

# WE WANT YOU TO JOIN WITH US!

(SEE STORY IN COLUMNS TWO, THREE, AND FOUR BELOW.)

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

"I SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW"

## The Baptist Examiner

Paid Circulation In All States And In Many Foreign Countries

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

VOL. 24, NO. 46 RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, DECEMBER 17, 1955 WHOLE NUMBER 913

### Those Who Hinder The Church In Its Work

ELD. ROY MASON  
Tampa, Florida

The story is told of a woman who was very proud of the fact that her son was playing on his college football team. Someone asked her what place he had on the team, and she answered, "I don't know much about such things, but I think he is the 'hold back' on the team."

Many church members are "hold-backs" on the Christian team also. Let us take note of some who are hindrances to the cause of Christ and to their church in particular.

1. There are the unsaved who get into churches. Jesus foretold that the Devil would sow tares in among the wheat, and every

church has some of the tares. Unsaved people get in largely through unscriptural evangelism. Unsavory people are spiritually dead people and they are like the dead limbs in an orange grove. A grove can go unpruned, and the dead wood will almost ruin the grove.

2. There are those who regard a church as just another club. It takes the place of a lodge or club for them and they work in it in the same spirit. They get the honor of holding some kind of an

office, and they get social contacts through it, and they enjoy food and recreation. Spiritual things hold little place with them and in fact there is little of a spiritual nature. It takes no real Christianity to be a big person in that sort of church life. Indeed, many "church workers" don't even know the meaning of spirituality.

3. There are those who regard religion and church membership as "fire insurance." They want to escape Hell, and they believe that if they maintain church membership they will be safe and secure, so they keep their "dues" (Continued on page six)

#### 1. Is it scriptural to use grape juice in the Lord's Supper?

We do not think so. The New Testament speaks of what was used as "the fruit of the vine." We are sure nothing else is even permissible except grape wine. We are sure the Corinthians used fermented wine, for some of them got drunk. Paul censured them for getting drunk but said nothing against their using fermented wine, which would at least imply that fermented wine was the customary element used. Jewish authorities tell us that the wine used at the Passover was fermented wine. If so, the Master used fermented wine when He instituted the supper.

#### 2. Is unfermented grape juice ever scripturally called wine?

We think not. Grape juice is not wine. Why should the Scriptures call something wine that isn't wine?

#### 3. Does God in saving a soul make a sheep out of a goat or was that one always a sheep?

Jesus spoke of lost Jews as "lost sheep of the House of Israel," Matt. 10:6. Jesus said, "Other sheep I have which are not of this

fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold and one shepherd." Supposedly He was talking of the elect among the Gentiles, who had not yet been saved.

#### 4. Explain Acts 13:48.

That passage says three things. 1. God begins the work in all who are saved. He gives them a disposition to come to Christ and believe on Him. 2. As many as God disposes to come will believe. 3. All who believe have eternal life. God never makes a failure of saving any who come to Christ.

#### 5. Can evolution be taught in any form without contradicting the Bible?

No. The Bible teaches that God created by His fiat or Word and that it was instantaneously done. Evolution teaches that it was a process. The Bible teaches that what God created was perfect. Evolution teaches that it was very crude and imperfect at first. The Bible teaches that man fell and that the tendency of all creation has been downward ever since (Continued on page six)

### Xmas Is Popish, Carnal, Worldly—Not For Christians

"Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen... for the CUSTOMS of the people are vain."—Jer. 10:1-3.

Christmas is coming! Quite so; but what is "Christmas"? Does not the very term itself denote its source—"Christ-mass." Thus it is of Romish origin, brought over from Paganism. But, says someone, Christmas is the time when we commemorate the Saviour's birth. It is? And who authorized such commemoration? Certainly God did not. The Redeemer bade His disciples "re-

(Continued on page three)

### BIBLE TITLES FOR PREACHERS

The supremacy of the office of the Gospel minister appears in the divine titles given to it in Holy Scripture, and in the nature of its work, and in the duties thereof. It appears also in the emoluments and rewards of ministerial service in time and eternity, which ministers of Christ shall receive in God's everlasting kingdom.

The titles of ministers excel those of all other men. They are all divinely given, and expressive of their kingdom service to God and to men. Ministerial service is the highest mortals can know, since it is God-appointed service to never-dying souls, and impinges upon eternity. Among the God-given titles of ministers are the following:

- "Servant of God" (Titus 1:1; Jas. 1:1).
- "Stewards of the manifold grace of God" and "of the mysteries of God" (I Pet. 4:10; I Cor. 4:1; Titus 1:7).
- "Stars" (Rev. 1:20; 2:1).
- "Preacher of righteousness" (II Pet. 2:5; II Cor. 11:15).
- "Ministers of God," "of Jesus Christ," "of the New Testament," "of the gospel" (II Cor. 6:4; Rom. 15:16; I Cor. 4:1; II Cor. 3:6; Col. 1:23-25).
- "Defenders of the faith" (Phil. 1:7).
- "Man of God" (I Tim. 6:11).
- "Angels" (Rev. 1:20, 21).
- "Ambassadors for Christ" (II Cor. 5:20).

### Our Enlargement Campaign

WE DESIRE TO ADD 5000 NEW SUBSCRIBERS TO OUR PRESENT MAILING LIST BEFORE THE END OF JANUARY '56

As we announced last week, we are launching a campaign to reach 5,000 new subscribers within the next six weeks.

We believe that there are multiplied thousands of people who would enjoy reading this paper if it were only called to their attention. Others who have received it have testified as to its value, and we believe that it could be of multiplied value to many thousands of unknown friends, if only presented to them.

Believing thus, we are calling upon all of our readers to seek to secure a large number of new subscriptions at once. We believe that it will not be too hard for any of our friends to secure at least a dozen new subscriptions with but very little effort. Accordingly, we are asking our readers to thus secure these subscriptions, and immediately upon receipt of them, we will send a free copy of "Mabel Clement" to each one who thus assists us.

Thus you can assist in three ways: (1) You can help your neighbor by introducing him to "The Baptist Examiner," (2) You can help us by assisting us in enlarging our circulation, and (3) of course you'll help yourself greatly in that you will receive

a free copy of one of the best books published — "Mabel Clement."

Many of our friends continually seek to send us new subscriptions. Space will not permit us to call the names, but we thank God for the many subscribers who are real helpers to the Truth.

Since the first of January, we have netted over 2,000 new subscriptions. There must be a reason why the paper has grown without any particular effort on your editor's part. Now we desire to put forth a little effort, just to see if we can really make our subscription list increase.

Many are the letters which we receive from our friends telling of the blessings which they receive from "The Baptist Examiner" from week to week. We know that it can be a blessing to many others, and we want you

#### OUR RADIO MINISTRY

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

WNRG—1250 ON THE DIAL  
GRUNDY, VIRGINIA  
Sunday—8:30-9:00 A. M.

to help us make it such.

The following are samples of some recent correspondence:

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

If one could send an offering in proportion to the blessing received from the B. E. he would have to sell most of his belongings, for I know I could not begin to put a price on such. I do pray, though my offering is small, God will take it and use it in a big way for His glory.

MARY BROWN  
W. Palm Beach, Fla.  
—oOo—

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Enclosed is a check for \$20.00 for The Baptist Examiner Thanksgiving offering. I certainly hope all your needs will be met for the year, so that the Examiner never need stop for lack of funds. There is preaching in it that we never get anywhere else. May God's best be yours.

LOREN EHM  
Phillipsburg, Kansas  
—oOo—

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

Inclosed find a small check for the benefit of The Baptist Examiner. It has made me a stronger (Continued on page three)

### Worldliness Plague Which Is Confronting All Baptist Churches

God's people are sick, tired, and weary with the modernism and worldliness that is sweeping the churches. Recently, we received a letter from a dear lady in Wickliffe, Kentucky. She enclosed a card which was sent to her son by the local Baptist church advertising "the Big Western Round-Up at Training Union." Among other worldly things, western clothes were to be worn, and a picnic supper and a pot luck supper "with the church furnishing the drinks" were scheduled. Our sister said in her letter: "He (her son) almost quit attending. He was

(Continued on page six)

### C. H. SPURGEON OPPOSED XMAS

The following extract is from the late C. H. Spurgeon's exposition of Psal. 81 in the Treasury of David. "Blow ye the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day" (v. 3). Obedience is to direct our worship, not whim and sentiment: God's appointment gives a solemnity to rites and times which no ceremonial pomp or hierarchial ordinance could confer. The Jews not only observed the ordained month, but that part of the month which had been Divinely set apart. The Lord's people in the olden time welcomed the times appointed for worship; let us feel the same exultation, and never speak of the Lord's Day as though it could be other than a 'delight' and 'honorable'. Those who plead this passage as an authority for their man-appointed feasts and fasts must be moon-struck. We will keep such feasts as the Lord appoints, but not those which Rome or Canterbury may ordain.

For this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob' (v. 4). It was a precept binding upon all the tribes that a sacred season should be set apart to commemorate the Lord's mercy, and truly it was but the Lord's due. He had a right and a claim to such special homage. When it can be proved that the observance of Christmas, Whitsuntide and other Popish festivals were ever instituted by a Divine

(Continued on page six)

### The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

#### "TAKE HEED"

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."—Acts 20:28.

There is a rather interesting background for this text. The Apostle Paul was making his last visit to Jerusalem and being in a hurry to get there as soon as possible, he sailed by Ephesus without stopping. The Word of God tells us that when he got to a town a little farther on, that

he had to stay there for a certain season. Realizing that he had failed to contact the Ephesian Christians, he sent from Miletus, the town where he was staying, and had the elders of the church at Ephesus come over to Miletus to meet him. When these elders came to Miletus to meet Paul, Paul witnessed to them in a very strange manner. In fact, I think the tenderest scene that we have in the life of the Apostle Paul is in this twentieth chapter of Acts as he counsels with these elders from the church of Ephesus, warning them of the days to

come, the hardships that they are going to have to pass through and the difficulties that the church is going to have to face. Then the Word of God tells us that after he had thus spoken to them, when he was ready to leave them, that he kneeled down on the seashore and prayed with them. Growing out of this touching, tender scene of the Apostle Paul meeting with these Ephesian elders, warning them relative to the apostasy of the future, he spoke to them the words of my text, "Take heed (Continued on page two)



SUBSCRIPTION PRICE  
(Domestic and Foreign)  
One Year in Advance .....50c

Send Remittance to Russell, Ky.

Editorial Department, RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, where communications should be sent for publication.

Entered as second-class matter May 31, 1941, in the post office at Russell, Ky., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Paid circulation in every state and many foreign countries.

Subscriptions are stopped at expiration unless renewed or special arrangements are made for their continuation.

## "Take Heed"

(Continued from page one)  
therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."

Now, beloved, there are several things that I would like to suggest that it would be well for us likewise to take heed concerning.

