

The Baptist Examiner

Paid Circulation In All States and In Many Foreign Countries

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

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The New Testament Office Of Deacon

Reprinted from a former issue at the request of interested readers, desiring further help on this subject.

By ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

We have recently been asked some questions along these general lines, and this is perhaps a good subject to give some study.

Origin Of The Office

This office came to be because the preachers couldn't attend to everything—neither can they today. So, when material burdens became too numerous and such as to encroach on the spiritual ministry of the preachers, they suggested that it wasn't common sense for them to become waiters when people needed THE WORD OF GOD! (Acts 6:2). So seven helpers were chosen in connection with prayer, and the laying on of hands (Acts 6:6). This laying on of hands was a formal way of setting them apart to this special work. Here is where we get the practice of laying on of hands.

Now note: These first deacons were HELPERS. They were not to usurp authority or to take over the whole direction of funds, etc. So far as we know, the Apostles

were still in leadership—still directing things—but these men helped them. And today, God's called leader in a church is the Pastor. He is not merely the leader in spiritual things—he is likewise to be the leader in the whole life and administration of a church. DEACONS ARE TO BE HIS HELPERS! There should never be a chairman of a group of Deacons other than the pastor. They constitute the pastor's "cabinet" so to speak. Moses had Aaron and Miriam as helpers, but they finally felt that they could take over Moses' function of leadership too, and they were rebuked (Continued on page two)

1. Explain Matt. 8:12.

The children of the kingdom were the Jews. The place of weeping and gnashing of teeth is Hell. These Jews are the natural descendants of Abraham, who went to Hell for their rejection of Christ.

2. Explain John 6:66.

These professed followers of Christ were church members, who were not saved. When the time of testing came they fell away, because they were never really saved. As John says: "They went out from us, but they were not of us; for they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not of us. I John 2:19.

3. Explain Rev. 2:4-5.

Those, who have left their first love, are the Baptists that have lost their interest in soul winning and missions. The candlestick is the local church. The Master here warns the church at Ephesus, that if they do not repent and do their first works of soul winning and missions, that He will remove the candlestick. Perhaps that may explain why so many churches and schools among Baptists have died. They have ceased to be missionary and evangelistic.

4. Do you think Billie Sunday's books are alright for a Baptist library?

No. He said many good things; but his books are too unionistic and have too much heresy to put in any library for folk to read, who are not grounded in Baptist doctrine.

5. Are we under any obligation to forgive those, who sin against us, until they repent and ask our forgiveness?

We are under obligation to pray for our enemies and for those, who despitefully use us. We are taught to pray our Heavenly Father to forgive us as we forgive our debtors. We are taught to forgive even as God for Christ's sake forgives us. Eph. 4:30.

However Jesus implies that we can not forgive anyone until he asks for forgiveness. Cf. Luke 17: 3, 4.

6. Is there any record or history of anybody receiving power to perform miracles except the apostles?

Yes, lots of them in both the Old and the New Testaments. In the New Testament the 70 cast out demons. Cf. Luke 10:17-19. (Continued on page two)

How Much Do You Owe Kicking Down The To The Blessed Lord Jesus? Ladder Which We Have Climbed Up

God has been very, very patient with the dishonesty of His worldly gain-saying people, for Baptists are His peculiar people. For three transgressions God in thunder tones is calling on Baptists to pay what they owe Him.

Bring All Tithes To Him

"The tithe is the Lord's." The Bible says so. The tithe is the tenth of all your increase. God says bring all your tenth into His storehouse. All the tithe includes the tenth of the increase on your hogs, cattle, all other stock, profits on real estate, dividends on all kinds of investments, insurance collected, inheritances of all kinds, salaries and every other kind of increase. God is the preferred creditor before anybody else and He will get His or bankrupt you. Lots of banks have failed because they had too much land paper and too many automobile notes. Lots of Baptists are insolvent because their debts to God go back for 30 years and God forces them into insolvency to pay back tithes. Note the text: "How much owest thou my Lord." Better sit down and figure up what you owe God and pay the last farthing if you want to prosper. Pay God first, not last.

The Second Debt You Owe God Is The Kind Zaccheus Paid

Zaccheus said: "The half of my goods I give to the poor." Many bankers and other big business men are facing bankruptcy because they have not recognized God's ownership of all their possessions. "Ye are not your own, ye be bought with a price." You belong to God. You are the Lord's sheep. He owns the sheep, and

He also owns the wool. The wool is your possession. They all belong to God. "The earth is the Lord's." "The cattle of a thousand hills belong to Him." "The beasts of the forest are His." He says, "The silver and the gold are Mine." He forbids your laying up treasures on earth. He commands you to lay up treasures in Heaven. We are dishonest stewards of His money and His property if we waste it or lay it up on earth. That is why lots of business men are being bankrupted. They have been reaching into God's treasury all their days and filching God's money and investing it for themselves. They have been thieves all their days. That is the teaching of the parable on stewardship in Luke 16. The tithe is not the New Testament standard of giving. All the members of the church in Jerusalem sold their lands and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet for the poor and the missionaries and the budget of that church. In the churches of Macedonia and Achaia the same was true. Read the 8th and 9th chapters of II Cor.

The Holy Spirit The Administrator Of Church Finances

Read Acts 5:1-11. Ananias and Sapphira separately and individually lied to the Holy Spirit about their giving. They were saved people. The Holy Spirit told them how much to give. He does not tell sinners how much to give. He did tell them. He told them to give all they got for that piece (Continued on page two)

"The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof."—Matt. 21:43.

Roger W. Babson, the famous statistician and writer, once told of a visit he had with the president of one of the South American republics. He said: "One day we sat in his sun parlor looking out over the river. Suddenly he turned to me and said, 'Mr. Babson, I have been wondering why it is that South America with all its great natural advantages is so far behind North America, notwithstanding that South America was settled before North America.' Then he went on to tell how the forests of South America had 286 trees that could be found in no book of botany. He told me about many ranches that had thousands of acres of alfalfa in one block. He mentioned the mines of iron, coal, copper, silver, gold; all those great rivers with water power which rivals Niagara's. 'Why is it, with all these natural resources, South America is so far behind North America?' he repeated. Those of you who have been there know the reason. But, being a guest, I said, 'Mr. President, what do you (Continued on page two)

OUR RADIO MINISTRY

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

Baptist Masons Are Traitors To Jesus, Bible And Church

No man can be a good Baptist and a good Mason at the same time. We never knew one that was. Every Baptist Mason is guilty of being a traitor to Christ, a traitor to the Bible and a traitor to his church. My saying that does not make it so unless I prove it. Here is the proof.

The proof I have given in the past as to Masons being forbidden to pray in the name of Jesus is sufficient proof that they are all traitors to Christ. Like Judas they betray Christ for money. It may not be thirty pieces of silver, but every Mason sells Christ for a price. The price of his treason to the Son of God may be a job or trade or popularity or worldly honor or something else; but he gets his price, at least he thinks he does. But like Judas he is disappointed in the end. Any man, who belongs to any institutions, where he has to cut out the name of Jesus or put the soft pedal on the deity of the Lord Jesus or His atonement or His one way of salvation and His all authority is a traitor to Christ. Every man, who is a good Mason is a bad Christian, for he is disloyal to Christ, not only every time he prays in his lodge; but also in his giving, in his ritualism, and in his Masonic funerals, when he says that Jews, Mohammedans, infidels, modernists, agnostics and the vilest and most profane rejectors of Christ have gone to the grand lodge above. No worse treason to Christ or blasphemy of His worthy name can any man be guilty of than that.

The Masons are not only traitors to Christ, but they are traitors to the Bible. Masons are whittlers of the Bible. They cut out all reference to the name of Jesus when they quote the Scriptures, at least in their lower degrees. In Jer. 36:14-26 God gives very clear and plain testimony as to the character of all whittlers of the Word. From Bernard's "Light on Masonry and Oddfellowship," pages 28, 48, 102, 107, 109, 112, 124, 136, in the opening of a chapter of Royal Arch Masons, the so-called high priest reads II Thess. 6:18. In verse 6 he mutilates the Bible by omitting "By our Lord Jesus Christ" and in verse 12 he whittles out the words: "By our Lord Jesus Christ." That is being a traitor both to Christ and the Bible. Here is what the Lord Jesus says to all whittlers of His Word and that includes all other members of oath-bound fraternities. "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. That applies to all Masons and lodge men throughout the whole world.

Baptist Masons are traitors to Baptist churches. We do not say that of any other churches but Baptist churches. All lodges are human institutions and so are all other churches, except Baptist churches. They are all founded by men, whether lodges or churches, and the plain command of the Bible is for God's people to come out of them. Read II Cor. 6:14-16. (Continued on page two)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

"FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT"

"HELL FENCED IN"

ARE YOU A LIVING THIEF?

The late eloquent George C. Lorimer used to tell how once he asked a man to join the church. "No," said the man adding: "The dying thief never joined the church, yet he went to Heaven." "Will you aid the Church then by making a contribution to missions?" added the minister. "No," answered the man, "the dying thief never gave to missions, and yet he went to Heaven." "Ah yes," retorted Bro. Lorimer, "but there is this difference between him and you. He was a dying thief and you are a living one."

"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God."—Acts 26:18.

This is an unusual passage of Scripture in that it shows Paul acting very much differently from what you and I would do, if we were put under the same circumstances, in all probability. If you will read it closely, you will find that the Apostle Paul was a prisoner. He had been arrested, and had been tried already before Felix. Now he is brought before Agrippa. He does not make a de-

fense for himself, but instead, he preaches Jesus Christ. You would expect him to make some kind of defense in his behalf, but not the Apostle Paul. He seized upon every opportunity presented to him to preach Jesus Christ. He had never had the opportunity to preach Jesus Christ to Agrippa before. There had never been a time when Agrippa had been in one of his audiences, but now Agrippa, as the judge, calls on Paul to make a defense.

What a defense it was! Instead of Paul defending himself, he preached Jesus to Agrippa; so it

turned out, instead of it being Paul before Agrippa, it was actually Agrippa before Paul. Instead of Agrippa being a prosecutor and prosecuting Paul for preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ—instead of that, the Apostle Paul became the prosecutor and presented the Word of God in such a way that Agrippa trembled and said, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." So I say, beloved, it is very different from what we might expect.

If you will notice, Paul says that the Lord has given him a (Continued on page seven)

"We will drink no wine; for... Ye shall drink no wine, neither ye nor your sons, for ever." Last summer in A——, I saw the name "Helfenstein" over a saloon, and was reminded of a story I heard years ago in Cazenovia, N. Y. A man was walking along the street, when he saw the name Helfenstein over a saloon and being uneducated, he spelled out the strange word as follows: "Hell-hell; fenst-fenced; ein-in. Hell-fenced-in. Well, well!" said he, "That's a good name for the saloon." That is the story but the (Continued on page two)

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

Effective as of this date, we are discontinuing the Sunday School lesson notes, which have been carried in this paper since the first of January.

The response to this feature has not been sufficient to justify the time spent each week in their preparation. It does not seem wise to spend approximately six hours weekly in the preparation of these notes, which were used by only a very small group of churches.

This does not mean that we will not be studying some book of the Bible, chapter by chapter and verse by verse beginning with the first Sunday in April. In fact the notes for this whole Bible study course will appear in the issue of March 26, so as to be ready for our readers the first Sunday of the second quarter, or April 3.

While we have heard from a large number of readers, asking that we study various books of the Bible, the vast majority of our readers have indicated a preference for Genesis. Accordingly, our study will begin with the book of beginnings—Genesis.

This would be a fine time for a lot of our churches to cease using lesson quarterlies and begin to study God's Word. Why not abandon the hop, skip and jump method of Bible study and really study the Bible with us through the book of Genesis. I believe it would be one of the greatest forward moves any church could make.

