an influence." The question arises, "Whose influence?"

Men practically endow themselves with omniscience when they assume that they can sit in judgment on the Scriptures and can separate the truth from the error. When they presume to do this, every man becomes a separate judge, and there is no certainty and no unanimity of opinion. Modernism is not rea-

RETROSPECTION

The old year swiftly ebbs away
And as I watch it go
I wonder, for the days it held,
What do I have to show?

Have I walked closer to my Lord,
Or learned to know Him more?
Has He been shown forth in my life
More than He was before?

How many have I told of Christ
Who died their souls to save?
How many Christians have been helped
By loving words I gave?

Have I done ought that will survive
When time has passed away;
When years no longer go and come
In Heaven's perfect day?

Oh, give my grace, this year ahead,
To live each day for Thee.
May something of my life endure
For all eternity!

sonable, let alone true. Why then are men Modernists? The answer is, they are fed that stuff in college and seminaries, and they never consider the other side of the question.



BOOK REVIEW

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About a year ago, when Bro. Simmons began this work, a committee was appointed to help secure funds for his support. The report of this committee for the month of November, follows:

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SIDNEY FISHER, Treasurer