### I

#### WE ARE TO TAKE HEED THAT WE BE NOT DECEIVED

It is mighty easy for God's people to be deceived. All around us are churches, at least so-called churches, of all kinds. Each of them on Sunday is preaching some kind of a message, and it is mighty easy to be deceived. All around us are men who claim to be preachers. I tell you that I am a God-called preacher. All around us are men, and women, as well, who claim the same as I, myself, that they have been called of God to preach. I say, beloved, in view of the fact that there is so much confusion religiously in the world, and in view of the fact that there are so many so-called churches that are so diametrically opposed each to the other in their doctrines, and so many preachers and preacheresses who preach definitely contrary one to the other, it is all the more important that we take heed, lest we be deceived. Listen:

"For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and SHALL DECEIVE MANY." — Mt. 24:4.

"But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, DECEIVING, and BEING DECEIVED." — I Tim. 3:13.

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many FALSE PROPHETS are gone out into the world." — I John 4:1.

"For MANY DECEIVERS are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an anti-christ." — III John 1:7.

Here are four verses of Scripture which tell us that there are deceivers that are gone out into the world, and the apostles speaking by inspiration are warning us that we should take heed lest we be deceived. I tell you, beloved, it is so easy to be deceived by false teachers and by false preachers.

One woman said to me a short time ago, "But he says so many good things." Beloved, I am ready to grant that the individual of whom she was speaking does say many good things. It is true also that he has a very winsome personality. It is true also that he is a very fluent orator. It is true that he is a very persuasive personality. Put all that together, with the fact that he does say so many good things, and the first thing that you know, it is mighty easy for that individual to deceive, and to lead people astray by preaching falsehoods that are not according to the Word of God. I say, beloved, we need to take

heed lest we be deceived.

### II

#### WE ARE TO TAKE HEED HOW WE HEAR.

"Take heed therefore HOW YE HEAR: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have." — Luke 8:18.

Not only are you to take heed how you hear, but you ought also take heed WHAT you hear, and WHOM you hear. You say, "Brother Gilpin, don't you think that I ought to hear everybody that comes along, and then make up my mind what I am to believe?" No, no, beloved, the best way in the world to become so confused that you won't know nor understand at all is to hear anything and everything, to the extent that your mind is cluttered with the heresies of the day. I have said for years that Baptist people ought to go to Baptist churches that are sound in the faith. I have said repeatedly that you haven't any business to go to these heretical so-called churches. When you do, you are supporting, first of all, their heresies, and when you unionize with them, you are liable to become confused in your own mind as a result thereby.

I remember years ago warning a man whom I knew very, very intimately, as to the wrong that he was participating in, in that he would go to a Baptist church one Sunday and maybe a Methodist church the next, and to a Campbellite church the next, thus attending all the different so-called churches. In other words, he attended anything that called itself a church. I am satisfied that that man was a good man and that he was a saved man, but he felt that he ought to make the rounds. He wasn't a member of any church organization at that particular time. I remember warning him against attending all of the different organizations, and he said, "Brother Gilpin, I want to hear all that is said. I want to hear all sides of the question and then I will know what I believe." Beloved, the last time I saw that man to talk with him he was the most confused individual that I ever saw in my life. He didn't know what he believed. In fact, beloved, he didn't believe anything.

I say to you, beloved, we are to take heed how we are to hear.

We have another Scripture in that respect:

"Therefore we ought to GIVE THE MORE EARNEST HEED to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation: which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him." — Heb. 2:1-3.

Here is a passage that was definitely spoken to saved people. The meaning of it is definitely contrary to what it is usually preached, because ordinarily it is preached to unsaved people. Many times in a revival meeting, it will be used as a text for unsaved people, saying, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation." Actually, these verses were never spoken to unsaved people, but rather, they were spoken to God's own children, telling them to take heed to the things which they had heard, lest at any time they should slip away from the things that they had heard.

Beloved, I say to you, you as God's child need to heed who you hear, how you hear, and what you hear. If you do, you will be a sound person in the faith, and if you don't, you will be a sickly, anemic sort of Christian.

Years ago when I was just a boy preacher, I heard a noted preacher say concerning that Scripture, "And the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not

# SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1955

## THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS - - - - - MATTHEW 4

Memory Verse: "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." — Heb. 4:15.

### INTRODUCTION:

The temptation immediately follows Christ's baptism. The Father had just announced that Jesus was His Son. The temptation then is Hell's response to Heaven's proclamation concerning Jesus.

#### I. The Tempter. Mt. 4:1.

This was Satan himself. Many feel that the Devil is only a fictitious personality. This passage shows that the Devil really exists for it was a literal person who tempted Christ. Cf. Job 1:6,7; I Pet. 5:8.

#### II. The Scene. Mt. 4:1.

This battle was staged in the wilderness. Unlike John the Baptist, Jesus had grown up among men. Before He entered upon His life's work, He was led out into the wilderness for a season of communion with God. As the wilderness had been the school of Moses and Elijah earlier and the school of Paul later (Gal. 1:17), so now it was His school. So deep was His communion with the Father that for forty days the Spirit mastered the flesh so that the desire of food was suspended.

#### III. The First Temptation. Mt. 4:2-4.

This was not a temptation by way of mental suggestion, but Satan appeared and spoke actual words to Jesus. Satan did not doubt that Christ was the Son of God. He had heard such announced from Heaven. His "if" really means "since." This was a temptation as to fleshly desires. Satan had tried the same bait on Adam and had succeeded in turning a garden into a desert. Now Christ in the desert does not yield, and thereby turns a desert into a garden. To Christ it was a temptation to use His miraculous powers to provide food, thereby distrusting God, who was able to care for Him. In a practical way, it is a question of bread and butter to us. A man had better die than do anything dishonest in order to make a living. Cf. Prov. 15:16; Prov. 16:8.

#### IV. The Second Temptation. Mt. 4:5-7.

Since Christ had won in the first temptation by quoting Scripture, Satan this time attempts to do likewise. Shakespeare said, "The Devil can cite Scripture for his purpose." He quotes from the 91st Psalm, but badly misapplies the passage. This is a great hymn of trust and faith, and can only be applied when one is walking daily in a path of fellowship and communion with God. To follow Satan would have been presuming on God's goodness, and would have been allowing one's faith to go into wrong paths. Satan really hoped for the death of Christ thereby. If God had bidden Christ to cast Himself down, it would have been right. Otherwise, it was not faith but self-will. He had come to do His Father's will; therefore, he must refuse. To us, it means that if we are to stay under God's protecting care, we are not to create difficulties and expect Him to deliver us therefrom. We are to stay on the straight and narrow path if we are to claim His promises. The snake-handling Holy Rollers are good examples of those who presume on God's godness and protection.

#### V. The Third Temptation. Mt. 4:8-10.

Satan became the prince of this world when he defeated Adam. Cf. John 14:30. Hence, he had the power he offered to Christ. The Jews were looking for such a king as Satan wanted to make of Christ. It would have been a short cut to earthly fame to have followed Satan's suggestion. Satan suggested that he and Christ no longer be rivals, but that Christ compromise and they make a treaty together. Christ's answer unmasked Satan. This temptation to us is an appeal to compromise and an appeal to worldly ambition.

#### VI. The Finality Of The Scriptures.

In the three temptations, Christ used the Word

of God for defense. Cf. Deut. 8:3; Deut. 6:16; Deut. 6:13. When He said, "It is written," He declared the Bible to be final. When the Devil said, "It is written," he admitted the same. As our guide Book, it is final. Cf. Num. 22:18; Deut. 12:32; Prov. 30:6; Isa. 8:20; Rev. 22:18,19.

#### VII. Worship Only Christ. Mt. 4:10.

Then the Catholic idea of image worship, veneration of saints, bones, and relics, and worship of the Pope is false. God only should be the object of our worship.

#### VIII. Satan Disappearing. Mt. 4:11.

This is in accord with all Scripture. The Devil is the biggest coward in the world. He is a great bluffer, but the resistance of the feeblest of God's saints will cause him to flee. Cf. James 4:7.

#### IX. The Coming Of The Great Light. Mt. 4:12-17.

When John was silenced by Herod, Jesus took up His ministry in Galilee. This proved John's prophecy of Matthew 3:11. Instead of Herod quenching the Light when John was destroyed, he enabled the unquenchable Light of Christ to burn more brightly. Thus, the kingdom of God moves on. It cannot be stopped. His purposes are not to be thwarted. Thus Christ became a Light to the people of Zabulon, fulfilling the prediction of Isa. 42:6,7.

#### X. The First Ministers Of The King. Mt. 4:18-25.

Peter, Andrew, James and John are now given the call to service. In this instance, Jesus called four fishermen to be four **fishers-of-men**.

Ours is a similar call. He calls each Christian to be a fisher-of-men. It is our only task. We are to go out and tell others, even pulling them out of the fire. Cf. Mt. 22:9; Mark 16:15; I Cor. 9:19-22; Jude 23.

Immediately, they followed Him (v. 20,22). There was no delay on their part. "Straightway" should be the middle name of every Christian. If all the saved had gone straightway to tell the marvelous story of redemption, the world would long ago have heard of Christ. May our prayers be that we may immediately do His will when He makes such known unto us.

Jesus said to the disciples, "Follow me." This was a command to come after Him and not to run before Him. All Christians would do well to put Him first. Someone wished to hear a great preacher and said concerning him, "I wish I might see him preach sometime." Said another, "You might hear him, but you could never see him, as he is always hidden behind the Saviour."

As the multitudes followed Him, He preached unto them the Gospel (v. 23). The preachers of the Campbellian movement say that the Gospel didn't begin until on the day of Pentecost. Yet, Matthew says Jesus preached it in the beginning of His ministry. Read Mark 1:1 for the beginning of the Gospel. Either Mt. 4:23 or Mark 1:1 would look fine in Acts 2 (which tells what happened at Pentecost), but they strangely tell of incidents which happened three years before Pentecost. Thus, Campbellism fails again!

### QUESTIONS

1. Was Christ's temptation real or only a sham battle?
2. Why was Christ tempted?
3. Can the Devil force me to fall?
4. Does Christ's forty day fast justify the Catholic doctrine of Lent?
5. Was Christ's temptation a temptation of body or spirit?
6. Can the Devil touch the new nature which God puts within us?
7. Is the subject of personal work (fishing for men) mentioned often in the Scriptures?
8. Who is the biggest coward in the world?
9. How far are the Scriptures final in your life and church?
10. When did the Gospel begin?

follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers," that a sheep won't follow a stranger unless he gets sick, but if he gets sick, he will follow any kind of a stranger that comes along. I have thought about this many times down through the years. A child of God that is on fire with the Word of God, who knows what the Bible teaches, won't follow a stranger; but let God's child become sick in the faith, mixed-up, having heard too much falsehood in various sections, and the result is that he will follow anything and everybody that comes along.

### III

#### WE ARE TO TAKE HEED HOW WE BUILD.

"According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man TAKE HEED HOW HE

BUILDETH THEREUPON." — I Cor. 3:10.

Beloved, do you realize that you are a builder here within this world—building not only for time, but for eternity as well? Paul says that each of us are builders and that we ought to take heed how we build.

As you well know, the most important part of any house, and the part which needs to be most carefully built, is the foundation. If you don't have a good foundation, all the balance of the house is worthless and useless. Paul tells us the kind of foundation that we are to put in, and that foundation is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ. Then he declares that we are to build upon that foundation.