Hell Fenced In

(Continued from page one)

name is not true; for the saloon is not "hell-fenced in," but rather, "hell-let-loose." If the saloon would confine its sin to its own four walls, we might not object so strenuously, but it lets Hell loose on our streets and in the homes. Now, if by Constitutional Amendment, the saloon is to be closed and Hell fenced in, let us seek to keep the door fast shut.—A. B. Simpson.

\$ A-MONTH-CLUB \$

This week, the fund for the payment on our new press, which is due June 27, grew through the benevolence of six of our readers, as follows:

Mrs. Darlyle Watters, Lansing, Mich., \$2.00.

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Chaudoin, Titusville, Fla., \$1.00.

Bro. J. H. McKee, Van Buren, Ark., \$12.00.

Bro. John Falci, West Babylon, N. Y., \$2.00.

Mrs. J. T. Rochester, West Point, Ga., \$1.00.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sturm, Buchanan, Ky., \$5.00.

Mrs. Rochester says: "Your paper is the most helpful Bible reading I have ever seen. I get much pleasure from reading it. I couldn't do without it."

Mr. and Mrs. Sturm say: "We surely need God's Word as never

before, in this time of anxiety, trouble and misunderstanding, which the whole world seems to feel. THE BAPTIST EXAMINER is a real blessing in these times. We remember you in our prayers."

We thank God for these who have thus sought to assist in the publishing of the truth, for which this paper contends. May their tribe increase!

I Should Like To Know

(Continued from page one)

7. To whom was Christ talking when He told them they could drink deadly poison and it would not hurt them? See Mark 16:18.4

Mark 16:14 seems to indicate that He was speaking to the 11; but in verses 17-18 He is speaking of His followers "that believe."

Jesus gave these signs to his infant church to accredit it in the eyes of the world, as thus being supernatural. These signs come to an end with the apostles. His church needs not special miracles to accredit it today.

8. Was D. L. Moody a Baptist?

No. My understanding is that he was first a Congregationalist; but later on he became dissatisfied with his baptism and he received Baptist baptism. He lived and died thereafter in the Moody church, which is a union, undenominational church.

9. Is the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago of the Baptist faith?

No. It is inter-denominational. J. M. Gray, former head and one of the most prominent teachers in the Institute, was an Episcopalian. Other writers and teachers are Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists and what not. It is wholly given over to unionism. Many of their writings, however, on the plan of salvation and kindred themes are Biblical and sound and very fine to circulate. ~~on the doctrines of grace.~~ It is not safe however to circulate any of them unless you know what is in them or know the writers. They are very unsafe on the church and the ordinances and all phases of church truth.

10. Should Baptist churches invite Baptists, who are in the audience to take the Lord's Supper?

No. In I Cor. 11:18-20 (see Revised Version) Paul says, that where there is division or heresy present, it is not possible to eat the Lord's Supper. If any Baptist church invites members of other Baptist churches to partake of the Lord's Supper with them, they invite all kinds of heretics and the worst of immoral worldlings to eat with them; for most Baptist churches have no discipline at all. Just as well invite the world or all kinds of heretics. But worse than that, to invite any one to eat at the Lord's Table, except the members of the church partaking of the Supper, is a plain violation of the Scriptures. The Scriptures plainly says in I Cor. 11:18: "When ye come together in the church." Church does not mean a house but a body or an organization. When ye come together as a church. No one is to be invited except the members of that local church. I Cor. 5:12 tells why. Because the church itself is "to judge them that are within." A church has no right to extend its invitation to the Lord's Table any further than its discipline or its voting. It is to keep all of them under its own control.

One other fact. If all over this country Baptist preachers will preach on the obligations of Baptists to obey the command of the Lord Jesus, "Do this in remembrance of Me" and then show all non-resident Baptists that they are wilfully disobedient to this command, by not putting their membership where they live so they can obey this command of the Master, the desire to obey the command about the Lord's Supper will lead to obedience of the command of the Master about putting their light on the candle-

stick where they live. The Bible is a consistent whole. One error or disobedience encourages other errors and disobediences: and vice versa, one act of obedience leads to others. Both are catching.

11. A certain Baptist church, in Kentucky, at its regular annual business meeting in December, made out and adopted its church budget for the next year and made same on the basis of 50 per cent for the local expenses of the church and 50 per cent to go to the budget of Kentucky Baptists.

This was entered on the record of the church and the church under this sent its committees to the various members of the church to take their individual subscriptions to this budget. This was done, the individual subscription of each member was taken in writing and returned to the church treasurer.

After this, the church increased its expenses by paying some new salaries and raising some salaries, and called a new pastor increasing his salary \$500 more than the former pastor's salary.

In this month this church at its business meeting, had a report from its board of deacons—only a part of them — recommending that the division of the aforesaid budget be changed and that 60 per cent thereof be retained for local church expenses and only 40 per cent sent to the outside objects. The point was then made that this could not be done, that the funds had been designated and so subscribed, and that the church had no right to now change the designation, or to take designated money and use for another purpose. On this the pastor, who was moderator, ruled that the church had the right to make the change and keep the 60 per cent of this fund for local expenses and only send the 40 per cent to the outside objects.

After the ruling of the moderator the vote was taken on the change and the motion to make the change received 11 votes and the opposition received 5 votes—a majority of those present not voting — the moderator declared the motion carried, the change made that 60 per cent of this fund would be retained for local expenses and the outside objects, missions, et al., received only 40 per cent.

Now was the moderator right in his ruling that the church had the right to make this change and retain 60 per cent of this designated money for local church expenses? Did the church have the right to make such a change?

No. The pastor did wrong. The church is doing dishonestly, in taking money given to missions and using for home church expenses. The pastor is particeps criminis in that he is receiving stolen goods that belongs to our missionaries. I do not know who the pastor is, so this is not personal. I am discussing principles not men. If I were a member of that church my subscription would be cancelled and I would designate all my money. I would not be a party to dishonesty nor to breaking my vow to God nor robbing mission boards nor to such selfishness and greed upon the part of a pastor and church officials.

Deacons

(Continued from page one) for it.

What Kind Of Men Are
Deacons To Be?

We learn the answer to this question by studying the characteristics of THE FIRST DEACONS (Acts 6:3-6). The following things are mentioned:

1. They had honest reputations. That means, they were commonly regarded as honest men.

2. They were full of the Holy Spirit. That signifies that they were spiritual men. Certainly not worldlings.

3. They were full of wisdom. Men of good judgment. A man who has no business sense or judgment is a poor man for dea-

con. Also, the man who has no forward look—no vision, is a poor man for such a job.

4. They were full of Faith. Many a deacon holds back and objects to every forward move. A man of this sort is not a man of faith. For a fuller study of QUALIFICATIONS FOR DEACONS, consult I Tim. 3:8-13.

What Are Deacons For?

First consider the question negatively:

1. Not to boss the Church. Some try to do this. They can suggest to the church, but this is as far as they should go.

2. Not to boss the pastor. They have no right whatsoever to have secret meetings and to ask the pastor to resign, as has often been done, and a church ought to fire any deacon who so exceeds his authority.

Second, let us consider the question positively:

1. They are to take off of the preacher enough of the material burdens to enable him to carry on a spiritual ministry of "prayer and ministry of the Word."

2. "This business" it says in Acts 6:3, and herein expressed THE DUTIES OF THE DEACONS!

The Result Of The Work Of Good Deacons In The Church

(Acts 7:6).

1. The Word of God increased. The Apostles were able to spread the Word more readily and freely.

2. The number of the Disciples multiplied. More people were saved as the preachers were freed to preach more.

Masons

(Continued from page one)

18. All Baptist Masons and other lodge men are not only traitors to the Lord Jesus and traitors to the Bible, but they are traitors to the body of Christ to which they belong and traitors to the Lord Jesus the Head of each local church of His. Here is what the Bible has to say about their treason to the church. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God him will God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." I Cor. 3:16-17. It is but fair to say that the words "defile" and "destroy" are the same words in Greek. If you defile God's church God will mar, defile, destroy you. Every lodge man on earth is guilty of defiling the church of the Lord Jesus, if he is a Baptist. He treats the church of God just like a man treats his wife, who keeps a concubine. But worse than that. Every Baptist Mason is "unequally yoked together" with his lodge, whose worship is idol worship, for all worship in which the name of Jesus is left out is idol worship.

The Ladder

(Continued from page one) think is the reason?" He replied thoughtfully, "I have come to this conclusion: South America was settled by the Spanish who came in search of gold, but North

God's Unchanging World

Though all my heart should feel condemned
For want of some sweet token,
There is One greater than my heart
Whose Word cannot be broken.

For feelings come and feelings go,
And feelings are deceiving;
My warrant is the Word of God,
Naught else is worth believing.

I'll trust in God's unchanging Word,
Till soul and body sever:
For though all else shall pass away,
His Word shall stand forever.

—Martin Luther.

America was settled by the Pilgrim Fathers who went there in search of God." Then, concluded Mr. Babson, applying the lesson "let us as American citizens never kick down the ladder by which we climb up. Let us never forget the foundation upon which all permanent prosperity is based."

—From Prairie Overcomer

How Much Do You Owe?

(Continued from page one)

of land. They wanted to lay up a part of the price of it for a rainy day. So they lied about it and said that was all they got for it. God killed Ananias and Peter had him buried before his wife knew he was dead. No funeral, no flowers. Then Sapphira came in and lied about it and they buried her. What a shabby entrance into Heaven for these two worldly Baptists! All Masons and other lodge and club Baptists buried by their clubs and lodges, and all members of other churches founded by men will have just as shabby by entrance into Heaven. The blood takes them there if they are saved, but if they go from some harlot church or lodge into Heaven they will be mightily ashamed when they meet their Lord.—H. B. Taylor.

The Modern Origin Of The Movement Of Holy Rollerism

"Holy Rollerism" is a term commonly used to designate a series of religious vagaries embraced in a group of so-called holiness sects to be found scattered over different parts of the country. It is a false religion that is leading many—especially the more ignorant—astray. I have called it a religion. Rather it is a parody on true religion—a caricature, a burlesque, a farce!

Without apology and without gloves I set out to denounce and to uncover the falsity of the whole holiness movement as expressed in what is commonly termed "Holy Rollerism." A false religion and a false gospel is theirs. Paul said, "If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you let him be accursed!" (Gal. 1:8). Thus I have Scriptural warrant for dealing sternly with the false gospel and false teachings of "Holy Rollerism."

"What's Wrong With Holy Rollers?"

First, They Are Wrong As To Origin. There are various sects and so-called churches of the different Holiness groups today. Phenlan's "Handbook Of All Denominations" which is perhaps the most authoritative book on denominations in America, lists the leading holiness "churches as follows:

"Church of God," started in 1886 in Monroe County, Tenn. "Church of God" (Apostolic) started in 1897 at Danville, Ky. "The Original Church of God," (Continued on page five)

Aim at the heart in your preaching. Not every man has a head.

WHAT IS ROMAN CATHOLICISM?

When Pope Pius XII, the Roman Pontifex Maximus, opened the holy door into St. Peter's Cathedral on Christmas Eve, 1949, he placed the spotlight of public view on the Roman Catholic Church.

Beginning the ceremonies which opened the Jubilee Year of 1950, the Pope focused the eyes and minds of the world on the decrees and practices of Roman Catholicism. He launched the Roman Church on a Holy Year which exceeded all the other Holy Years of Rome in its splendor and pomp of ceremony in the number of people who made expensive pilgrimages and in the huge sums of money sent by faithful Roman Catholics, flowing toward the Vatican as a mighty river flows to the sea.

Coincident with this historical, spectacular and outward show of religious power, the Pope has promised the faithful pilgrims who come to Rome, complete forgiveness of sins if they fulfill his infallible decrees in prayers, penances and relic adorations.

Since the press and the radio have so prominently fixed the world's keen interest on Rome and her ancient Church ritual, let us look behind the scenes and learn some of the facts pertaining to the Roman system.

Recently, I have received two books distributed by the Roman Catholic Church for instructing non-Catholics in the Roman faith. The one is entitled, "Father Smith Instructs Jackson," and the other, "What The Catholic Church Can Do For You."

As I read "Father Smith Instructs Jackson," I became aware that while "Father Smith" used a great deal of human reasoning to make his points, he rarely quoted from Scripture.

In many chapters, no Scripture was offered as proof of his teaching. Human reasoning will be a most fatal covering for the soul of a sinner when he stands before God. It will vanish as the dew before the morning sun, leaving him naked, wretched, miserable and blind, before God, Who is infinitely Holy and Who will not clear the guilty.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord." (Isa. 55:8).

After some instruction to Mr. Jackson about original sin, Father Smith takes up the subject of the Bible. It would be very difficult to conclude just what Father Smith's meaning is by what he says. But the meaning he evidently intends to convey to Mr. Jackson is that the idea of each person reading the Bible for himself is wrong. His argument in substance is this: **The Church wrote the Bible, so listen to the teachings of the Church, not the Bible.**

Now to state that the Church wrote the Bible is misleading. It leaves the impression that the Church consists only of the Roman clergy. The apostle Paul wrote to the churches at Corinth, Galatia, Ephesus and others. These churches consisted not only of bishops and deacons but all the Christians who gathered from certain areas to worship. The word "church" in its local usage, means the "congregation" as well as those who minister. Therefore, the correct answer as to who wrote the Bible would be: **Some from the True church, chosen by God for that express purpose, wrote the Books under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, which makes our New Testament.**

If Father Smith is acquainted with the Bible, he knows very well that the Scriptures were written to the churches of the apostles' day. The Bible was written by holy men of old to give instruction to the Christians on their conduct in everyday life and in the Church of God. We conclude, therefore, that since members of the early church wrote the Bible, when we receive the teachings of that Bible, we are receiving the instructions of the primitive church as Father Smith says we should.

Father Smith states the Bible is inspired but that God did not intend future generations should be solely instructed by its teachings. His meaning here is that men's tradition should be our rule of life as well as the Bible.

It is a well-known fact that once tradition is lifted to the level of the Holy Scriptures, it comes to pass that the Scriptures are supplanted and men's tradition exalted far above them. But no where does Scripture remotely suggest that tradition has the slightest equality with God's Word.

The apostle Paul informed Timothy that it was the Holy Scriptures which were able to make him "wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (II Tim. 3:15). "But these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" (John 20:31).

The Holy Scriptures are the words of the living and true God. They pronounce upon fallen man, God's condemnation alone, by the sacrifice of Christ. Roman Catholic tradition is the combination of men's words and works which, rather than condemning his fallen nature, is favorable to it. By the use of tradition, the real character and commands of God are disguised. Is it any wonder that man in his fallen and sinful condition prefers to listen to tradition rather than the Bible?

The Lord Jesus soundly denounced tradition which was contrary to God's laws. "Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?" (Matt. 15:3).

"Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition—ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you saying, 'This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth and honoreth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me teaching for doctrines the commandments of men'" (Matt. 15:6-9).

The apostle Peter reminded the Christians that tradition had no part in their salvation, as that came only because of the precious Blood of Christ. (I Pet. 1:18).

Father Smith informs Mr. Jackson that the Church of Christ today must be in nature, power and teaching what it was when it served men through the twelve apostles. **To this we heartily agree.** But is the Roman Catholic Church such a church? No! Father Smith also says the Roman Catholic Church cherishes the Bible and supports her teachings by it. But does she?

No! How Rome's teachers can make such statements are matters that lie between their consciences and God. Her doctrines and practices completely contradict the Word of God. When you ask for proof that the Roman Catholic Church is the true Church, you are pointed to the Bible. But when you ask for proof of the truth of her doctrines and practices, then you are told that the Bible is not a rule of faith and morals! In a Knights of Columbus pamphlet entitled, "The Bible Is A Catholic Book," the writer makes no secret of the fact that the Roman Catholic Church is not founded on the Bible. It is an accredited fact that in Roman Catholic-dominated

countries, especially in Latin areas of Europe and America, the Bible has always been withheld from the people, who are kept in bondage by the worst types of priestly superstitions. In these countries, the Roman Catholic Bible is branded a dangerous and evil book while the Protestant Bible is warned against as a tissue of lies.

In countries largely Protestant, Roman Catholics as a rule are not forbidden to read the Bible. Nevertheless, they ARE forbidden to believe any part of it which is contrary to Catholic Church traditions. Several of my acquaintance have told me that they were taught by their priest never to look inside of a Bible.

Father Smith states that the Protestant Bible is incomplete, as seven of the Old Testament books are missing. Now these seven books were never included in the Canon of Scripture of the Jews of Palestine. And though they are in the Septuagint version, they have no place in the Hebrew Bible. Christ Himself never quoted from them. He accused the Jews of rejecting the Scriptures but never mentioned the omission of these uninspired books.

The Roman Catholic Fathers nearly all rejected these books as belonging to the Bible. For instance, Pope Gregory the Great, in the sixth century, declared the books of the Maccabees to be uninspired. But now Pope Pius XII says they are inspired. WHICH INFALLIBLE POPE IS RIGHT? Any unprejudiced person who reads these disputed books can immediately detect the inferiority which permeates them when compared with the other inspired 66 books of God's Word. The sole reason Rome insists that these books should constitute a part of the Bible is that in them and in them alone can she find the very slight and shadowy excuses for some of her doctrines.

The Roman Catholic Duoy Version of the Bible contains many terrible errors, purposely inserted in the texts, with the sole objective of **making the Bible agree with Rome's traditions.** The Duoy Bible is woven full of errors since its source was the Latin Vulgate—not the original Greek and Hebrew versions. **Rome's own theologians have condemned the Latin Vulgate as being very untrustworthy.**

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head and thou shalt bruise his heel." This is Genesis 3:15 according to the King James version of the Bible. But in the Duoy Catholic Bible we read, "SHE shall crush thy head." This is no accident. In spite of the fact that in the original Hebrew the word referring to the one who bruises Satan's head is masculine, Rome has made it feminine. Thus her doctrines even from Genesis attribute to Mary the work Christ alone could do, perverting the Word of God and making its truth of none effect.

The same misrepresenting of the truth is done in the Duoy Bible with Rome's word "penance" replacing the Holy Spirit's word "repentance." Let us read Luke 24:47. "And that REPENTANCE and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations beginning at Jerusalem." But the Duoy says, "And that PENANCE and remission"—again diverting the Holy Spirit's meaning from an act wherein the soul leaves off all effort to gain merit with God and turns in contrition to Christ alone for salvation, to Rome's teachings that by doing penance of various kinds one can establish favor with God. Repentance in the Greek original denotes a quitting of sin in remorse, never to return to it again. Penance, as Rome teaches, is to be sorry for a moment and to do something to atone for a sin with a privilege of returning to the sin provided penance is done again.

The Roman Catholic Church has recently published a new version of the New Testament in which they have changed their "do penance" to the correct word "repentance." However, this was only done because of Protestant pressure and criticism which exposed Rome's teachings. Rome does not permit this new Bible to be used in her churches or among her people. The Duoy is still to be used by Roman Catholics. Thus Roman Catholics are kept in darkness about the Bible's meaning, yet are allowed to have what they suppose is the true Bible. Every person who ever left the Church of Rome and became a Protestant Christian did so because of the teaching of the Word of God, but no one ever went to the Church of Rome because they found her to be the true Church from the Bible.

What does the Roman Catholic Church teach about the Bible? In the Catholic Encyclopedia, Vol. XII, page 496, we read this, "The supremacy of the Bible as a source of faith is unhistorical, illogical and fatal to the virtue of faith." On page 498, "The collection of books called the Bible is not a methodical code of faith and morals." Pope Pius VII denounced circulation of the Bible as a "crafty device" and "pestilence," as well as a "nefarious scheme threatening everlasting ruin." Pope Pius IX, in one of his encyclicals, spoke of the Holy Scriptures in the people's tongue as "an old device of heretics."

Cardinal Villeneuve of Quebec, in his hatred for the Protestant Bible, wrote a pastoral letter to all the churches of Quebec, April 2, 1942, that was printed in "La Presse" of Montreal, an extract of which says, "This sort of literature (Protestant Bible) can neither be read, kept, nor given to others in good conscience, and the best thing to do if we are insulted by having these writings sent to us is to throw them in the fire." How well the Cardinal's orders were carried out can best be told by those who witnessed priests gather up all the Bibles in French Canadian Quebec and burn them. The American Bible Society sent thousands of Bibles to Spain for the Protestant population where Rome keeps millions in utter darkness. Before the Bibles could be distributed, Franco's Church-controlled government confiscated them and had them ground up to make glucose.

The indulgences which Father Smith says his church allows as a reward for reading the Bible are so insignificant that no one would bother about them, as more indulgences can be gained by saying a "Hail Mary" in a few seconds.

In Protestant countries where Catholics are educated apart from the Roman Catholic Church and in some ways think for themselves, Rome knows it would not be wise to tell them not to read the Bible. They are allowed to read it, but not to believe anything they find there which is contrary to the Church's traditions. Thus we find that, while many Roman Catholics do have Bibles, they are content not to read them, believing that they would not be able to understand them anyway.

In Psalm 119:130 we read, "The entrance of thy Words giveth light." The Bible is light. And the one thing that the Roman Catholic Church fears more than anything else in the world is that clear and all-exposing searchlight of the Holy

Scriptures turned upon her practices and doctrines.

The Protestant reformation was brought about by the reading of the printed pages of the Holy Bible by the common people. Thousands who had their eyes opened to the glorious truth of the gospel at that time, had been kept in total darkness by the Roman Catholic Church. For 1500 years Rome has hidden the vital truths of God which man needs to know to be saved, under the vast pretensions and traditions of the Church. There, with God's Word banned in her Masses, truth and light have been smothered, generation after generation. To this day, whatever concessions Rome has made which allow her subjects access to the Bible, have been wrung out of her by the pressure of Protestantism.

Father Smith says, "The private interpretation of the Bible leads to many divisions, as we see among Protestant Churches today." Probably few Protestants and almost no Catholics, know that even Papal infallibility has been unable to prevent divisions in the Roman Catholic Church. Popes have cursed other Popes. Church councils have contradicted Church councils. Doctors of theology have violently opposed each other. Today, there are more basic doctrinal divisions in the Roman Catholic Church than among Protestant denominations. In Protestantism there are many congregations called churches, but they have the same Mediator and priest, Christ Jesus; thus they have the same unity of faith and worship. Various denominations are members of one Christian Church whether they are called Baptists, Methodists, etc. They differ on less essential matters, but are united on the question of what is necessary for salvation of the soul. Baptists, Lutherans, and Presbyterians are members of the same Christian Church, as Franciscans, Jesuits, Dominicans, etc., are members of the same Roman Church. All faithful Roman Catholics submit and unite at the feet of the Pope, but all real Protestant Christians unite at the feet of Christ.

To this very day, all the Popes of Rome have never concluded definitely how the grace of salvation comes to a man. The Jesuits, the Dominicans and the Franciscans differ widely on this point. When, after years of strife over this point, the question was laid before Pope Paul V in the 17th century for his decision, he could not decide who presented the correct answer and interpretation of Scripture as to the way a man is saved. So he decided (infallibly) to allow each division to teach as they desired. To this day Roman Catholicism remains divided on the most important question of all Christian teaching. Rome's outward unity is forced, united by hierarchial authority and fear, which can never be a substitute for a lack of unity in fundamental truths.

Father Smith proceeds to instruct Mr. Jackson in the ten commandments. In his book we find a list of ten commandments as they are taught to Roman Catholics. Anyone ignorant of the Bible would never suspect that the 2nd commandment of the Lord is entirely missing and the 10th is divided to make the 9th and 10th!