The Word of God tells us that there are six kinds of materials that we can use in building — gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, and stubble. Beloved, I don't think that there has ever been any individual that has

built entirely out of gold, silver and precious stones. At the same time, I am satisfied that there has never been any individual who has built entirely out of wood, hay, and stubble. The house which you are building over yonder on the other side is a patchwork proposition — with a slab of stone here, and some wood, hay, and stubble there, and maybe some gold and silver scattered in between.

I have told you about a house up near Gallipolis, Ohio, which was built by a contractor who brought home from every job that he worked on something that he had used in that particular job, and finally, put it all together for his own house. What a hodge-podge it is! I suppose that there are a half dozen different styles of weatherboarding on the outside of the house. There are no two windows nor doors in the house of the same size nor the same pattern. I am

(Continued on page seven)



Men do not like to be put upon the grindstone, but they are dull tools for the purposes for which God designs to use them.

## Xmas

(Continued from page one)

Remember Him in His death, but there is not a word in Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, which calls us to celebrate His birth. Moreover, who knows when, in that month, He was born? The Bible is silent thereon. Is it without reason that the only "birth-day" commemorations mentioned in God's Word are Pharaoh's (Gen. 40:20) and Herod's (Matt. 2:16)? Is this recorded "for our warning?" If so, have we prayerfully taken it to heart?

And who is it that celebrates Christmas? The whole "civilized world." Millions who make a profession of faith in the blood of the Lamb, who "despise and reject Him", and millions more who while claiming to be His followers yet in works deny Him, in merry-making under the pretense of honoring the birth of the Lord Jesus. Putting it on its truest ground, we would ask, Is it fitting that His friends should unite with His enemies in a worldly round of fleshly gratification? Does any truly born-again soul really think that He whom the world cast out, is neither pleased nor glorified by such participation in the world's joys. Truly, "the customs of the people are vain"; and it is written, "Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil" (Ex. 23:2).

Some will argue for the "keeping of Christmas" on the ground of "giving the kiddies a good time." But why do this under the cloak of honoring the Saviour's birth? Why is it necessary to drag His holy name in connection with what takes place at that season of carnal jollification? Is it taking the little ones with you out of Egypt (Ex. 10:9,10) a spe of the world, or is it not mainly a mingling with the present-day Egyptians in their "pleasures of sin for a season" (Heb. 12:25)? Scripture says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6). Scripture does command God's people to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4), but where does it stipulate that it is our duty to give the little ones a "good time"? Do we ever give the children a "good time" when we engage in anything upon which we cannot fittingly ask the Lord's blessing?

There are those who do abstain from some of the grosser carnalities of the "festive season", yet are they nevertheless in cruel bondage to the prevailing custom of "Christmas," namely that of exchanging "gifts." We say "exchanging" for that is what it really amounts to in many cases. A list is kept, either on paper or in memory, of those from whom gifts were received last year, and that for the purpose of returning the compliments this year. Nor is this all: great care has to be taken that the "gift" made to the friend is worth as much in dollars and cents as the one they expect to receive from him or her. Thus, with many who can ill afford it, a considerable sum has to be set aside each year with which to purchase things simply to send them out in return for others which are likely to be received. Thus a burden has been bound upon them which not a few find hard to bear.

But what are we to do? If we fail to send out "gifts" our friends will think hard of us, probably deem us stingy and miserly. The honest course is to go to the trouble of notifying them — by letter if at a distance — that from now on you do not propose to send out any more "Christmas gifts" as such. Give your reasons. State plainly that you have been brought to see that "Christmas merry-making" is entirely a thing of the world, devoid of any Scriptural warrant; that it is a Romish institution, and that now you see this, you dare no longer have any fellowship with it (Eph. 5:11); that you are the Lord's "free man" (I Cor. 7:22), and therefore you refuse to be in bondage to a worldly custom imposed by the world.

What about sending out

"Christmas cards" with a text of Scripture on them? That also is an abomination in the sight of God. Why? Because His Word expressly forbids all unholy mixtures; Deut. 22:10,11 typified this. What do we mean by an "unholy mixture"? This: the linking together of the pure Word of God with the Romish "Christ-mass." By all means send cards (preferably at some other time of the year) to your ungodly friends, and Christians too, with a verse of Scripture, but not with "Christmas" on it. What would you think of a printed program of a vaudeville having Isa. 53:5 at the foot of it? Why, that it was altogether out of place, highly incongruous. But in the sight of God the circus and the theatre are far less obnoxious than the "Christmas celebration" of Romish and Protestant "churches." Why? Because the latter are done under the cover of the holy name of Christ; the former are not.

"But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day" (Prov. 4:18). Where there is a heart that really desires to please the Lord, He graciously grants increasing knowledge of His will. If He is pleased to use these lines in opening the eyes of some of His dear people to recognize what is a growing evil, and to show them that they have been dishonoring Christ by linking the name of the Man of Sorrows (and such He was, when on earth) with a "Merry Christmas", then join with the writer in a repentant confessing of this sin to God, seeking His grace for complete deliverance from it, and praise Him for the light which He has granted you concerning it.

Beloved fellow-Christian, "The coming of the Lord draweth nigh" (Jas. 5:8). Do we really believe this? Believe it not because the Papacy is regaining its lost temporal power, but because God says so — "for we walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Cor. 5:7). If so, what effect does such believing have upon our walk? This may be your last Christmas on earth. During it the Lord Himself may descend from heaven with a shout to gather His own unto Himself. Would you like to be summoned from a "Christmas party" to meet Him in the air? The call for the moment is, "Go ye out to meet Him" (Matt. 25:6): out from a Godless Christendom, out from the Christ-deserted "churches," out from the horrible burlesque of "religion" which now masquerades under His name.

"For we must all appear before the judgment-seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (2 Cor. 5:10). How solemn and searching! The Lord Jesus declared that "every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment" (Matt. 12:36). If every "idle word" is going to be taken note of, then most assuredly will be every wasted energy, every wasted dollar, every wasted hour! Should we still be on earth when the closing days of this year arrive, let writer and reader earnestly seek grace to live and act with the judgment-seat of Christ before us. His "well-done" will be ample compensation for the sneers and taunts which we may now receive from Christless souls.

Does any Christian reader imagine for a moment that when he or she shall stand before their holy Lord, that they will then regret having lived "too strictly" on earth? Is there the slightest danger of Him reproving any of His own because they were "too extreme" in "abstaining from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul" (I Pet. 2:11)? We may gain the good will and good word of worldly religionists today by our compromises on "little (?) points," but shall we receive His smile of approval on that Day? Oh to be more concerned about what He thinks, and less concerned about what perishing mortals think.

"Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil" (Ex. 23:2). Ah, it is an easy thing to float with the tide of popular opinion; but

it takes much grace, diligently sought from God to swim against it. Yet that is what the heir of heaven is called on to do: to "Be not conformed to this world" (Rom. 12:2), to deny self, take up the cross, and follow a rejected Christ. How sorely does both writer and reader need to heed that word of the Saviour, "Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown" (Rev. 3:11). O that each of us may be able to truthfully say, "I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep Thy Word" (Psa. 119:101).

Our final word is to the Pastors. To you the Word of the Lord is, "Be thou an example of believers in word, in deportment, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (I Tim. 4:12). Is it not true that the most corrupt "churches" you know of, where almost every fundamental of the faith is denied, will have their "Christmas celebrations"? Will you imitate them? Are you consistent to protest against unscriptural methods of "raising money," and then to sanction unscriptural "Christmas services"? Seek grace to firmly but lovingly set God's Truth on this subject before your people, and announce that you can have no part in following Pagan, Romish, and Worldly customs.

—A. W. PINK.

All material of page four and five, this issue and henceforth, will be prepared by Bob L. Ross and Ruth Gilpin.

Enlargement

(Continued from page one)

Baptist than ever before and I was raised in a Baptist home. Many thanks for such a wonderful paper.

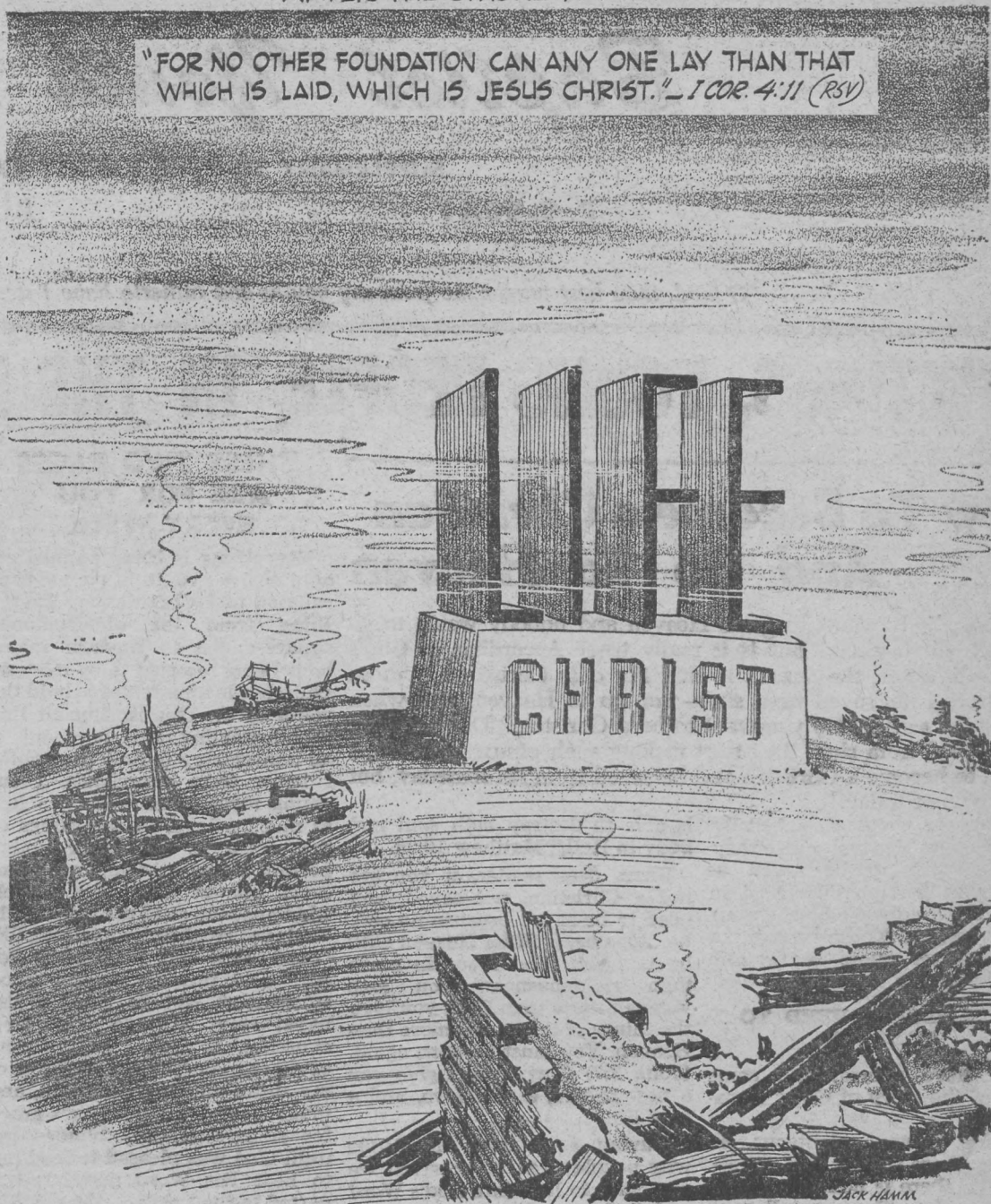
RAY WILLIAMS  
West Frankfort, Ill.