Father Smith smoothly announced to Mr. Jackson that **the second commandment is contained in the first thereby eliminating a very troublesome commandment!** Next Father Smith goes on to say the 6th and 9th commandments are practically the same, as well as the 7th and 8th, thereby paving the way for unthinking people to forget the missing second commandment. Father Smith, however, does not explain why all the commandments are included in the Catholic Church's list except the 2nd. If we read it carefully the reason will be quite apparent to anyone acquainted with Roman Catholic ritual. "Thou shalt NOT MAKE unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou SHALT NOT BOW DOWN thyself to them, NOR SERVE them: For I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS." (Ex. 20:4-6). One of God's greatest curses is attached to the breaking of this 2nd commandment.

To bow down or stand before an image in worship is a sin classed by God as being an evil equal to adultery and oppression according to Ezekiel 18:10,13.

Father Smith's final statement to dispose of that troublesome 2nd commandment is to say that it was given to Israel long before the Church existed! But so were the other nine which Rome still lists to her unthinking people.

Father Smith then proceeds to instruct Mr. Jackson that Catholics do not worship images. I was in a large town a few months ago where an image of "Our Lady of Fatima" was presented to the public for adoration. People actually fought each other to press close to this idol in order to touch it and kiss its toes! The same fanatical adoration of this man-made image accompanies "Our Lady of Fatima" in whatever city or village it is taken into. Then after the flood of excitement is over, the "Lady" is loaded into a truck and carted away to some other city, there again to be adored by the Romish idol worshippers.

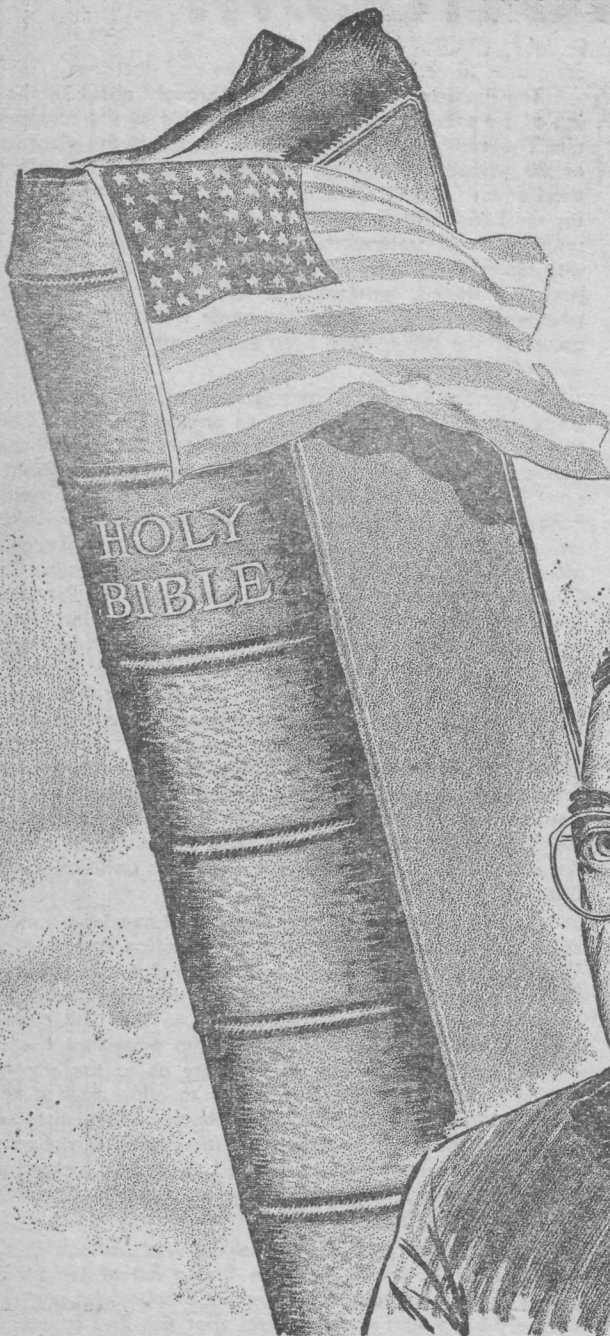
Article 10 of the canons and decrees of the Council of Trent, which every Roman Catholic must believe, reads thus, "I most firmly assert that the images of Christ and the Mother of God ever virgin, and also the other saints are to be had and retained and that honor and veneration are to be given them." Evidently Father Smith does not know that Webster's dictionary states that the word "veneration" is "worship" or "reverence." (Webster's Student Dictionary 1938, page 910). The average humble Catholic, not realizing that veneration and adoration is actual worship, is thus unwittingly led to worship images by the Roman Catholic Church, in absolute contradiction and disregard for the command of God (Ex. 20:4-6).

Next, Father Smith brings up a very inconsistent and foolish argument, stating that Catholics do not say Protestants worship their chairs and beds because they kneel beside them in prayer. Therefore he reasons in true Jesuit fashion that Protestants should not think Roman Catholics worship images because they pray before them! Why is it that Father Smith does not want it known that Roman Catholics are led to worship images? He knows that beds and chairs are not made to be worshipped but that images ARE made for that purpose. The whole truth may be thus summed up: **The Roman Church does not want her people to know that in the Bible, the 2nd commandment expressly forbids, under pain of generations of judgment, the making and bowing down and venerating of idols and images.**

When Father Smith comments on the commandment, "Thou

(Continued on page six)

STAFF FOR FREEDOM



"JESUS TOLD THE DISCIPLES TO GO OUT INTO ALL THE WORLD AND TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO ALL THE NATIONS. ANY NATION WHICH BASES ITS INSTITUTIONS ON CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES CANNOT BUT BE A DYNAMIC NATION."

— JOHN FOSTER DULLES



JACK HANIK

The Modernism Of One Of The Seminary's Speakers

By DAVID OTIS FULLER
Grand Rapids, Michigan

"And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies . . . And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His Name, and His tabernacle, and them that dwell in Heaven." Rev. 13:5,6.

Never in 1900 years, since the days of the vile blasphemies of Calsus, Propyry, and Lucian against the early church, has such a vicious attack been launched against God's Holy Word the Bible, and the Person of Jesus Christ, His Lovely Son.

Nels F. S. Ferre is Professor of Philosophical Theology at Vanderbilt University School of Religion. He is in much demand as a speaker in churches and denominational schools.

He has lectured at the Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville. He has been scheduled to speak for youth groups in the Southern Baptist Convention. He is highly recommended by practically every high official in both the National and World Council of Churches.

The following vicious and blasphemous attack upon the Lord Jesus Christ is taken from Ferre's book "The Christian Understanding of God" published by Harper & Brothers.

Page 186, "We have no way of knowing, even, that Jesus was sinless, but such a claim is irrelevant to the reality of the incarnation. Such a proposition would, for that matter, depend mostly on some literal claim in the Bible. Such claims there are, but the Bible used in this external manner becomes a distinct danger to living faith.

Such letters kill while the Spirit gives life. Even though Jesus' life

was peculiarly subject to myth, behind the myth is the reality which gave rise to it."

Page 191, "Strange, however is the hold which this doctrine (the Virgin Birth) in its more literal form has on countless people. Reference to the Virgin Birth is not found in Paul's letters, the earliest writings we have. It is not found in Mark, the original Gospel. It is not found in the various epistles of the New Testament. It is not found in the Johannine tradition.

As a matter of fact, the reference in John to the claim by the Jews to the effect that they were not born in adultery, could give external-credence to a Nazi claim that Jesus was German.

Mary, we remember, was found pregnant before her engagement to mild Joseph. Nazareth was hard by a Roman garrison where the soldiers were German mercenaries. Jesus is also reported throughout a continuous part of the history or art, He is claimed, to have been blond.

This is supposedly unnatural for the Mediterranean countries where this same tradition started and was continued. Hence Jesus must have been the child of a German soldier!

After all, the claim develops, such is the experience of many girls near military camps. His great genius spiritual agony, and serene victory would thus be accounted for, as far as the unusual conditions go which gave Him the chance to respond in an exceptional manner, in the fullness of time.

Such an interpretation has been made of His life. AND WHO CAN DENY THAT SUCH A CONJECTURE COULD BE TRUE?"

May we add this right here — in God's Holy Name how much longer are Christians going to maintain a cowardly silence and traitorous neutrality concerning such blasphemers?

Ferre has written another book

"The Sun and the Umbrella." A review of this book appeared in the Sword of the Lord, edited by Mr. John R. Rice of Wheaton, Illinois, and from which the following extracts are taken.

Purpose of Book. "The Christian church has no significant future till it puts away traditionalistic orthodoxy . . . (p. 87). This kind of theology "has to be challenged, fought and slain." (p. 79).

The Person of Christ. "He is at best a vague figure" and has been mythologized (p. 115). "Jesus never was nor became God (p. 112). He was not pre-existent, Ferre says "Such is the nature of the grand myth which at its heart is idolatry" (p. 83).

Mystery religions got sucked into the resurrection story (p. 32). "It seems appropriate that He (Jesus) . . . was allowed to return to earthly life . . . to encourage His followers . . . But we know neither that this event actually happened nor exactly what took place" (pp. 115, 116).

As to the Second Coming. "It seems doubtful Jesus ever taught such a doctrine" (p. 33).

The Bible. "The use of the Bible as the final authority for Christian truth is idolatry" (p. 39).

There can also be "the Hindu branch of the Church of the living God" (p. 122). "Hinduism is good and wise" (p. 117). "What a spiritual people this religion has produced!" (p. 119).

For Communists Ferre has an approach. "They are too sharply aware of the imperfect parts of the Bible and too honest with the truths" (p. 129). "We shall witness to the Communists because whatever truth is theirs we accept wholeheartedly, and beyond their truth lies God's truth" (p. 156).

There is one passage of Scripture, among others that fits Ferre and others of his kind. II Thes. 2:10,11.

" . . . because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie (Pseudei in the Greek, THE LIE, one of the names of Anti-

Suppose That Catholicism Came Into Power Here?

Would she lord it over kings and governments?

"The pope, by Divine right, has full power over the whole world both in ecclesiastical and political affairs." — Bellarmine's Disputations.

"He is likewise the divine monarch and supreme emperor and king of kings." — Ferraris' Eccles. Dict. 1899.

Would she tolerate religious liberty?

"It follows that it is quite unlawful to demand, to defend, or to grant unconditional freedom of thought, of speech, of writing, or of worship." — The Great Encyclical Letters of Pope Leo XIII, published 1903.

Accursed from Christ. — "Those who assert the liberty of conscience and religious worship. Also all such that assert the church may not use force." — Pope Pius IX., Dec. 8, 1864.

Would she compel assent to her doctrines?

"Religious liberty is merely endured until the opposite can be carried into effect." — Bishop O'Connor, U. S. A.

"The church has decided upon various punishments for heretics: (1) The secular government must at the command and by the direction of the church inflict the punishment of death." — Father Luca, Jesuit, Rome, 1901.

Would she persecute and oppose?

"But will the Catholic Church give bond that she will persecute at all? . . . The Catholic Church gives no bonds for her good behavior." — The Western Watchman (R. C.) December 24, 1908.

"Heretics, schismatics and rebels to our said lord, the pope, I

will to my utmost persecute and oppose." — Extract from oath of allegiance required of cardinals, archbishops and bishops.

Would she seek to destroy Protestant governments?

"He (the pope) hath power to depose heretical kings, princes, states, commonwealths and governments, all being illegal without his sacred confirmation, and that they may safely be destroyed." — Extract from Priest's Oath.

"Why, if the government of the United States were at war with the church (Catholic) we would say tomorrow, to hell with the government of the United States." — Priest Phelan, editor of The Watchman, June 27, 1912.

The extracts are only a FEW available of the same purpose. And it is the boast of Rome that she never errs, never can err, and never did. She claims infallibility, publicly affirmed only 45 years ago, with greater positiveness than ever before.

Beware lest Rome comes into power in the United States.

Are Preachers To Be Policemen Or The Prophets Of God

A minister friend of ours stood before his prayer meeting group one Wednesday evening and noted that one of the usual attendants was missing. "Where is Mrs. Smith tonight?" he asked. "Gone to the movies," was the reply.

Prayer meeting didn't last as long as usual that night and, when it was over, the minister hurried down to the town's only moving picture theatre. Just outside of the main entrance he took up his position and waited for the people to leave the place. Sure enough, there was Mrs. Smith coming out of the place of amusement with all the rest. He stepped up to her and "told her off."

A good many of us will have a good chuckle over the fact that here was one lady that really was "told," but sober reflection reveals that there were several flaws in our friend's behaviour. In the first place, even though the lady was a member of his church, she obviously was not born again. Born again people do not leave prayer meetings in favor of picture shows. As a consequence, all the admonition that he might pour into her ears on that occasion would be just so much "water over the dam." In second place preachers are not to be policemen and, regardless of how much good or otherwise that "talking to" might have done her at the moment, it could not reach the root trouble. If he succeeded

(Continued on page five)

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The Impiousness Of All Modern Word Whittlers

When Jehioiakim was king of Judah the situation got to be very similar to the situation in this world today. Jeremiah the prophet and his secretary and amanuensis, Baruch, who were old-fashion enough to believe the Bible was God's Word, were very unpopular with the whittlers of the Word, as the editor is today with the Arminians and Modernists and Unionists. Some of the Jews told the king about Jeremiah's words. The king sent for the roll on which Jeremiah's writings were recorded and took a pen-knife and whittled the whole roll to pieces little by little and pitched it in the fire and burned it up. God hid out Jeremiah and Baruch and later on the roll was re-written and enlarged. Read the 36th chapter of Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 36:23,24—
"And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the pen-knife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth. Yet they were not afraid, nor rent their garments, neither the king, nor any of his servants that heard all these words."

There are two things about whittlers of the Word I want you to think about, namely, the impiousness of their conduct and the severity of God's dealing with them.

The Impiousness Of Whittlers Of The Bible

The daring and dastardliness of all whittlers of the Word are seen in the statement made in the Bible: "And they were not afraid."

The question immediately arises, who is it that is not afraid to thus insult the God of the Bible? Here are some of the impious characters, who are whittlers of the Word. That is why God is closing up so many of them.

All modernists are whittlers of God's Word. They whittle out everything that is supernatural, including the Bible account of creation, miracles, the virgin birth of our Lord, the blood atonement, His resurrection and everything else that is supernatural.

All unionists are whittlers of the Word. They cut out all church truth and everything that teaches that Baptists ought to be a separate and a holy people.

All worldlings are whittlers of the Word of God. They cut out all references to church discipline. They cut out all the Bible that denounces sin. The Baptist preachers and members that love all the time are exact counterparts of Jehioiakim. That was why he whittled the whole book of Jeremiah to pieces and cast it in the fire. Jeremiah had too much to say about sin. There are lots of modern Jehioiakims who are wicked whittlers of God's Bible. They just cannot stand the truth about their sins and Bible doctrine. Lots of preachers in that

lodge and club folk are whittlers of the Word. Some blatant disbeliever immediately pops up and says: "prove it." One example will suffice for the present. On page 68 of "Masonic Oaths Null and Void," by Ron-

ayne, Past Master of Keystone Lodge No. 639, Chicago, we find this example. It is quoted from Sickles' Monitor, part 2, page 51. From II Thess. 3:16-18, two passages are quoted. "Now we command you brethren," and then they leave out "IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST." Again in verse 12 they whittle out "BY OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST."

That is why I hate all clubs and lodges. They are all the enemies of my Lord and Master and of His Word and His churches. I did not say I hated the men in these lodges and clubs; but I do hate their treatment of my Lord and the doctrines they teach and the way they whittle His Word. I have no fellowship with any of them. God's command to all Baptists is to come out from among them and be ye separate. II Cor. 6:13-18.

All churches, except Baptist churches, and lots of Baptist churches are whittlers of the Word of God. They whittle out all church truth on which they differ from the Baptists; and worse still, they actually divide God's Word into essentials and non-essentials and whittle out what they call the non-essentials.

Some say: "In essentials unity; in non-essentials liberty; in all things charity." There are no non-essentials when it comes to the Bible. All of it is essential for what it was put in there for. We are commanded to contend for it all. Well do Kentucky Baptists remember how T. T. Eaton went not only all over Kentucky, but all over the South, saying, we are commanded to agonize to enter in at the straight gate; but we are commanded to "epi-agonize for the once-for-all-delivered faith." Not all truth is essential to salvation: only repentance and faith are essential to being born again. But all truth is essential for what God put it in His Word for and the folk, who divide God's Word into essentials and non-essentials are wicked whittlers of the Word.

The W. M. U.'s, the B. T. U.'s and all other organizations that whittle out I Cor. 14:32-37; I Tim. 2:8-15 and Rev. 2:20-27 are among the worst whittlers of the Word of God in Baptist churches all over the land. When J. B. Gambrell added common sense to the inerrant Word of God as a rule to regulate Baptist affairs, he opened the sluice-gate for every conceivable heresy in the land to flood our young people and churches with whittlers of the Word. The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention is doing more to destroy and undermine the faith of the Baptists today than any other one agency in the world: for they are whittlers of the faith of our young people. The W. M. U. and the B. T. U. go their lengths to do the same thing; but they have not the influence of the Sunday School Board. The more's the pity. But God is not dead. His work this very hour is fast and furious and woe betide the guilty parties when His fury is loosed! The greatest sin and most deadly heresy of our day is whittling of God's Word and there is must more to be said: but this is enough for the present.

Policemen

(Continued from page four)
in shaming her to the place where she no longer attended the shows, it still remained that that was where she found her pleasure and not in the prayer meeting.

It was this sort of thing that the Word warns us against when it admonishes the under-shepherds, "Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock." Granted, that such men are supposed to control the lives of the people who constitute the flock of God, but they are to do it by the presentation of the

"WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN ME SHALL NEVER DIE." CHRIST (JN. 11:26)



Are You One Of These Types Of Church Members

By MEROLD E. WESTPHAL
Steamboat Springs, Colorado

1. **The respectability-members** are in the church for social, civic, financial, and political advantages. They are the sandwich-Christians, who follow Christ for the loaves and fishes, what they can get out of the church materially.

2. **The iceberg-members** are very chilly, unresponsive. Several can make the homiletical thermometer drop fifteen degrees during the singing, offering, and announcements.

3. **The Martha-committee members** are "cumbered about much serving." They are more interested in dining-room etiquette, silverware and linen, than sitting at the feet of Jesus for a spiritual feast. They are more interested in the fire in the church range than the fire in the pulpit. Always at teas, never at prayer meeting. Strong on planning, weak on performing. They think that Christian service is merely serving soup.

4. **The church-tramp members** visit occasionally, but are not dependable. They are absent from all duty, work, campaigns, and programs. A Sunday School class,

an office or responsibility they will not humbly accept. But they are present for all suppers, entertainments, and specialties, unless a good evangelist drops in. They go from church to church like the humming-bird from flower to flower.

5. **The proverbial critics** are brick-throwers, fault-finders, gossip-carriers, spirit-dampeners, and publicity agents for church faults and failures. They usually "smear" the Joshuas and Calebs, and frighten the rest back into the wilderness of sin.

6. **The weather-vane members** are tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine. They have no convictions, no set of working principles, and no fixed habits. They are the compromisers and middle-of-the-roads, "ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." They listen to the atheist, Communist, evolutionist, modernist, fundamentalist, and to all the "ites" and "isms" of the land. Yes, they also reply, saying, "Well, is that so?" "You don't say." "That may all be true!" "How scholarly!" "Wasn't he a great speaker!" "Say! you should hear her." "You may not believe all she says, but how fascinating and luring, and, oh, how new!" "Oh, she's good!" they never say, "Yes, I love the Book!" "What a wonderful Saviour!"

7. **The co-operative members** have zeal and ambition, and are willing to try anything, but are trained to do nothing. They are good runners with no message.

8. **The conspicuous members** — the Diotrophes, popes, dictators and bosses, who love to have the pre-eminence. It is their way, their ideas, their plans, their decisions, or "quits." If they cannot be soloist or president or chairman, they just do not work.

9. **The professional members** who make church work a business profession, a sure supply of bread and butter. If they could get a better job they would leave. They

have little love in their heart for Christ, His Word and His commission.

10. **The spiritual members** — true genuine, unassuming Christians, who work lovingly and efficiently where they may fit. They gladly accept the Holy Spirit's appointment and endowment in the true body of Christ. These groups are not found in every little church, but they are in the churches. Happy the church with a ruling majority of true Christians.

—Moody Monthly

WHICH RELIGION IS YOURS?

A visitor in an Australian home inquired of his host's little son, "Do you go to school now?" "Yes, sir." "And what do you learn — reading, writing, sums?" "Oh, yes, and I learn religion too." "Religion?" "Yes, I learn the little religion which teaches that we all come from Adam. But my older brother is in a higher class; he learns the big religion, and that teaches that we all come from monkeys." —Selected.

WANT A BEAUTIFUL COMPLEXION?

An elderly Quaker woman with a beautiful complexion was asked what kind of cosmetics she used. She replied:
"For my lips I use truth;
For my voice I use prayer;
For my eyes, pity;
For my hands, charity;
For my figure, uprightness;
For my heart, love."

All these beautifiers come free when you accept the gift of God's love—our Lord, Jesus Christ."

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE FIVE

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Catholicism

(Continued from page three)

shalt not steal," he gives Jackson a very correct picture of that sin as it is in the Bible. He states that no one should steal and if a person has stolen he should repent and make restitution. But had he informed Mr. Jackson what the Roman Catholic Church really teaches about stealing it would have been a vastly different story Jackson's ears would have heard. For the Roman Catholic Church does teach that there are causes which excuse a person for stealing!

Rome teaches that when in extreme necessity a person may steal what he needs—so long as he does not impoverish the one he stole from. It also teaches her people that one may compensate himself by taking what does not belong to him if he feels underpaid and can arrange to do his stealing and not be discovered. Proof of this can be found in the Catholic "Manual of Christian Doctrine" on page 927, a catechism used in Roman Catholic schools and colleges.

Therefore since a person who is a Roman Catholic is allowed to steal according to the teachings of the Roman Church, the question naturally arises, "How much can a Catholic steal so as to stop short of a mortal sin?" In "The American Ecclesiastical Review," official magazine for priests, published in Washington, D. C., on pages 68 and 69, Father Francis J. Connell, C.S.S.R., says, "To lay down a general norm, in view of actual conditions and the value of money, it would seem the absolute sum for grave theft would be about \$40.00." Thus any theft under \$40 is only a venial sin and need not be confessed. As no number of venial sins make a mortal sin, a man can steal \$39 one thousand times, making a nice fortune. Thus, in Roman Catholic teachings, the ten commandments are reduced to accommodate the weakness of human nature, and the individual is robbed of his God-given conscience. Rome makes sin easy where it is profitable to the Church, making God's own commandment of none effect.

How easy then for the Roman Catholic boy in school, in his need for a pencil, to steal one from his classmate, who has several. How easy for him, under this teaching of the Church, to filch money from his mother's purse when he needs a new ball. Growing up in this environment, how easily he can rob his employer, later on, of whatever is handy, feeling his boss has much more than he and that he is underpaid. Next comes the chance to make some money fast and quick, so he steals a car from the used car lot and drives it to a distant city and sells it. As the years roll by, in a hardened, seared condition of conscience, he has to shoot his way out of an attempted robbery, and so at last becomes a murderer bound for the gallows. Yet, as his heartbroken parents watch the priest administering last rites as he prepares him for his death, how little do they realize it was Rome's own teaching that sent their son to execution.