—oOo—

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

TBE explains more to me and I get more spiritual food from

## AFTER THE SMOKE HAS LIFTED



"FOR NO OTHER FOUNDATION CAN ANY ONE LAY THAN THAT WHICH IS LAID, WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST." — I COR. 4:11 (RSV)

it takes much grace, diligently sought from God to swim against it. Yet that is what the heir of heaven is called on to do: to "Be not conformed to this world" (Rom. 12:2), to deny self, take up the cross, and follow a rejected Christ. How sorely does both writer and reader need to heed that word of the Saviour, "Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown" (Rev. 3:11). O that each of us may be able to truthfully say, "I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep Thy Word" (Psa. 119:101).

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

First, let me say that the Baptist Examiner has been a great help to me, in that it has truly expounded the truths of God's Word. Your fearlessness and that of other writers for TBE, in the face of opposition, has given me strength from time to time. Your paper has always been welcome and looked forward to, in our home. May you continue to be used of God in this way, is our prayer.

MR. AND MRS. WM. KALAFUS  
Jackson, Michigan

—oOo—

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

As Thanksgiving day approaches, I am endeavoring to be grateful for all of my Heavenly Father's kindness, His manifold gifts and for our every temporal and spiritual need, and especially His revealed truth (the Bible) and those whom He has raised up to staunchly teach and preach the blessed, wholesome Word of God.

We can readily say The Baptist Examiner is out front among all our known list of so-called religious newspapers (and this is with reference only to so-called Baptist literature). Thank God for your faithfulness and loyalty to God's Word, the Truth, and each of those who contribute items and articles to the TBE.

CAREY E. WITT  
Franklin, Ky.

—oOo—

Dear Editor:

I have just been reading your last issue of the Examiner. I will say I have never read any Christian publication from which I receive as much good Scriptural reading. I thank Almighty God that there are a few fearless men who have the fortitude and hon-

esty to tell the world just what the Word of God says and teaches.

A. M. HALLMARK  
Lake City, Calif.

—oOo—

Dear Brother:

I received your letter thru the Baptist Examiner. And thank God for the way He used this paper to open my eyes to the truth. We are praying for you and yours daily that our blessed Lord will meet your every need.

AARON GOTTLIEB  
Denver 4, Colo.

—oOo—

Dear Brother Gilpin:

The church voted to send you \$20 to help out. Bro. Cox, who is our pastor, and I, after talking about you and TBE how it is the best paper we have ever read, call it the "Watch Dog of the Age." TBE to me is the next thing to the Bible.

A. B. KING  
Memphis, Tenn.

Next week, we will show how our campaign is progressing by a report from our subscribers as to the subscriptions received during the week. We pray that you will be one of those whose efforts in our behalf we will be privileged to report.

**THE CHURCH THAT JESUS BUILT**

Greatest Book On Church History In Print

**136 PAGES  
PAPER COVER**

\$1.00 Postpaid  
\$9.00 A Dozen  
\$32.50 For Fifty  
\$55.00 For 100

— Order From —  
**THE BAPTIST EXAMINER  
RUSSELL, KENTUCKY**

**THE BAPTIST EXAMINER**

PAGE THREE

DECEMBER 17, 1955



"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."—Eccl. 12:1

# Baptist Youth Witness

SUPPLEMENT TO "THE BAPTIST EXAMINER"

P. O. BOX 7

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY

"O God, thou hast taught me from my youth; and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works."—Psa. 71:17

## GREETINGS, YOUNG PEOPLE, IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS!

### How To Become a Christian And Go To Heaven

Everybody wants to go to Heaven and nobody wants to go to Hell, so they say. But is it really true? According to God's Word, the Bible, the answer is NO! For *only* Christians — those who have been saved from sin — *can* go to Heaven, and when people are asked, "Do you want to be a Christian? Do you want to be saved from sin?" they start making such excuses as, "Oh, I intend to become a Christian and be saved from sin someday, but not now, not today."

So you see, people do not *really* want to go to Heaven or else they would desire to be saved as quickly as possible. We read in the Bible why people do not want to be saved. These verses of Scripture we quote below also give the reason.

#### WHY PEOPLE NEED TO BE SAVED

"All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23.

"There is none righteous, no not one; there is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no not one." Romans 3:10-12.

"Men loved darkness (sin) rather than light (Christ)." John 3:19.

"There is no fear of God before their eyes." Romans 3:18.

These Scriptures teach us that not only are all sinners guilty before the Almighty God, but that they actually love sin and have no fear of God who says:

"The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Ezekiel 18:4.

"The wages of sin is death." Romans 6:23.

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Hebrews 10:31.

"Who will render to every man according to his deeds." Romans 2:6.

"Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which

is able to destroy both soul and body in Hell." Matthew 10:28.

Then, dear reader, if you are not a Christian, not saved, you need to be saved because no one, no, not one, is fit for Heaven until he is saved. You love sin more than righteousness; you love yourself more than God; you love the things of this world more than Heaven. You must be born again. (John 3:7) Christ must give you a new nature, a new love, and a new life.

Having seen from the Bible why people need to be saved we now wish to look into God's Word and find out what God says will save; but first, it might be helpful to notice just a few.

#### THINGS WHICH WON'T SAVE

(1) **Being baptized won't save.** The ordinance of baptism is a beautiful thing in its place and the Lord has commanded it. But the question is, "Oh whom has the Lord commanded it?" Let us answer our question from the Bible. In Acts 2:41, we read, "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized." This verse clearly teaches that the people **were saved before baptism**, for all who have **received his (God's) word** are "born again . . . by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." I Peter 1:23. So, baptism is for saved people **only**.

(2) **Neither will joining the church save.** For in Acts 2:47, we read, "And the Lord added to them (the church) day by day those that were being saved." (Continued on page five)

### THESE TWO PAGES ARE FOR YOU EVERY WEEK

Everything is being panned off onto modern youth in the name of religion and Christianity. Everything from the old-fashioned square-dance to modern mambo is being resorted to by modern churches in an attempt to hold the youth to the church. But all this flesh-appealing entertainment is all unnecessary to hold the youth; I know from experience. I am young myself and was once just as much a lover of the things of the world as any other young person. I was a member, an unsaved one at that, of a church which used to send me fancy little cards with a phrase something like "Food, Fun and Fellowship For All!" Did this do me any good spiritually? No! In fact, it debased my attitude toward churches. It taught me nothing of Christ, taught me nothing of my sinful and lost condition, and taught me nothing of God's grace for sinners. It only blinded me until God was pleased to lead me to hear His Word and be converted to the Lord.

No wonder we have so much juvenile delinquency! So little of the gospel of Christ which is the **power of God** unto salvation is being preached.

The purpose of Baptist Youth Witness is to present the truths of the Bible to young people in particular. And we are truly grateful to our Lord for this marvelous privilege. Young Christians, we ask you to help us reach today's youth. Send us subscriptions for your school friends; tell them about the paper. Parents, we humbly ask your help also. Is your son saved? Is your daughter a Christian? Are they following the Lord daily? Our message might be used of God to help and encourage them.

We want you to write to us and tell us how you like BYW. Our "question column" is open to your questions and problems. We will endeavor to give you God's Word. (Continued on page five)

### GOD'S POWERFUL WORD IN A YOUNG MAN'S LIFE

Jacques Saurin was one of the most outstanding preachers of the eighteenth century. Early in life he entered the school of theology at Geneva. But at the age of seventeen he enlisted in an English regiment in the service of the Duke of Savoy, who was opposing the French invasion of Piedmont.

Louis XIV found it to his interest to conclude peace with the house of Savoy in 1696, and Saurin returned to his theological studies in Geneva. There is tradition that Saurin was not the most reverent of pupils, giving some trouble with his self-assertion and questions, till one day one of his professors quoted to him the words of Ecclesiastes: "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth . . . and walk in the ways of thy heart and in the sight of thine eyes; but know thou that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment."

The reproof took effect; Saurin became more humble and serious. These words seemed to ignite the fires that made the messages of Saurin burn in the hearts of his hearers.

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

### Why We Should Not Celebrate Christmas

As the ungodly Christmas season approaches, we look about us and see Satan who is present in all the glamour and idolatry of Christmas. His destructive presence is so clearly revealed at this time because he is the originator, maker, founder, booster, and lord of this season. The Lord Jesus Christ has no part in Christmas; He never has nor ever shall! "My, this is a bold statement," someone is thinking. Yes, friends, but this "bold statement" is truth, and truth always carries dynamite. We shall presently submit proving facts that the Lord Jesus has no part in Christmas, and we shall attempt by His Spirit to prove to you the folly and sin of Christmas. First, we shall briefly review the history concerning Christmas.

All Christmas celebration today was founded on the Babylonian Pagan idolatry that has become the ritual of the Roman Catholic Church. Christmas celebration has no origin in the Lord nor His church, but rather, all history points to the Roman Catholic Church which has gathered idolatrous and paganistic customs and ceremonies from heathen Babylon, has translated them into her institution (not a church), and has reached out into the world corrupting it so completely with this Satanic and sinful heathenism.

Even centuries before the Lord's birth, a great heathen feast was celebrated on December 25th (the date later fixed by Roman Catholics) in the Chaldean city of Babylon. This pagan revelry was honoring the birthday of Tammuz who was the son of Semeramis, the Chaldean Queen of heaven. As time passed by, the Roman Catholics carried this idolatrous worship of Semeramis and her son, Tammuz, into her "Mass," and gave it the name of Christ. Thus, the universal observance of Christ-mass originated.

We shall now quote from the Encyclopedia Americana, 1942 Edition, vol. 6; page 623, concerning its report of the origin of Christmas:

"Christmas. — It was according

to many authorities **not** celebrated in the first centuries of the Christian Church as the Christian usage in general was to celebrate the death of remarkable persons rather than their birth. A feast was established in memory of the birth of the Saviour in the **Fourth Century**. In the Fifth Century the Western Church (Roman Catholic) ordered it to be celebrated forever on the day of the old Roman Feast of the birth of Sol. The holly, the mistletoe, the Yule log and the wassail bowl are of pre-Christian times. The Christmas tree has been traced back to the Romans. It went from Germany to Great Britain."

Surely, Christian friends, you see that our Lord has no part in Christmas because these feasts and pagan celebrations did not appear until the fourth century, and then they were introduced by the Roman Catholics. And we can clearly see that Christmas is not only of Pagan origin, but all its customs are also.