Mr. Jackson next inquires what Father Smith's views are concerning the universal evil of drinking. Listen to the priest's answer. "The liquor dispenser's work is not intellectual or necessary and his place of business does not contribute to the honor and glory of God. Drunkenness opens the door to many different evils. It is always a sin to get drunk and a mortal sin to get so drunk as not to be able to distinguish right from wrong."

Of course, it would not be wise for Father Smith to inform an enquirer into Roman Catholicism that the Roman Church stands 100 per cent back of the nation's greatest evils of liquor, drinking, gambling and prostitution. The Roman Catholic Church has its own special brand of brandy, labeled "The Christian Brothers Brandy," sealed with the sign of the cross. Priests and monks of the various orders of the Church have always been the great wine and liquor manufacturers of Europe. Behind the pomp and splendor of their great stained-glass-windowed-buildings with lofty steeples, in that same church where the priest carries out the awe-inspiring ritual of Rome, in the basement of the same building where confessions are heard, images are venerated and where the "good god" is adored at the altar—there can be found BARS where intoxicating liquor is sold.

The Word of God is, "Woe to him that giveth his neighbor drink . . . that putteth the bottle to him and maketh him drunk." (Hab. 2:15).

Kansas, under statewide prohibition, was remarkably free of crime. Taxes were lower. People in general were much more prosperous, financially and physically, than those in her sister states where liquor was licensed and sold. The repeal of prohibition in Kansas in Nov. 1948 was largely credited to Roman Catholic Bishop Carroll of Wichita, who vehemently exhorted his people in St. Mary's Cathedral, on the Sunday before election, to vote for repeal of prohibition. This bishop of Rome's Church said that prohibition was "fatal to liberty—destructive to morality!"

In 1946, several Protestant Ministers of Steubenville, Ohio, attempted a city cleanup of the three vices of drinking, gambling and prostitution. Bishop Musio of the Roman Catholic Church publicly declared in a pastoral letter that "drinking and gambling in themselves are not sinful." Then he proceeded to brand the Protestant ministers, "narrow little people and joy killers." Yet every drunkard first began with one glass of intoxicating drink and every gambler began his career by indulging in a small way.

Prohibition cuts down crime of all kinds. White slavery and gambling flourished with "taverns" and "saloons" for fronts. Liquor drinking turns a man into a crazed, sensual and corrupted creature so that he will stop at nothing once his senses are inflamed. Thus the liquor business does more to ruin family life, develops more criminals of the basest sort, spreads more disease of a certain kind, ruins more young girls and boys, corrupts more politics and fills more asylums and penitentiaries than any other single cause. What, then, shall we say of the Roman Catholic Church which sponsors, defends and propagates the selling of liquor?

Last year the American public paid ten billion dollars for alcoholic drinks. This money, used to pollute the bodies and souls of millions of Americans, would have fed twenty-five million war-stricken refugees for one year. For every dollar our government received as liquor revenue, there has been paid out three dollars to combat the crime, accidents, and diseases which that same liquor caused. One-fourth of all mental cases in hospitals are due to alcoholic liquors. In all fatal auto accidents during the year, one out of every four can be directly traced to liquor. Drinking alcoholic liquor is a major factor in one-third of the nation's crime. Nearly one million people in the U.S.A. are confirmed alcoholics, ruined physically, morally and socially by this terrible evil which is sanctioned and defended by the Roman Catholic Church.

Claude Smaldone, a Denver gambler, paid \$1,000 for the honor of carrying the statue of St. Rocco in the annual feast-day parade. The Denver Post carried a picture of the gambler and the statue and publicized the story.

Most of the men in our penitentiaries began their downfall by gambling and drinking. Nearly all of our nation's ruined homes, wrecked lives, broken hearts and shattered morals began at the legalized taverns. What, then, is the reason for Rome's support of this nation destroyer? Why does a Roman bishop defend the drinking of alcohol? The Roman hierarchy has the power and authority to stop this evil. Instead, we find Rome praising and defending this vice from the pulpit. WHY? Because to Rome it means revenue and in that pagan church, revenue is more important than souls. It means revenue from three sources. Revenue from the sale of alcoholic beverages, revenue from the donations of grateful purveyors of sin, and revenue from her penitent people who have indulged in the sins and wish to clean the slate with money so that they may go out and sin again.

The first move when a Roman-controlled government takes over a nation is to open all saloons, gambling dens and brothels. In Italy, there is a church especially built for prostitutes. To this church, these Roman prostitutes go to pray that they be sent patrons who are able to pay large fees. It is a prayer that God cannot answer but these unfortunate wretches do not know this. These lost souls are required to pay a regular amount from their earnings to the church!

A person would be less than honest not to realize the connection between Rome's teachings and the fact that 50 per cent of the inmates of our jails come from a Roman Catholic population in the United States of only 17 per cent. Rome's apologists attempt to answer this one by asserting that most of these Roman Catholic criminals are foreign born. But this only makes the picture worse for Rome, as these criminals nearly all come from countries where Catholicism is supreme.

Father George Ford, Roman Catholic Chaplain of Columbia University, said on February 29, 1944, "During the first four months of 1943, 64 per cent of the juvenile delinquents in Children's Court in New York City were Catholics. This means the Catholic Church has something to be greatly concerned about." And this is the case in a city which is only 21 per cent Catholic! Reporting on a religious survey of the jails of Connecticut, the Catholic magazine "Commonweal" of Oct. 9, 1942, states: "Catholics far outnumber Protestants in Connecticut jails, possibly by four to one."

Al Capone, notorious gangster and crime leader who inspired gang wars in which more than 300 men died by knife and shotgun, received the last rites of the Roman Catholic Church from Msgr. William Barry of Miami.

Tom Pendergast, who died January 26, 1945, Kansas City politician who ruled by crime for many years, was a devout Roman Catholic. His rule was a menace to the morals of young and old. Houses of prostitution and gambling flourished in the open and were as common as grocery stores. Yet when this great criminal died, Msgr. Thomas McDonald, who preached his funeral sermon after solemn high Mass, publicly proclaimed that Pendergast was "a man with a noble heart and a true friend" because "he attended Mass every morning for 30 years."

Father Smith informs Mr. Jackson that regular attendance at Mass is the greatest means of attaining a holy life. Tom Pendergast's attendance at Mass every day for 30 years did not prevent him from leading one of the most evil lives in history. If the priest he confessed to had been honest and told him what God says about sin, Pendergast would have quit either his life of sin or the Roman Catholic Church. He did neither according to records. No doubt his father confessor received plenty of his ill-gotten gains in exchange for assuring Pendergast that he was in good standing in the Catholic Church. In the day of judgment all will know that greater is the sin of the church that kept the truth of the gospel from this unfortunate man, than the sin of the man, for whom, had the gospel been applied, it would have cleansed his soul from sin. Thus we see how an individual trained in Rome's moral code is a helpless victim. The great gambling and liquor interest, and the religious organization which makes the huge profits possible, are the gainers—all made possible by a convenient moral code—and a silent partnership.

When Father Smith explains why Catholics celebrate Mass, he refers to the Old Testament and the Levitical priesthood and sacrifices as his ground for these ceremonies. He fails, however, to state the Book of Hebrews was written for the express purpose of revealing how the Old Testament sacrifices and priesthood were forever done away in Christ.

Examples are plentiful of big time Roman Catholic criminals and racketeers continuing in crime for years without a guilty conscience, though attending Mass regularly. These men of sin were assured by the Roman Church's teachings that they could escape God's punishment as long as they went to confession and told their crimes to the priest and said they were sorry. The church assured them they could continue their lives as criminals as long as they were certain of having a priest absolve them before they died and say Mass for the repose of their souls in Purgatory. So these criminals, who escape the punishment of the civil law by bribery and corruption, have at the same time, assurances from the Roman Church that they will escape God's punishment after death, by regular pardon in the confessional.

Read Rome's canon law 870: "In the confessional the minister (priest) has the power to forgive all crimes committed after baptism."

The Council of Trent (Sess. VI, Chap. 7 D.B. 799) states that the priest not only forgives sins in confession but has power to destroy them, thus making the criminal a perfect citizen and saint. (Sess. 14 C.H.). To obtain pardon it is not necessary to be sorry for crimes because they are committed against society or God; but it is sufficient if the criminal is sorry for fear he will go to Hell if he does not confess them and obtain forgiveness from the priest.

All the decrees of the council of Trent are binding on all Catholics under pain of anathema and excommunication.

But God's Word plainly teaches that only those who confess their sins and FORSAKE them shall have mercy. (Prov. 28:13).

The root cause of so much Roman Catholic crime is Rome's teaching about theft, liquor, and lying, combined with the confession that is supposed to blot out the sinner's crimes leaving him free to sin again and then confess again—in an endless chain.

Why should Catholic parents wonder if their wayward children, brought up in Rome's confessional, refuse to heed their admonitions? Forgiveness may be had in confession with no ex-

pression of sorrow to the parents. People have informed me that the confessional taught them to sin.

In St. Louis, Mo., in September, 1947, Archbishop Ritter threatened to deprive Catholic members of the Roman Church of the sacraments if they sent their children to public schools instead of Parochial schools.

Rome's confessional is used often to advance the political aims of the church rather than being a help to the soul. Without her secret auricular confession, the authority of the Roman Catholic Church would melt away. It is known that priests refuse to forgive sins, unless the penitent votes in elections of the church directs.

Another teaching Roman Catholics must believe on pain of eternal damnation, which is completely refuted by the Word of God, is that of Purgatory. God's Word plainly states there is no condemnation to them who are in Christ (Rom. 8:1). Rome's idea of purging by fire is Pagan teaching brought from Babylon. It was first introduced into the church around the year 600, but was not officially incorporated into the Roman ritual until the 13th century. What became of all the Roman Catholics who died before this time?

Now there is no purging of sin but by blood. And the only blood that can put away sins was shed by Christ on the cross of Calvary. Faith in that blood as having been shed for "ME" as an individual saves the soul. The person who believes God can say, "I need no priest for I have One Mediator Jesus Christ the righteous—I fear no purgatory for I have been purged by the blood of Jesus, once and forever." (Heb. 9:22-28).

Mr. Jackson seems very much impressed by the immensity and antiquity of Rome's Church. He is not alone in this sort of amazement at outward appearance. But Jackson does not realize that there are many more Hindus than Roman Catholics. He does not know that there are nearly as many Greek Orthodox Church members as Roman Catholics. Neither does Jackson know that Christ said his followers would be few in number in any one generation, although the total number for all time will be as the sands on the seashore innumerable, who have trusted Jesus alone for salvation.

History is full of proof that the Roman Catholic Church has not survived because she taught the truth. She has survived because the Vatican always managed to ally herself with the strongest political power. No matter who Rome backed—the beginning of any war she inevitably played turnabout to be on the winner's side in the end. Pope Pius XI once said he would make an alliance with the Devil if it served the interest of the Roman Catholic Church.

Pope Pius XII helped both Mussolini and Hitler to gain the power which resulted in their dictatorships. This can be easily proved by referring to the Nuremberg war criminal records.

Did you ever wonder why the Pope never said a word while Hitler's henchmen tortured and killed German Catholic people and priests in his concentration camps? Why no Papal protest was raised as Hitler crushed and raped the Catholic country of Poland? Why the Holy Father uttered no condemnation while Mussolini butchered the helpless Ethiopians? Why, as millions of helpless women and children died under the terrible bombings of the Luftwaffe, no voice from Rome was heard?

The answer is obvious. Pope Pius XII was on Hitler's side then. He helped him to power. He backed his wicked invasion. He supported Hitler in his lust for power, even over the thousands of butchered Roman Catholics and the great number of blasted cities.

Not until Hitler's complete defeat did Pius XII raise his voice against Nazism. Then the Roman Pope, seeking as always to be on the winner's side in the end, sided with the democracies which he and Hitler had failed to destroy.

Then and not until then—over the continents where millions of bereaved moaned; over the blood soaked fields of Europe; over the gaunt and gutted cities; over the graves of millions of murdered women and children; over the ruined lands and the crippled and homeless refugees came a short and plaintive wail from the infallible head of the Roman Catholic Church saying, "It's a good thing Nazism was destroyed!"

This same Pope sold the Roman Catholics of Europe to Hitler because Hitler promised he would give the Holy Father a free hand in his campaign to conquer all non-Catholics in Europe for the Roman Catholic Church. Today's terrible menace of atheistic communism can be traced directly to the conspiratorial chicanery of the Roman Pontiff. By aiding and abetting Hitler, he unknowingly paved the way for the Reds.

The poor Poles can thank the Pope for their enslavement today by the Reds. The Pope sold them to be butchered by Hitler, and utterly forsook them in their hour of need, all for the lust for more power. The most rigid censorship of the world press exercised by Vatican agents prevented these facts from appearing to the public in newspapers and over radios, but they are on record in Nuremberg, Germany, and are well known in Europe.

How well Pope Pius XII allowed his agreement with Hitler to be carried out is revealed in the terrible slaughter of the Serbs. After this terrible and repulsive mass murder was over, when thousands of Serbs died because they would not join the Roman Catholic Church, on New Year's Day, 1942, Archbishop Stepinac of Zagreb congratulated the murderous assassin Anton Pavelitch who supervised and ordered the mass killings in the name of Pope Pius XII, according to the New York "Herald Tribune" of February 21, 1943. Thousands of other Serbs were forced to become Roman Catholics by torture. Nuns came out of convents armed with clubs and knives in one hand, crucifixes and prayer books in the other, to help in the mass murdering and forced allegiance to Rome. These poor creatures, blinded in their sins by their own Roman Church will one day rise up in judgment against that system, since Rome is verily guilty of their sins.

Some of the most foul and infamous men of all history have been Popes of the Roman Catholic Church. Some of the vilest crimes ever recorded by man have been committed by Roman Catholic pontiffs. History from 500 A. D. to the present time, fairly reeks with the abominations of dozens of Popes known as the "Pontifex Maximus."

These are facts not rumors nor hearsay. If one honestly traces church history, it is rare, indeed, to find one Pope who was not involved in either adultery, incest, simony, covetousness for gain or all sorts of vile and treacherous political intrigues, wicked perversions of truth or blasphemous use of the Scriptures.

Cardinal Baronius, himself, tells us that the world has never seen anything comparable to the impurities and un-

(Continued next week, D. V.)

MABEL CLEMENT

(Continued from last week)

At the close of the hymn two young men, Herbert's associates, related their experiences, submitted to the church the evidences of conversion and were approved for baptism. An old brother then exhorted others to give their hearts to the Saviour; he urged immediate decision of this momentous question. Tearfully, soulfully was then sung:

"Just as I am, without one plea,
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bidst me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come."

It was during the singing of the helpful stanzas of this last hymn, that Mabel, who had been struggling with unbelief from the beginning of the discourse, was enabled to fully, sweetly trust in Jesus for pardon. A strange sweet peace filled her soul, while she firmly believed Jesus was not only a Saviour, but her personal Saviour. A radiant light illuminated her countenance as it sprang up from the peace and joy of her heart. Mrs. Fields, who had been watching and praying for Herbert with all the tender solicitude of a mother, had also been watching and praying for Mabel. She observed the peaceful expression on Mabel's face, and, as soon as opportunity was afforded, she said:

"Mabel, my child, a change has come over you, you have found the Saviour."

"Yes, aunt," replied Mabel, "I am the happiest person in Thornton. I believe I have perfect assurance of acceptance with Christ; and I think I shall never experience another moment's uneasiness or uncertainty about my future welfare."

She uttered these words just as they were all seated in the carriage for their drive home. They all rejoiced together. There were tears of joy.

"Herbert," continued Mabel, "this is the happiest day of my life. I shall never get through praising the Lord for bringing me on this visit to you. I had no thought but I was as certainly a Christian as any one; and the probability is I would have lived on at Sterling in that cold formal manner, dreaming I was in the way to Heaven and yet on the way to perdition. I can hardly wait to get home to tell my father and mother of my new found happiness. I think I shall never wish to do anything but serve the Lord."

"Cousin Mabel," replied Herbert, "I know of nothing that could give me more pleasure than to see you thus rejoicing in Jesus as your Saviour. Next to our own salvation, the salvation of our friends gives us joy. I have felt the joy you now feel and am sure I have seen but few days to equal in my spiritual birth day in happiness."

"Herbert, I was a profound stranger to the import of many things I read and heard and sang. So many things change their meaning to me now. My conversion is like a sunburst.

"Happy day, happy day,
When Jesus washed my sins away."

does not mean now what it did before."

"And it alludes, not to baptism, but to cleansing in the blood of Jesus?" said Herbert.

Soon after their arrival home, Aunt Juda thrust her head in the door to say:

"I want to know what's all that ere joyin' and laughin' and talkin' about?"

"Aunt Juda, I now have, I hope, the same kind of religion that you have and that you told me about," said Mabel. "I have learned the language of Zion and can now understand you."

"Lor' bless you, chile, you jes looks as happy as a saint. I'se almost shoutin' to see you so Chrischun-like and glad. It's been forty years sence I was first pardened and I reckon I never will furgit how happy I wus. I told you, chile, I was afeard you wusn't right, fur your doctern wusn't a bit like mine. But it's all right, honey, now,—you'll hab a heap uv trials and triberlations in de narrow way. May de marcifal Lord make you a shinin' light in de Kingdom."

Aunt Juda passed into the culinary apartment and the three continued conversation. During the evening Mabel inquired: "What is the advantage of the Baptist church as a church over the Christian church?"

"It would take a long time to tell, Mabel," said Herbert. "One difference is this: Baptist churches are like that formed by Christ at Jerusalem, which was the first and model church, whereas the Reform has a human founder and is utterly unlike apostolic churches."

"Why, Herbert, isn't the Christian church the church of Christ?"

"My dear, cousin," Herbert replied, "to say the least it is very

unlike the Jerusalem church. Besides it is certain Christ and the apostles founded only one sort of churches. Now, there are a great variety of churches, differing in doctrine and practice, all claiming to be true churches of Christ. Primarily, there was only one denomination, now there are many and more coming."

"Do you mean to tell me," asked Mabel, "that Christ is not the author of the various churches in the land?"

"It would be hard to believe," said Herbert, "that Christ is the author of all the confusion on the subject of doctrine and churches; that He would set up one preacher to advocate immersion and another to war against it and do his utmost to get sprinkling substituted for it; that He calls one man to preach infant baptism another to preach against it."

This subject was pretty thoroughly discussed. Mabel was ready to believe the first statement made by Herbert, because they seemed so reasonable; wishing to be sure she made fight and earnestly contended for every inch of ground yielded. This discussion awakened a new train of thought in Mabel's mind; but she did not mention it, and her cousin and aunt would not, though they saw she was perplexed. Are you eager to know what it is? You shall be told in the next chapter.

CHAPTER III

The beautiful sunshine came glimmering through the half stripped boughs of the trees in Mrs. Fields' yard, making everything look bright and cheerful, on the day after Mabel's conversion. Two or three birds, as if vying with each other in sweetness of song, were making the place vocal with music. The joyful song of the feathery tribe was in unison with the spirit of our heroine. She thought, as she stepped out into the veranda and saw the light streaming through the tree tops and stood listening to the delightful music of the birds, that the world was more beautiful to her than ever before. It seemed that God was speaking to her through the light, the song and everything around her in the great world. While her heart was thus going out to her God and Saviour through His works, she was roused from her reverie by her aunt, who had just learned that a near neighbor was expected to die. Mabel and her aunt were soon off to the chamber of the dying to witness the death of one of God's saints.

When they entered, the dying woman was talking calmly to her husband and children, who were weeping around her. She was entreating them not to weep after her, to trust in and obey the Saviour, and to meet her in Heaven. She beckoned to Mrs. Fields, who approached her bedside. As she did so, the dying saint stretched out her hand and said:

"I could not go away without thanking you who have so greatly encouraged and helped me to live the life of a Christian."

"I am grateful to my Heavenly Father," said Mrs. Fields, "if I have been a blessing to you and have comforted and cheered you in the path of duty."

"Oh! it was hard! It was so hard, Norinda; but thanks to my Saviour for helping me by His all-sufficient grace to take up the cross and bear it. I cannot think of anything in my whole life that I am so thankful for, except the salvation of my soul."

"Melissa," asked Mrs. Fields, "do you feel reconciled to death perfectly?"

"Perfectly," she replied, and the hope of a blissful immortality shone in her eyes as she added: "I am depending on the blood of Christ alone and I am conscious that is all-sufficient."

Her strength was fast failing, the blood was flowing sluggishly through her veins. "Water," she called; "my time is short, good-by, good-by." She feebly embraced her husband and children without a tear till she came to the youngest, a sweet little girl of four summers. Her tears flowed freely as she folded her babe to her bosom, commending her to the care of her companion and her God. Every one in the room was weeping bitterly. She asked them to sing.

"How firm a foundation ye saints!"

While it was being sung she seemed to lose sight of earth. Her last words were these: "My Saviour abides with me. Glory, glory! All is well."

Without a struggle her spirit passed away to her God. She was ready and waiting for the call of her Master, anxious to go when He beckoned. She was not like the school boy who must be driven from his play, but like one wearied of it and ready to go to bed. She was like the mariner who is ready for the voyage, who the moment the wind is favorable weighs anchor, full of hope and joy, and launches into the deep.

When they were seated around the fireside at Mrs. Fields' at night, talking of the deceased neighbor and bereaved family, Mabel inquired of her aunt:

"What did she allude to that was so hard and for which she was so thankful?"

(Continued Next Week, D. V.)

From Darkness To Light

(Continued from page one)

peculiar commission — a commission to go to the Gentiles, and turn them from darkness to light. As I read this, beloved, I recognize the fact that the commission which the Lord gave the Apostle Paul is the same commission that the Lord gave your pastor. I recognize the fact that the commission which the Lord gave to Paul, is the same commission that the Lord gave to every individual Christian in this world. Your commission and my commission is that we are to turn sinners from darkness unto light. Your business and my business as God's own children is to live, and so preach, and so teach, and so witness, and so testify of Him every day, that we will be enabled of the Lord to turn men from darkness unto light.

I

THE UNSAVED ARE IN DARKNESS.

Unsaved people think that they are a peculiar and out-of-the-ordinary specie, so far as the human family is concerned. The majority of unsaved people, before the Spirit of God begins to work in their hearts, feel themselves a very much superior specie of the human family, but, brethren, the Word of God makes it clear that the unsaved are actually and definitely in darkness. Listen:

"For, behold, the DARKNESS shall cover the earth, and GROSS DARKNESS the people."

—Isa. 60:2.

Beloved, do you get the full import of God's Word when it says that gross darkness shall cover the people? That is why it is that you can get so few people into the house of God. That is why it is that most people prefer to go to some place of amusement on Sunday instead of coming to God's house. That is why it is that on Sunday evening the majority of churches are closed and the majority of amusement places are open and running full blast for the Devil. That is why it is tonight that only about 2 per cent of the people in America will be in any kind of a so-called church service. I tell you, my brother, there is just reason — gross darkness has covered the earth, and the people therein.

"The people which SAT IN DARKNESS saw great light; and them which sat in the region of shadow of death light is sprung up." — Mt. 4:16.

This refers to the Lord Jesus Christ and the light that came with Him, and it tells us that before Christ came, the people were in darkness. Beloved, that will explain a lot of things. That will explain why it is that there is a dearth in church-going. It will explain why so few people read the Bible and are interested in the Word of God. You could not expect a man in darkness to be interested in the Word of God. It is just absolutely contrary to his nature. That will explain why so few people, in the majority of instances, attend prayer meeting in the house of God on Wednesday night. That will explain why it is that immorality is running rampant all over our nation. That will explain why it is that so few people are concerned with moral issues and moral questions today. The world is in darkness and every unsaved person stands before God as though he were shrouded in darkness—as though he were clothed in darkness—as though he were surrounded by impenetrable, horrible darkness, to the extent that he can not see him.