Christians, if you are now walking very closely to the Lord, you will not celebrate Christmas this year because Rome is truly "Babylon the Great" of which we read in Revelation, seventeenth chapter, and you would be partaking of her idolatry which she originated in mockery to our Lord. We read in I John 5:21—"Little children, keep yourselves from idols." And in Ephesians 5:11, we are told: "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather re-

(Continued on page five)

#### OUR

#### BIBLE

#### STUDY

#### THE INSPIRATION OF THE SCRIPTURE

By H. BOYCE TAYLOR

Inspiration is man's writing the very words as chosen by the Holy Spirit to make sure he writes the very words God wants said; "The Spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his word was in my tongue." II. Sam. 23:2. "And the Lord said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth." Jer. 1:9.

The word for "inspiration" in II Timothy 3:16 means literally "God-breathed." The word of God has the very breath of life or life of God in it.

The words themselves, not the men, are inspired. (II. Tim. 3:16). We can speak of the inspired Scriptures but not of the inspired men. They were not always under the influence of the Spirit of inspiration.

1. **Note the results of inspiration:** 1. Because it is an inspired Book, it is **inerrant**; that is, it is without

error. (Matt. 5:17, 18; John 10:35; II. Peter 1:20, 21.)

2. Because the very words of Scripture are inspired, it is an **infallible** Book. (John 10:35; Matt. 5:17, 18.)

3. Because the Book is inspired, it is the **living** word. "The word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." I. Peter 1:23 (Also see Hebrews 4:12; Acts 7:38.) Plant it and it will grow. The breath of God put life into the word. Cf. Gen. 2:7. I recommend here a very fine book, "Life in the Word," by Phillip Mauro. There is the same difference between the Bible and all other books that there is between Christ and all other men. Christ had life in Himself, could impart life, and His life could not be taken; the Bible has life in itself, "the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." John 6:63. Christ was the only perfect Man; the Bible is the only perfect Book. Christ and the Bible stand or fall together.

(Continued on page five)

#### YOUNG

#### PEOPLE

#### ???

#### ASK . . .

1. The Baptist Church of which my boy friend is a member is having a Christmas program, and he has asked me to attend with him. I know the error of Christmas celebration, and I do not want to hurt him. How should I answer him?

Of course, you should pray that the Lord will lead you and give you wisdom in this matter. The truth always hurts when we are in the wrong, but God's children will receive the truth (John 16:30). In no manner whatsoever should you compromise. Try to present to him the truth concerning Christmas in a quiet and sincere manner. Only the Lord can make him accept the truth. Again, do not compromise. To compromise is to deny the Lord for someone else. "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3.

2. If Christ was not born on December 25th, then on what day was He born?

This no one knows. But most

scholars who have done research in an effort to conclude the most likely date believe it was in the early Fall, not later than the middle of October. The Scripture says in Luke 2:8 that "there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night." The shepherds always took their flocks home before the first rains came in Palestine; the first rains began early in the month of Marchesvan, which answers to part of October and November. To wait until late in December to bring home their flocks would be very unwise indeed. By that time, the weather would be so cold and rainy that it would only be cruel punishment for a shepherd to thus keep his sheep out. So Christ must have been born sometime previously, probably in September.

3. I intend to begin on New Year's to read my Bible through in a year. Can you offer any sug-

(Continued on page five)



# HIS ONE MISTAKE

## HE LEFT OUT GOD

He brushed his teeth twice a day—with a nationally advertised tooth paste.

The doctor examined him twice a year.

He wore his rubbers when it rained.

He slept with the windows open.

He stuck to a diet with plenty of fresh vegetables.

He relinquished his tonsils and traded in several worn-out glands.

He golfed—but never more than eighteen holes at a time.

He got at least eight hours' sleep every night.

He never smoked, drank, nor lost his temper.

He did his "daily dozen" daily.

He was all set to live to be one hundred.

The funeral will be held Wednesday. He is survived by eighteen specialists, four health institutions, six gymnasiums, and numerous manufacturers of health foods and antiseptics.

He forgot God, lived as if this world was all, and now he is with those who say, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved" (Jeremiah 8:20). Guess his name!



## A Christian

(Continued from page four)

(R.V.) Only saved people then are to be added to the membership of the church. If you are saved you should join the church, but not until you are saved.

(3) **Neither will doing the best you can, save.** Because, you see, "We are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." Isaiah 64:6.

(4) **Neither will keeping the commandments save.** The Scriptures teach, "by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin." Romans 3:20.

There are a great many things we could name that will not save, but let the Bible tell us **how people are saved** and that will take care of every false way.

## HOW TO BE SAVED

The Bible says that there is but one way to be saved.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6.

There is a reason why Jesus and He only is the way to be saved. Sin is what keeps men out of Heaven and sends them to Hell, and "Christ died for our sins." (I Cor. 15:3). Christ suffered the punishment due to us because of our sins. The peoples' sins for whom Christ suffered the punishment are all those who will trust His sacrifice as their payment for sin. He is their Saviour.

Only Christ can pay your sin-debt, which is death. He has died. Salvation, becoming a Christian, going to Heaven, is in and through the Lord Jesus Christ. Read carefully the following passages from God's Word:

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12.

"To him gave all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins." Acts 10:43.

"By him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." Acts 13:39.

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." Colossians 1:14.

Friend, whether you are saved or lost depends upon your relationship with Christ. Salvation depends on what He has done and not what you or someone else has done or can do.

It is all of God's grace, which is great unmerited favor.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life

through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23.

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8.

"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation (satisfaction to the law) for our sins." I John 4:10.

Sinner friend, God invites you to Christ. Your eternal destiny depends on your relationship to Him: In John 3:36, we read,

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

—BOB L. ROSS

(Copies of this article are available in tract form for free distribution. Simply write us: Box 7, Russell, Kentucky.)



## Xmas

(Continued from page four)

Thus, we as Christians should not celebrate Christmas from the standpoint of its historical background which is entirely idolatrous, paganistic, and heathenistic. There are seven additional points, too, which we wish to notice.

1. The name Christmas is unholy, irreverent, and sinful. It is the unequal combination of the two words "Christ" and "Mass." The answers are found in Hebrews 9:26 and Hebrews 10:14. Christ died once for our sins, and by that one offering He has perfected forever every believer.

2. The Christmas tree is purely an idol which dates back to paganistic Rome. There was a fir tree used in the celebration of one of their gods, Baal. Oh, Christians, don't you see that if we celebrate with this pagan tree, we are bringing mockery to our Lord's name? "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."—Exodus 20:5.

3. The Lord does not command us to celebrate His birthday. Not one scripture do we find in God's Word that tells us to remember the Lord's birthday with a festive celebration. Rather, the death of our Lord is to be constantly held in remembrance by His own. We as His redeemed children continually praise Him within our hearts for salvation through His blood, and we thank Him that He has seen fit to reveal it unto us. I Corinthians 11:26 tells us the manner in which we are to remember His death, and we read: "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."

4. December 25th, the day of Christmas celebration, has no scriptural origin. It too was fixed by the Roman Catholics as that which pleased their fanciful desires. The Lord was given no thought of pre-eminence whatsoever.

5. The gifts which are given are not given in the right spirit. Gifts today are presented to loved-ones and friends with the expectation in mind of a gift in return. "This 'give and take' proposition which pretends to honor the Lord's birth is nothing but an abomination unto Him. It is true that the wise men gave gifts to the Lord, but their came as result of the Holy Spirit's leadership unto them in this manner. How times have changed!

6. The fact that the world celebrates Christmas ought to be proof in itself as to the heresy and sin of Christmas. This same world mocks, ridicules, and rejects our Lord's death and His plan of salvation. The world shuns His holiness and perfect Being. The world refuses to believe His Word and receive Him as Saviour. Yet they appease their self-righteous selves by pretending to honor His birth and yield to this money-making scheme of mer-

## FOR LITTLE CHILDREN: WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

A long, long time ago God was the only Person living. He had been living for thousands and thousands of years before He ever made the world and all the animals and people that live in it.

Someone might ask, "How old is God?"

Well, God does not get old. He has just always been. This is hard for us to understand because we have little minds. But God has a great mind. He knows all. He sees all. He hears all. And He is everywhere at the same time. He is stronger than the strongest lion. He is more powerful than the armies of the world. He is full of love and mercy. He hates and punishes sin. He saves sinners through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

No one can hide from God. If you steal, God knows it. If you tell a story, God knows it. If you disobey your Mother and Daddy, God knows it. He sees all our sins.

Memory Verse—"For his eyes are upon the ways of man, and he sees all his doings. Job 34:21.

Next week's story: WHEN GOD MADE THE WORLD

chants and businessmen. Christians, do you want a part with such hypocrites? Luke 16:15 tells us: "Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God."

7. All Christmas cards, programs, literature, and songs are purely fleshly and unscriptural. Usually these are pictured contrary to all scriptural record. All these cater to this carnal generation. Like as David of old: "Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?"—Psalms 2:1.

Friends, this matter of Christmas celebration is indeed a serious matter. Analyze it, take it to the Lord in prayer, and ask Him to guide you concerning it according to His will. "Am I going to partake of this Roman Catholic paganism or will I utterly reject all Christmas celebrations and stand firmly upon my inward convictions?" ask yourself. If you yield yourself to the Lord's will working within you, He will teach you regarding His truths.

Regardless of little children in the home, don't compromise with the world, Christian readers. Stand firmly upon the truth and resist Satan's arrows that come by way of friends and loved-ones. Even if your immediate family tell Sammy and Suzie that Santa Claus is coming this Christmas, I beseech you to speak the TRUTH.

"But I have already saved my money this year to buy Christmas gifts," someone says. Friends, if you have already designated money for Christmas gifts, cards, decorations, etc., ask the Lord if this be His will. If it is not, let me suggest that your money be sent to some needy missionary on a foreign field. Or, use it to help support some home missionary or Christian worker. Perhaps you can purchase some gospel tracts for distribution.

However the Lord may lead, be content to abide there within His will. Be sure to ask His guiding will, Christians, and remember that He has said: "Come out of her (Roman Catholicism) my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, (heathenistic paganism) and that ye receive not of her plagues."—Revelation 18:4. And, "Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil."—Exodus 23:2.

May the Lord lead you to the truth is our earnest prayer.

—RUTH GILPIN



## These Two Pages

(Continued from page four)

The more confidential questions will be answered by mail.

We have many things in mind for BYW. We have plans for young Christians to help us in this work. We shall be inviting testimonies and articles from you. More definite plans will be announced later.

In the meantime, pray for us and the messages that appear in BYW, that the Lord will be glorified in all things. Only by His leadership can we present a Christ-honoring message each week.

May the Lord bless you!

## Did You Ever Stop To Think . . .

### THE CROWD MAY BE WRONG

Adam Thompson of Cincinnati, Ohio, filled the first bathtub in the United States during the year 1842. Doctors predicted rheumatism and inflammation of the lungs from such a new-fangled idea. A ban on bathtub exercise was published by Philadelphia from November 1 to March 1. Providence and Hartford set up extra heavy water rates. All these facts are right out of the records. The crowd was wrong!

In 1896, England still had a law prohibiting any power-driven vehicle from traveling over four miles an hour on the public highways. Furthermore, it required that such a vehicle should be preceded by a man bearing a red flag. The crowd was wrong once more!

Alexander Bell was called a fool in Philadelphia when he exhibited his telephone at the Centennial Exposition. Today, however, we talk around the world over his invention. Wrong was the crowd!