II

THE UNSAVED CAN'T HIDE FROM GOD.

The average darkness that a man will find himself in, will cause him to be hidden from

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From Darkness To Light

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man, but, beloved, the kind of darkness that the unsaved are in, does not hide them from the face of God. Instead, God can see them, irrespective and irregardless of the darkness. Listen:

"If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the DARKNESS HIDETH NOT FROM THEE; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee."

—Psa. 139:11,12.

Mark it down, beloved, God can see in the darkness just the same as He can see in the light. God can see you at midnight just the same as at midday, and though man may be surrounded with moral darkness every day, God still looks down and sees him in spite of the darkness with which he is shrouded.

III

THE UNSAVED LOVE DARKNESS.

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men LOVED DARKNESS rather than light, because their deeds were evil."—John 3:19.

Now, beloved, if you will set holiness on the one hand and immorality and sin and darkness on the other, and ask the unsaved man to choose between sin and holiness, you will find that that unrenewed man will choose darkness instead of holiness every time, without exception. Why? Because men love darkness. Why is it that men refuse to come to the house of God, and why is it that men purposely stay away from the services in God's house? Why is it that they would rather go any place else than come to a worship service? Because men love darkness rather than light.

I remember one day when a woman came to me, tearful, all broken up, just because her boy was not interested in coming to God's house. She said, "You know how I am always here, and how my husband is here every time he has the opportunity, and it just grieves my soul because I can not get my boy to come to church." I said, "Sister, is he saved?" She said, "No, that is the trouble. He won't even go to hear the Word of God preached." I said, "Then do not expect him to come if he is lost, because if he wanted to go to the house of God, it would be an unusual and out-of-the-ordinary thing. He is only acting according to his nature, for the Bible says that men love darkness rather than light."

Beloved, you can go around this town and ask people if they love the Lord with all their heart, if they love God more than the things of this world, and if men will be honest with you, and if the unsaved man to whom you talk, will deal honestly and fairly with you, he will admit without an exception that he loves the things of this world to the rejection of the things of God. Men love darkness rather than light. Men do not like to come to God's house. They do not like to hear prayer. They do not like to hear preaching. They do not like spiritual conversations. They do not like anything that savors of spirituality. Men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil.

IV

THE UNSAVED GROPE IN DARKNESS.

"We GROPE for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we STUMBLE at noon day as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men."

—Isa. 59:10.

Beloved, unsaved men are just groping in the darkness. Imagine a man groping in the darkness, fearfully feeling his way, taking one step at a time, hoping that he might be able to catch hold of some object in the darkness that will guide him in the proper direction. The Word of God tells us

that that is exactly how men are spiritually, in the sight of God. Man is just groping around in the darkness, hoping that something will take place to guide him in the way out. I will give you an illustration.

In Genesis 19, we have the story of the angels of God, calling at the home of a man named Lot, when he lived in the city of Sodom. You will recall, I am sure, how that Lot befriended those angels against those demon-possessed men — those unrighteous folk within the city—how Lot stood up and protected the angels of God. Then the men of the city said, "All right, if you are going to take their part, we will deal worse with you than with them." The Word of God tells us then that God had to take a hand, and that God struck that crowd blind. Listen:

"And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they WEARIED THEMSELVES to find the door."

—Gen. 19:11.

This unsaved crowd of demon-possessed individuals, wanting to commit sin against the bodies of the angels, were befriended by Lot, and later, in order to protect Lot, God smote these men with blindness, and they wearied themselves to find the door. They groped about in the darkness trying to find a way out.

Beloved, that is certainly a picture of every unsaved man. Here is an unsaved man who goes to church and hears some heretical preacher who tells him that if he will come to a mourner's bench and mourn for "so long," that the Lord will save him. He gropes about in the darkness. Or here is another man who comes to church and an heretical preacher tells him that if he will step up to a little hole in the wall and put his lips up to that hole, and whisper his sins into that hole to a man on the other side of the wall, who has just as many sins, or more, than he has, that that man will forgive him his sins, and he will be all right spiritually. That man is groping in the darkness. Or maybe he will go to a church and will be told that if he will be baptized, maybe he will be saved.

Some time ago I heard a radio program wherein the preacher laid emphasis on the fact that if a man is to be saved, he has to be baptized. My brother, many a man will hear a message like that, and groping in the dark, trying to find a way out, hoping to be saved, he will try this, just as he will try one thing after another, but in the final analysis, he is still groping in darkness. Brother, listen, the unsaved are in darkness. They love darkness, and loving darkness, they grope about in that darkness, hoping for a way out.

V

THE UNSAVED FAIL TO APPREHEND THE LIGHT.

"And the light shineth in darkness; and the DARKNESS COMPREHENDED it not."—John 1:5.

That word "comprehend" means "to apprehend" or "lay hold of." This tells us that the light shines out in darkness, but the darkness can not apprehend and cannot grasp the light.

Beloved, that is the picture of the unsaved man apart from the Spirit of God. Unsaved people are in the dark. They are groping in the dark. They love that darkness, and they can never apprehend the light within themselves. If it were left up to you, every last one of you would go to Hell. You simply love darkness too much.

"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."—John 6:44.

"And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father."

—John 6:65.

Look at the Apostle Paul as he journeyed toward the city of Damascus. Paul was not seeking the Lord. When I hear one of these modern heretics telling you to seek the Lord until He saves

you, I know right then, that that man needs to read the Word of God. Paul did not want to seek the Lord. He had a hatred, an animosity, against all of God's people in his heart. He was on his way to the city of Damascus to kill the Christians because the Christians had gotten scarce in the city of Jerusalem. He was working against the Lord, but the Lord struck him from his horse. I tell you, my brother, unsaved people in their darkened condition, never could apprehend the light if God Himself did not reach down and lay hold of them.

A so-called Baptist preacher told me a short time ago that he despised the doctrine of election. I said, "Brother, where would you be today if God had not elected you?" He said that that was an old Hardshell doctrine. I came back to him with the same question, "Brother, where would you be today, if God had not elected you? You could not choose the Lord. You loved darkness more than you loved light. You loved sin more than you loved the Saviour. You were in darkness, and men in darkness can not apprehend the light."

I tell you, beloved, the unsaved who are in darkness, who love that darkness, and who grope about in the darkness, are never able within themselves to apprehend the light.

VI

THE UNSAVED ARE GOING INTO THE DARKNESS OF HELL.

"But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into OUTER DARKNESS: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

—Mt. 8:12.

The Lord Jesus is talking about religious professors—people who profess to be religious, but who are unsaved. Jesus said that all this group—the Jews who are professors but not possessors, the people who have church-anity but not Christianity, whose names are written in the church record book, but not in the Lamb's Book of Life—shall go into outer darkness. Unsaved people who are in the darkness, who grope around in the darkness, and who fail to apprehend the light which would expel their darkness, are ultimately going out into eternity into an outer darkness.

We have another Scripture in this respect:

"For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into CHAINS OF DARKNESS, to be reserved unto judgment."

—II Pet. 2:4.

The book of Revelation would indicate that when Satan sinned, at least one-third of the angels sinned along with him. When Satan rose in rebellion against God, at least one-third of the angels arose with him, and they were cast down from Heaven. This Scripture tells us that they were delivered unto the chains of darkness, and are to be reserved unto judgment. Can you imagine, beloved, one-third of the angelic host rising up in rebellion against God, to be banished out of Heaven and forever ruled out of the celestial host? Can you imagine them being put down into darkness? Beloved, they are in darkness, reserved unto judgment. If God deals thus with the angels—if all of those angels that sinned when the Devil rose in rebellion against God have never seen anything but darkness from that hour down to this, and are reserved in darkness for judgment, what more can we expect for the unsaved, but the darkness of Hell throughout all eternity to come.

Sometime ago, I visited a man who was kept in solitary confinement. He is what is called a law violator by way of the habitual criminal act. He has been convicted so many times that he is now considered an habitual criminal, which means in the light of the law that he will be incarcerated in prison for the rest of his days. When I visited that man in solitary confinement, I was not even allowed a light within the room. I was not even allowed to read the Bible by

light. All that I could say to that man, I had to quote from memory. A part of that man's punishment is darkness. There in the darkness, only knowing that there was a man beside me by putting my hand over and feeling his shoulder, I talked to him and quoted him God's Word. When I came out, I said to the guard, "Why are you so careful as to the punishment of this man?" He said, "Preacher, you do not understand, but there are some criminals that there is only one thing that we can do to them, and that is to put them in darkness. When nothing else subdues a man, darkness will come nearer fulfilling the job than anything else."

Listen, brother, that is what every unsaved man is going to go through throughout eternity. The unsaved man has lived in darkness. He has loved darkness. He has groped in darkness. He has spurned the light, and has been unable to apprehend the Light which would have led him out of darkness, and when he dies, he will go out into eternity to spend an eternity in outer darkness, where there is no light.

VII

THE HOPE OF THOSE IN DARKNESS.

I ask you, is there any hope for that individual who is in darkness? Is there any hope for that individual who has been in darkness from the hour of his birth unto this hour? Beloved, there is. The three hours of darkness that my Lord spent on Calvary's Cross is the hope that that man has. As I have said many times, every man that goes to Hell will suffer in Hell just exactly like Jesus Christ suffered on the Cross. For three hours Jesus Christ suffered darkness when His Father turned His back and refused to look upon His Son. God is too holy to look on sin when that sin is covering the personage of His own Son. Beloved, for three hours Jesus suffered in darkness.

Is there any hope for that man who is in the dark? Beloved, there is. Just as that man will go on out into eternity and suffer darkness throughout eternity, Jesus Christ has already suffered that darkness on the Cross of Calvary. There is hope. There is hope for the man who sees that Jesus Christ has suffered for his sins. There is hope for that man who sees that Jesus has already suffered for him what he would have had to suffer in eternity. There is hope that as Jesus Christ has already suffered his darkness, that He will bring that man out into the light.

"Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and CHRIST

SHALL GIVE THEE LIGHT.

—Eph. 5:14.

Beloved, is there any hope for the man who is in darkness? There is no hope for him in joining the church. There is no hope for him in baptism. There is no hope for him in keeping the Golden Rule. There is no hope for him trying to live up to the law. There is no hope for him in reforming. There is no hope for him as he turns over a new leaf, but the God, beloved, there is hope for him. Jesus suffered his darkness on the Cross, and the man sees that Jesus is his Substitute is saved. The Son of God shed light unto that darkened soul has heretofore been forever shrouded in darkness.

VIII

THE UNSAVED MUST CALLED TO GET OUT OF DARKNESS.

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a peculiar people; that should shew forth the praises of him who HATH CALLED YOU OUT OF DARKNESS into marvelous light."—I Pet. 2:9.

Every person who has come out of darkness has had a call from God. A man has to be called of God, if he is going to get out of darkness into the Gospel of Lord Jesus Christ.

Let me remind you of that incident that a radio announcer spoke of several years ago. A man who was fishing, was on a boat capsized. Floundering in the water, he got confused and did not know which way the boat was, and he started swimming the wrong direction. Not knowing that he was out there groping in the water, his little girl called to him from the shore, and she called her daddy. He saw the light, followed the sound of her voice to safety.

Beloved, let me remind you of the light of God is not shining out into your darkened soul. The voice of God does not call to you—if God does not call to you, you will go down into darkness and you will suffer eternally the sins of your life. Thanks unto God, there is a hope for you, and that hope is that God will speak unto your heart, and God in His grace will call unto Himself and make Jesus Christ real to you. Brother, that is the only hope that I have for you. That is the only hope that I offer to you. That is the only hope that I have to you. That is the only hope I have to give to any man. I have to give to any man hope that God might call you, save you from everlasting darkness.

May God bless you!

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