McCormick's first reaper was derided the country over as a cross between an Astley chariot, a wheelbarrow, and a flying machine. McCormick was right; the crowd was wrong!

Samuel Morse had adverse criticism from the press and Congress. But today the click of the telegraph is heard the world over. Once more the crowd was wrong!

When Westinghouse proposed to stop a railroad train with wind (the Westinghouse Air Brakes), he also was called a fool. The crowd was wrong; he was right.

Goodyear was "booed" by everyone but his wife as he worked for eleven years on vulcanizing rubber. Today we use his invention. Again the crowd was wrong.

Jenner, who discovered vaccination, was jeered at. Some serious-minded men went so far as to say that all the animal diseases would be transferred to the human race. Horns had actually grown out on the foreheads of innocent people, some said. Yet Jenner eliminated the smallpox scourge by using his vaccine. The majority was mistaken!

All these instances of the crowd being wrong have to do with only the physical and material realm. But what about the spiritual realm?

God's Word has the answer: "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and MANY there be which go in thereat: because straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and FEW there be that find it." Matthew 7:13, 14.

Nineteen hundred years ago the crowd was wrong again when they rejected and crucified Jesus Christ. The crowd shunned and despised His love and grace and shouted, "Crucify him! crucify him!" The crowd said, "He saved others; himself he cannot save."

But the crowd was wrong! For on Calvary's cross "Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures." (I. Cor. 15:3).

On Calvary's cross "He who knew no sin was made to be sin

## Young People Ask

(Continued from page four)

gestions as to what method or schedule I should follow?

Yes, if you read three chapters a day and five on Sunday, you will complete your Bible reading within a year. We suggest, however, that you read more than three chapters a day. Read from the Old Testament beginning in Genesis and also from the New Testament beginning in Matthew, and follow on thusly. At the same time, read from Psalms, Proverbs, or Ecclesiastes. Four or five chapters a day is good Bible reading exercise. But do not let Bible reading replace Bible study. "Our Bible Study" should help you a great deal.



## Inspiration

(Continued from page four)

II. The proof of inspiration: John 5:47; Acts 7:38; Deut. 31:24-27; Luke 24:44; Acts 15:31; II. Pet. 1:21; II. Sam. 23:2; Jer. 1:9.

Other proof, outside of the Bible, may be given: (1) The history of the Jews is great proof. A king asked his chaplain for one word to prove the inspiration of the Bible. "The Jew," replied the chaplain.

(2) Fulfilled prophecy. "The Wonders of Prophecy," Jno. Urquhart. Be sure to read this fine book. (Editor's note: Anyone desiring to obtain any books mentioned in this paper are invited to write to us that we may assist in any way possible, in locating the desired volumes.)

(3) Effects on the life of those who read it, both saved and lost. It reveals our own thoughts to us. Other books tell us the writer's thoughts: this Book tells us our thoughts. (An evangelist was once asked how he knew the Bible was inspired. He answered, "Because it inspires me!")

III. Supplementary notes: (Supplied by R. O. Beaman.)

(1) Verbal inspiration means that the words are inspired.

(2) Inerrant inspiration means that no errors are in the word. As Baptist confessions always affirm, the Bible has God for its author and truth without any admixture of error for its matter.

(3) Infallible Scripture demands that it cannot fail.

(4) Plenary inspiration means full inspiration; each part is inspired in the same degree. This opposes the Modernist view of partial or spotted inspiration. Here we need to observe these important distinctions.

IV. Three words sum up the whole story of the Bible:

(1) Revelation means something divinely made known. It could not and would not have been otherwise known unless God revealed it. It is above human knowledge. This is the source or origin of the message.

(2) Inspiration means the divine method of transmitting this revelation to writing. In such preservation of the matter revealed there is no error intermixed. This is the method of preserving the message revealed.

(3) Illumination deals with the opening of the Scripture and the opening of the mind and heart to receive the message. This extends from the first stages of Holy Spirit conviction thru the full development of the Christian in knowledge. This is the power of the message as it is made effective in the life.

## READ AND STUDY YOUR BIBLE!

for us; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." (II. Cor. 5:21).

Jesus is the Door of salvation; but is the crowd going in at the door? Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life; but is the crowd following Him?

No, the crowd is still unchanged in their attitude toward Jesus Christ. The crowd still rejects His love, mercy and Blood Atone-ment. Who are you following, reader? The crowd or Christ?

"Ye must be born again." John 3:7.



## "LOVE SUFFERETH LONG"



### Those Who Hinder

(Continued from page one)  
paid up, and periodically attend church.

4. There are "joiners" who never have any idea of letting the church have any big place in their lives. They join a church, but they have no thought of attending prayer meeting, Sunday School, or the Sunday evening service. They mean to occasionally attend church Sunday morning, and that is all. Such persons go for years with no real knowledge of the Bible, or what it is all about. They make few intimate acquaintances among the church people, and they add little to the church or its life. Such persons make up the bulk of the average church membership.

5. There is the carnal class. At Corinth this class was unable to receive strong doctrine. They scrapped over religious leaders, and were involved in factionalism. (See I Cor. 1:11-12; 3:1-3.) Much of the church wrangling today is over leaders. Regardless of whether their pastor was called of God to that field or not, some of the members hear another preacher and they fall for him, and they want to oust the pastor and replace him with this new spellbinder. Soon his glamor wears off, and they flit to someone else. The carnal class are mindful of the flesh and that which pleases it. They don't want that their religious life shall interfere with their doing anything that the flesh craves to do.

6. There is the class of gossips and "grapevines." They are the people who readily grab onto every bit of gossip and evil rumor, and they proceed to peddle it. They know that the circulation of evil rumors can do no good and may do harm, but the temptation to talk is so strong that they throw all prudence to the winds, and wag the tongue. (See Levit. 19:16; Prov. 26:20.)

7. There is the class of "oncners."

They don't consider that they have any obligation to keep the worship of God going on Sunday evening. Sinners can go to Hell so far as they care—they love their ease more than they love the souls of people. So they visit, read, or more likely spend Sunday evening in front of their television set. Many churches of the north don't even pretend to open the church doors on Sunday night for the congregations long ago forsook the evening service. As time goes on, the churches of that kind will close the doors permanently.

What does the Bible say? It says, "Seek that ye may excel to the edifying (or building up) of the church" (I Cor. 14:12). Worldlings tear down rather than build up a church. "Oncers" tear down a church. Gossips and backbiters tear down a church.

When one joins a church he should be sure that he is a saved person. He should join to serve rather than to be served. He should assume that it is his obligation to help back up every department of the church. Should the Bible be taught? Then he ought to back the Bible School. Should a church have a prayer life? Then he should back the prayer meeting. Should a church carry on a mission work? Then he ought to give to missions. Should a church be a spiritual group? Then he ought to contribute to the spirituality of his church, by living a separated life.

### "I Should Like To Know"

(Continued from page one)  
the fall. Evolution teaches that the world is getting better and that the tendency of mankind is upward. The Bible teaches that God created the heavens and the earth and all that in them is in six 24-hour days. Evolution teaches that the world has been millions of years in evolving up to its present state. The Bible teaches that there was no death upon this earth until after man fell. Rom. 5:12. C. I. Scofield and other Fundamentalists, who always compromise the truth at a vital

point, in order to gain favor with the enemies of the Bible, teach that was a cataclysm between the first and second verses of Genesis. That is a concession to evolution to allow for millions of years which they say geology and biology and zoology, etc., demand to account for the strata in the rocks, etc. If Paul told the truth there was no death of man or beast upon this earth until after Adam sinned. What could a cataclysm do between the first and second verses of Genesis, if no beast died in the time? And if, as some infidels say, pre-historic man occupied the earth during all that cataclysmic period, when the skeletons of animals, etc., by floods and earthquakes were being deposited upon the tops of the mountains, why are no skeletons of prehistoric man found anywhere? Price in "Q.E.D." proves that the flood in Noah's day can explain and account for the real facts that geology and biology and zoology and palaeontology and all the balance of the ologies demand in connection with the all the rocks, etc. We take our stand boldly upon Rom. 5:12 and say without the fear of successful contradiction, that there was no death of anything, plant, animal or man on this earth until after Adam sinned. Paul plainly says that "sin entered this world by Adam and death by sin." Supply the word that is clearly understood and it reads "death entered by sin." Two facts are there boldly stated. First, that death came into this world by sin. It was not here before. Second, the world into which death entered was the kosmos. That included not simply the world of mankind but the whole of God's creation on this planet, as these Scriptures abundantly prove: II Pet. 3:6, 7; Jno. 2:15; Jno. 21:25; Rom. 1:20; Acts 17:24; Mark 8:36 and I Cor. 14:10.

6. Can we scripturally serve the Lord with the mind only?

No. That is Sadduceism or Rationalism.

7. Are the Campbellites right in the following quotation?

"The blessing of continual forgiveness is secured by repentance

and prayer. When we become Christians we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous. If we come to Him with penitent hearts He will blot out our sins and remember them no more forever.

"This cleansing is also secured by coming to the Lord's table on the first day of the week. As He was instituting His supper our Lord said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood, even which is poured out for you.' Luke 22:20. As we assemble ourselves around the table each week, we identify ourselves once more with the events of Calvary and the thought of the cost of our redemption. Here coming in a penitent mood we receive the blessing of forgiveness."

They are just as right in this instance as they are every other place — namely, nearly always wrong. This quotation is consistent Campbellism. If they follow the Catholics in giving to baptism, one of the ordinances, the power to cleanse from sin, why not also follow them in connecting forgiveness and sacramental grace with the other ordinance, the Lord's Supper? A Methodist pastor told me that there was "sacramental grace" in observing the Lord's Supper; that if a man was drunk on the streets on Saturday and came to the "sacrament" on Sunday, he would give him the bread and the wine as a means of grace. Verily, Methodism and Campbellism both move backward towards Catholicism, from whence their doctrines came. And in getting back closer to Catholicism, they get closer to each other. That is why they have so many more "union" services than they used to have.

### 8. What are the outstanding Baptist principles?

A good answer to this question would be that the whole Bible gives our principles. Read it and believe it and you'll be a Baptist. However, we cite a few specific principles:

1. The Bible is our only rule and complete source of authority. II Tim. 3:16, 17.

2. The absolute Lordship of Jesus over both the individual and the church. Acts 10:39; Eph. 1:22; Matt. 28:18-20.

3. Regeneration by the HOLY SPIRIT through the truth. I Pet. 1:22; II Thess. 2:13, 14; John 3:5.

4. The church a body of saved and baptized people. Acts 2:41, 42; 9:18, 19.

5. Repentance and faith, the only human conditions in salvation. Acts 20:20; Eph. 2:8, 10.

6. Immersion only of repentant believers, not as a procuring but as a declarative ordinance. Acts 2:38, 41; 19:4; Rom. 6:3-5.

7. The independence of the local church from all ecclesiastical authority or control. Eph. 1:22; I Cor. 5:12, 13.

8. The restriction of the Lord's Supper to those who have been immersed and who hold fellowship with the church. Matt. 28:19, 20; Acts 2:41, 42; I Cor. 5:11; 11:18-20.

A Divine Christ or no Saviour; an inspired Bible or no Scripture; a changed heart or no changed life; a scriptural baptism or no baptism; a united church or no

### Worldliness

(Continued from page one)  
saved when he was about twelve. The church where he's a member gives card parties too."

### Southern Baptists And The RSV

The Southern Baptist Convention state paper of Georgia, *The Christian Index*, has a circulation of 85,990. On the front page of the November 10 issue appears a picture of a young lad (about 10 years old) taking down a copy of the modernistic Revised Version of the Bible.

Here is another example of the work of Satan. He makes the most blasphemous and dangerous things to appear innocent and lovely. By this time, our readers should be well enough informed about the rotten RSV to be shocked and shunned at this Satanic-inspired photograph on the cover of the *Index*. If not, read Isaiah 7:14 and the footnote on Matthew 1:1. In these passages the RSV, with its modernist and communistic translators, make it appear that Jesus was not the son of a virgin.

The most fitting title for this Bible has been suggested as "The Revised Standard Per-version of The Bible."

### A Big Carnival For "Baptists"

From the Ninth and O Baptist Church (Southern Baptist) Beacon of Louisville, Kentucky, comes this announcement: "Baptist Training Union Carnival—An old-fashioned carnival with a multitude of 'booths' for your entertainment... pie eating contest... baby contest... weight guesser... shooting gallery... all types ball games... fortune teller... archery... golf (really)... your picture free... you will never forget this one!"

Too bad we do not have the apostolic gifts as Paul. If we did have them, we could do as Paul did to the fortune teller in Acts 16:16-18. And if Jesus were here in the flesh, we have no doubt but that He would do as He did in John 2:14-16.

### Frank Stagg's Commentary

Professor Stagg of the New Orleans Baptist Seminary has written a commentary on the Book of Acts. We hope to review this commentary soon in TBE.

Stagg, you remember, is the professor who says that "Jesus is not our mediator" and that "there is no mediator." From what we know of Stagg, we surmise that this commentary is just as rotten as rotten can be.

—Bob Ross

### C. H. Spurgeon

(Continued from page one)  
statute, we also will attend them, but not till then. It is as much our duty to reject the tradition of men as to observe the ordinances of the Lord."

power; a religion of service or no religion.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS AND NEW YEAR  
PLANS INCLUDE

BEHOLD THE SON OF MAN!

Every church and Sunday School each year should have study courses from this book.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO EXAMINE THE BOOK?

Paper Binding \$1.50 — Cloth \$2.50

FOR INQUIRY OR ORDER ADDRESS

T. U. FANN

163 North Ashland Avenue  
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY



## "Take Heed"

# MABEL CLEMENT

(Continued from last week)

(Continued from page two)

satisfied that there are fully a dozen different kinds of brick used in the foundation and in the chimney of the house. I am sure that there are twenty-five different kinds of paint on the house. I tell you, beloved, I never saw any house that is more of a hodge-podge than that is. They call it the "crazy house" — not because of the fact that the people who live in it are candidates for the asylum, but they call it the crazy house because it is built without any form of architectural conformity. It is built in a crazy, haphazard fashion. Many times I have driven past that house and have thought how crazy it is in its appearance, and then have thought to myself, I wonder about the house I am building on the other side. I wonder if the house that I am building on the other side doesn't look about as bad, or maybe a whole lot worse, than that house. Beloved, God tells us that we are to take heed how we build.

Years ago, I read this text of Scripture in my message and I emphasized the fact that we are building so poorly here in this life, and that God says we are to take heed, yet we carelessly go on, and instead of taking heed, we just haphazardly put together our mansion in the sky. I remember at the close of the service that a man came to me and said, "Brother Gilpin, I wish I could tear down that shack I have started on the other side and just start all over in the light of that text." This ought to be the attitude of each of us today. Beloved, God says to take heed how a man builds thereupon.

### IV

#### WE ARE TO TAKE HEED UNTO OUR LIFE AND DOCTRINE.

"Take heed UNTO THYSELF, and UNTO THE DOCTRINE; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." — I Tim. 4:16.

The words "save thyself" don't mean in the sense of your soul salvation, but it says that if you will save your life and influence that it will be a means of savings others who hear you. Paul says that we are to take heed unto ourselves and unto the doctrine.

It is important that you and I take heed, first of all, unto ourselves. I ought to be mighty careful that I take just as good care of my body as humanly possible. I realize the fact that the Word of God says that God has appointed the days and the months of our lives and that He has marked the bounds beyond which we can not pass, and when we come to that place in life, that will be the end for us. I recognize the fact that that is true and yet, beloved, I am saying to you, that we ought to be mighty careful that we take heed unto ourselves the best we can humanly speaking. Everyone of us ought to take heed unto ourselves physically — to take as good care of our bodies as we can in order to serve the Lord.

Not only are we to take heed unto ourselves physically, but we need to take heed unto ourselves that we try to use our lives in such a way that our influence shall not in any wise at all be negated nor nullified by what we do. I think it was Emerson who said: "What you are, speaks so loudly, I can't hear what you have to say." Beloved, God says that we are to take heed unto ourselves.

Not only are we to take heed unto ourselves, but unto the doctrine. Somebody says, "Brother Gilpin, I don't like doctrine. I just don't like to hear a doctrinal sermon." Beloved, if that be true, the thing you need to

(Continued on page eight)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE SEVEN

DECEMBER 17, 1955

"What must we do to be saved?" The air seemed charged with the Divine presence. Strong men broke down under conviction. Many led to come by curiosity remained to surrender to Him who died to redeem us. There were many scenes that will never fade from the minds of Sterling. A little boy of twelve years was converted and became anxious for the conversion of a schoolmate of the same age. One night the object of his solicitude and prayer presented himself in trouble to ask Christians to pray for him. He was bowed down with grief, his face buried in his hands. Presently he lifted up his tear-stained face, which was now shining with the strange, but glorious light of a new joy born within. The little fellow stood up and when the eyes of the two boys met they locked in each other's arms. The angels looked on with joy and many who witnessed that scene talk of it still. There were many other fadeless pictures stamped indelibly on the memory. The meeting grew in power for nearly three weeks and then closed in glorious triumph. It was evident a signal victory was won for God and truth. Many were converted. Mr. and Mrs. Clement were sweetly trusting in Jesus. Mabel with difficulty restrained herself from shouting the night her parents were converted from formalism to true and happy believers. Her tear-stained face shone with celestial light and her whole being thrilled with unspeakable joy. Mr. Tibbs was a bright convert. Bro. Jones declared, "I never knew what religion was before; that's so, sure." The large audience was somewhat amused one night to see the long, lean form of the spectacle man winding forward to the pew designated for penitents and converts. The tears were coursing down his bony cheeks. He was very happy and had come to confess his love for and his trust in the Savior. He explained afterward that his mother was a very pious woman, had lived and died a Presbyterian, and that a Campbellite minister had preached her to hell because she was not baptized. No wonder he was glad to see the false doctrine refuted. It comforted him with the assurance that his mother was not lost, but was happy in heaven. He proved to be a faithful member of the Baptist church, always sitting in a certain corner and continuing to some measure his odd maneuvers when pleased by what was preached.

Jeems and his party attended the meeting and sometimes seemed perplexed, but the meeting apparently had no other effect on them. Jeems was, if possible, more positive than ever. The overwhelming arguments to which he never gave utterance still seethed and surged in his mind. Mrs. Morgan and George, who trusted Jesus without reserve, adopted his conclusions and walked in his footprints. These simple folk were left to wander on amid the blinding errors of Campbellism and, perhaps, go down to death deluded. The meeting continued until it was deemed wise to close it. It was reckoned that 65 or 70 had been converted. Sixty of this number were approved for baptism by a company of brethren authorized to act for the Thornton Baptist Church. There was great caution in receiving persons for baptism and membership. The aged minister kept before the audience the fact that Baptists believe in a converted church membership. Among those received were many of the staple citizens of Sterling. The day set for the baptizing was a bright and beautiful day. An immense audience assembled to witness the burial in baptism of the new converts. A hushed stillness prevailed in the audience. The angels hovered over the scene. The Lord was present to approve and bless. There was song and earnest prayer and reading of the Scriptures. Then the venerable minister led the candidates down into the water and buried them with Christ in baptism. As he came up out of the water with the last candidate, a stranger met him at the water's edge and said: "See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?"

The man of God paused and, fixing his eyes upon him, said: "I do not know, my friend; it may be there is nothing to hinder. If you have the scriptural qualifications for baptism, I shall be happy to baptize you."

Stranger: "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

Minister: "That is good so far, my friend; the Jews did not believe it. Have you turned away from sin and worldliness and believed in Jesus as your personal Savior?"

Stranger: "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

Minister: "Yes; did you ever have a feeling akin to that of the Pentecostians when pricked to the heart with gospel truth, they said: 'What shall we do?'"

Stranger: "No, I never did."

Minister: "They were *happy* before they were baptized, for they *gladly* received the word. Were you ever made happy, my friend?"

Stranger: "No, I never was, but I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

Minister: "Yes, that is good; but did you ever feel like the Publican when he smote his breast and cried, 'God be merciful to me, a sinner?'"

Stranger: "No, I never did."

Minister: "Did you ever feel like the jailor who, convinced of his wickedness, tremblingly fell at the feet of God's ministers, brought them out and cried: 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?'"

Stranger: "No, I never did."

Minister: "It is said, 'Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' Did you ever do that?"

Stranger: "No, but I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and I demand baptism at your hands."

Minister: "But you do not have the scriptural qualifications for baptism."

Stranger: "I believe what the Eunuch did and Philip baptized him."

Minister: "But that Eunuch was a devout praying man, a proselyte to Judaism who had been all the way up to Jerusalem to worship. Your only reason for demanding baptism is that you believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God. I suppose you always believed that. Let me see," and turning to a tall, fine-looking gentleman who stood nearby, the minister inquired: "My friend, are you a Christian?"

Gentleman: "No, sir."

Minister: "Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God?"

Gentleman: "Yes, sir; I am not conscious that I ever had a doubt of it."

Minister: "Do you love God? Do you love Christ?"

Gentleman: "I think not, for Christ says, 'If ye love me ye will keep my commandments.'"

Minister: "That is correct." Then turning to the stranger: "You see a man can believe all you do and have no love for God, or Christ, or Christians. Yea, devils believe that Jesus is the Son of God and have confessed it. Do you have a new love for God and Christ that prompts you to ask baptism?"

Stranger: "I confess I feel about as I always have, but I thought it would be a good thing for me to obey the Savior in baptism. I have always been taught this is obedience and the one thing necessary to salvation."

Minister: "This is one act of obedience and only one. Many other things are necessary. The Book says: 'If any man be in Christ . . .'"

Stranger: "But how do we get into Christ? Are we not baptized into Christ?"

Minister: "Yes, *formally*. But really by *creation*. Paul says: 'We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.' Eph. 2:10. Baptism is one of the good works we do after creative power has put us into Christ."

Stranger: "Can I not put myself into Christ, then?"

Minister: "No more than you can create a world and whirl it into sublime march of worlds. This is God's work and He alone can perform it. But let me finish my quotation: 'If any man be in Christ he is a new creation: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.' II Cor. 5:17. Is this your experience? Is there anything new in your heart, or in the world around you?"

Stranger: "I confess not."

Minister: My friend, you are not a Scriptural subject for baptism. The Lord lead you to repent and savingly believe in our Lord Jesus Christ. Then come and we will be glad to receive you and baptize you."

There was profound silence and perfect attention while this interesting colloquy was going on. The stranger and the audience seemed convinced he lacked some things necessary to make him a Scriptural subject for baptism. He turned away thoughtfully and strode off in silence as if he were alone in the world. An arrow had reached his heart, and, like the wounded deer, he sought some secluded place to weep and die. Though entirely unknown to the venerable man of God, he was well-known to many of the audience. Some months after this he presented himself to the Baptist congregation in Sterling and craved baptism again and membership with them. He had fought against impressions made and convictions wrought in his heart at the baptism mentioned above. But it was to no purpose. His mind was clouded, his heart was sad, his conscience troubled him, his happiness was gone. After a long and hard fight he yielded. His conquered soul cried out:

"I can hold out no more;

I sink by dying love compelled,

And own Christ conqueror."

He told a genuine Christian experience, answered all ques-

(Continued on page eight)



## "Take Heed"

(Continued from page seven)  
do is to stop up your ears, and not hear anything, for the whole Bible is doctrine from beginning to end. The word "doctrine" means "creed." It is what a man believes.

I contend today that no individual nor church can ever please Almighty God unless he takes heed unto the doctrines of the Word of God. Listen:

"But speak thou the things which become **SOUND DOCTRINE**."—Titus 2:1.

Brother, sister, if there is anything in this world that ought to cause a child of God grief, it is when he has to listen to unsound doctrine.

I went to a church a few years ago and a man who was a missionary to Africa was preaching. It is true that he said a number of good things but in the course of his message he said a number of things that were definitely untrue. After the service was over a Baptist preacher friend of mine came around and said, "What did you think of the sermon?" I said, "He said several things that were worthwhile, and he said several things that were not worthwhile." This preacher friend said, "Brother

Gilpin, that was supposed to have been the doctrinal sermon at this association." He said, "Do you know what it reminded me of? It reminded me of eating a tomato with rotten specks. The doctrine that he preached had so much falsehood, that you had to pick out the falsehood to get the doctrine." Beloved, God wants you and me to take heed unto the doctrine.

V

**WE ARE TO TAKE HEED UNTO BIBLE PROPHECY.**

"We have also a more sure **WORD OF PROPHECY**; whereunto ye do well that YE TAKE HEED, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts."—II Pet. 1:19.

I don't mean to say that I know when Jesus Christ is coming back to this world, and nobody else knows. The Word of God tells us that we can not know the time nor the hour when He shall return. However, I do believe that there are many events that pertain to the coming of Jesus Christ — many events, beloved, that have to do with Bible prophecy, that you and I need to pay attention to.

Let's go back and think about some of the prophecies that we read about in the Bible. There

is the prophecy concerning the Devil. I would like to know what is going to happen to him, and what is going to take place so far as the Devil is concerned. The only way that I can know is to turn to the Bible. I can't find out by reasoning. I can't find out by reading what man has to say, but I can find out what is going to happen to the Devil as I read from the Word of God. Listen:

"And the devil that deceived them was **CAST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE** and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."—Rev. 20:10.

Also, beloved, if I take heed to what the Bible says concerning the coming of Jesus Christ, I can know that the Son of God is coming back to this world again. Listen:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I WILL COME AGAIN, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also."—John 14:1-3.

Here is a Bible prophecy about the second coming of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again." Beloved, we need to pay attention to Bible prophecy, to know what the Bible has prophesied and predicted to come to pass in the days that are out before us.

I would like to know what is going to happen so far as eternity is concerned. I would like to know when a man dies, is that the end of him? Is he just going to die and go down into the ground, like a dog, or a hog, or a horse? Is that the end of him? I can not turn to human reasoning, for human reasoning couldn't give me the answer. I can't ask you, because you are no smarter than I am. I can't read what man has said, because no man knows the answer. Beloved, I can turn to the Bible and I can ask the question, "If a man die, shall he live again? Is there going to be a future?" The answer comes back to us when God tells us by way of Bible prophecy that there is a future and what we can expect. Listen:

"Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought **LIFE AND IMMORTALITY TO LIGHT** through the gospel." — II Tim. 1:9, 10.

Beloved, if you want to know what the future holds in store for us by way of eternity — Heaven, Hell, and immortality — then you will find it in the Word of God. We need to pay attention, and to take heed unto Bible prophecy.

VI

**WE ARE TO TAKE HEED LEST WE FALL.**

"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth **TAKE HEED LEST HE FALL**."—I Cor. 10:12.

I heard a man say sometime ago that he never had done certain things in life, and he enumerated them. He said, "So far as I am personally concerned, I will never do any of those things." I said, "Wait a minute, brother, you don't know what you are going to do in life until the circumstances arise. Then, in the second place, you need to listen to what God says in His Word, 'Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.' I said, 'You are the individual who thinks he stands. You should take heed lest you

fall."

Let's turn to another Scripture of like nature:

"I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."—I Cor. 9:26, 27.

The word "castaway" doesn't have anything to do with one's salvation. He isn't talking about losing his salvation, but he is talking about the fact that after having preached to others, God might cast him off and might refuse to use him in any wise in the service of the Lord. The King James Version says, "But I keep under my body." The Greek literally says, "I beat my body black and blue." For what purpose? So that he might keep himself in subjection, lest after having preached to others, he might become a castaway as to his service for Almighty God.

Oh, brother, sister, God is telling us that we are to take heed lest we fall. I wonder if you think you are standing strongly. I wonder if I am speaking to somebody who thinks he is strong in the service of the Lord. I wonder if I speak to somebody who thinks, "Well, I won't be tempted to do anything wrong in the future." If so, beloved, God is speaking to you especially when He says to take heed lest you fall.

VII

**WE ARE TO TAKE HEED LEST WE FAIL TO WATCH FOR THE RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST BACK TO THIS WORLD.**

"TAKE YE HEED, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is."—Mark 13:33.

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation."—I Thess. 5:7, 8.

I ask you, would you like to see the Lord Jesus Christ come back to this world? Would you be happy to see Him return? Would you be glad if the Lord

Jesus Christ would put in His appearance before I finish my sermon? The Bible says we are to take heed lest we fail to watch.

Listen again:

"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts. And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up."—II Pet. 3:3, 4, 10.

Listen, brother, sister, do you know the one doctrine that will make a Christian to be clean in conversation and in life? It is the doctrine of the second coming. Mr. Moody used to tell the boys of the Moody Bible Institute who had charge of the various substations and the various missions that he was coming around to see them one night that week, and he wouldn't tell them what night he was coming. When Monday night came, everybody was on his toes thinking that Mr. Moody might come to see him that night, and if he came, he wanted Mr. Moody to find the best service possible going on. When Tuesday night came, everybody but one had that experience again, and so on during the week.

Let me tell you something, beloved, the Lord Jesus Christ said that He was coming back, and when He comes, I would like for Him to find me busy in His service. I would like for Him to find my conversation the right kind of conversation. I would like for Him to find me doing that which would please Him.

Haven't there been times since you have been saved that you have done and said things that you were glad that the Lord didn't come just then? I tell you, beloved, He is coming some day, and the one doctrine that ought to cause us to make our lives clean both in conversation and in personal holiness, is the fact that we are expecting the Lord Jesus Christ to come again.

Paul's message to the elders of the church of Ephesus was to "Take heed," and that is God's message to us. May God help you to heed these two little words, "take heed." May God bless you!

## Mabel Clement

(Continued from page seven)

tions satisfactorily, and was gladly received for baptism and after that for membership. He was very happy and proved to be one of the substantial members of the Baptist church at Sterling. He always contended it was a great mercy he was not baptized when he first demanded baptism, saying his mind accepted gospel truth but his heart was unchanged and untouched—that he believed in Christianity, but had not felt its power. He fears that many thousands get in as he tried to get in, i. e., unconverted.

It was announced that the meeting would probably close that night and that a sermon would be preached to the new converts.

The meeting resulted in the organization of a Baptist church of 70 members. Mr. Clement, Mr. Tibbs and Bro. Jones were chosen and set apart to the deaconship. Arthur was chosen superintendent of the Sunday School. He acquitted himself creditably. Mabel took charge of one of the ladies' classes in the Sunday School and was an active member of the church every way. The aged pastor at Thornton ministered acceptably to the church for one year, after which Herbert was settled as pastor and preached with great zeal and power for years. One of the favorite theories of the church was that church members should be thoroughly indoctrinated and its members were all well posted in Bible doctrines.

\* \* \* \*

It is five years since occurred the foregoing events. In passing through Sterling we come upon a very attractive home. We pause to look. Everything is tastefully arranged. Beauty and elegance are crowded into the premises. We enter the gate adorned with costly moulding. We pass up the paved walkway. The yard is filled with flowers of the choicest classes. The green soft sward sets off the banks of small flowers and the rich hues of the many colored roses. The air is loaded with fragrance, delicate to the smell. Ornamental urns of exquisite mould bedeck the verdant yard. A few trees promising shade stand here and there. How sweet must life be here! As we draw nearer the house there is a sweet little child playing with toys on the veranda. It is the picture of health and happiness. It is strange, but have we not seen that face before? We look through the door ajar. There sit two persons, the father and mother of the child. We see at half a glance they are content in the light and love of home. No happier companions are to be found in Sterling. Who are they? Reader, they are Arthur and Mabel.

THE END

Would You Be Interested In Obtaining A Copy Of

## MABEL CLEMENT

This book, which we have carried serially for several months is now completely printed. We will have it bound and ready for delivery within a few days. Order your copy now.

PRICE: CLOTH BOUND \$2.00

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE EIGHT

DECEMBER 17, 1955

## SYSTEMATIC - SIMPLE - BAPTISTIC - CALVINISTIC A SYSTEMATIC STUDY OF BIBLE DOCTRINE

By T. P. SIMMONS, President  
TRI-STATE BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

INTRODUCTION BY PROF. F. D. WHITESSELL  
NORTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Forty-three Illuminating and Interesting Chapters  
SCHOLARLY - EVANGELISTIC - PREMILLENNIAL

### SOME OF ITS OUTSTANDING FEATURES

1. Espouses and defends verbal inspiration without qualification or apology.
2. Affirms total depravity of human nature, unconditional election, and a limited atonement.
3. Challenges on scientific grounds the greatest hoax ever foisted on an unsuspecting world: the theory of uniformitarian geology concerning geological ages.
4. Defends the chronology of Genesis and affirms that man has been on this earth no longer than the Septuagint version allows.
5. Denies the theory of a universal, invisible church and asserts the perpetuity of New Testament churches from the days of Christ to the present.
6. Answers decisively the shallow contentions of both post- and a-millennialists.
7. Translated into both Portuguese and Spanish.
8. Now in third English edition, extensively revised, and quoting from 147 distinguished authors.
9. Used as a text in schools here and abroad.
10. Received by many as superior to all other books of like nature.

PRICE: \$4.00 POSTPAID

Order From

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER  
RUSSELL, KENTUCKY