

The Baptist Examiner

Paid Circulation In All States And In Many Foreign Countries

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

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False Teachings Concerning The Kingdom

ELD. ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

Satan, who has counterfeited every doctrine of the Christian faith, has likewise counterfeited the Bible's teachings concerning the Kingdom of God. What are some of these false teachings? 1. There is the false teaching that church and kingdom are to be identified. Some Baptist writers of the "Landmark" school have thought do this. Plainly this is an error in the light of the Bible. John 3:3-7 makes plain that the Kingdom of God is not a church. Saved people are not church members by virtue of the fact that they are saved. We read in Acts 2:47 that

the saved "were added to the church." Also, the term "church" in the original and the term "kingdom" are entirely different terms, and cannot be mixed. The significance is entirely different. 2. There is the false teaching that the kingdom is entirely "spiritual." One of the first things we learned when we started into Sunday School was that the disciples and other Jews had an entirely wrong conception of the kingdom. They looked for a literal kingdom, when Jesus came to

establish a "spiritual" kingdom. This was a falsehood which we had to unlearn. Unfortunately it has not been unlearned yet by many. It is still widely taught that Jesus came to establish a great "spiritual" kingdom and that He is now ruling and reigning over it, and that this is the only kingdom we need ever expect. Bunk! Nonsense! Let us ask a question just here:

If Christ came to establish a purely spiritual kingdom, then why did God teach the coming of a literal kingdom throughout the Old Testament? Why did He lead the Jews to look for

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How God Has Cursed The "Blessings" Of Rome

"And I will curse your blessings."—Mal. 2:2.

The pope blessed Carlota of Mexico when she returned to Rome, and before she got out of the Vatican she lost her mind. Surely a travesty.

The pope sent his blessing to Maximilian, when he set out for Mexico, and there, in Queretara, he was shot.

He blessed the French army in 1870, and soon afterwards the army was completely defeated.

He blessed the empress of Brazil and soon afterwards she broke her leg.

He blessed the prince of Napoleon IV before he left for Zuzuland and from there he returned a corpse.

He blessed the prince Rudolph of Austria, and he committed suicide.

He blessed the emperor of Austria; there was not in Europe a more unhappy ruler; he himself was one of the provokers of World War I, which overturned his throne and dissolved his empire, in the reign of his successor.

He blessed Alfonso XII and shortly afterwards he died at a premature age.

He blessed the archbishop of Peru, and 43 days afterwards he was poisoned, with a communion cup which he took in Viernes Santos.

He blessed Isabel II, and soon afterwards she was deposed from her throne.

He blessed Francisco Joseph, emperor of Austria, and a few days later he suffered the defeat of Sadowa.

He blessed Napoleon III, and a few days later he fell prisoner of the King of Prussia, in Sedan, and was dethroned.

He blessed the English ship "Santa Maria," because it had on board 11 sisters of charity, and,

poor ship, on its first voyage, it went down near Montevideo.

He blessed the ship "America," which ran between Buenos Aires and Montevideo, and the ship was burned on the 24th of December, 1871, having on board more than one hundred passengers.

It was after the blessing of the Pope Pius IX "Urbi et Orbi," that he himself was defeated and Rome was taken, on the 20th of September, 1870, by Victor Emmanuel, becoming the capital of Italy.

The pope blessed the princess Isabel, and soon afterwards she was expelled from Brazil and the republic was proclaimed, which is today so celebrated.

The pope blessed the Spanish arms in the last war between Spain and the United States and soon afterwards the disaster of Cavie took place. The Squadron of Cervera left Cadiz with the blessing of the pope, and soon afterwards it was completely destroyed by the American squadron in Santiago, Cuba.

The Catholic Bank of Lyon—"L'Union Generale," was solemnly blessed by the pope and, soon afterwards, broke.

In the year 1889, the envoy of the pope went to Resistencia, in Caco, to bless the church, and on his return, the church was completely demolished by a terrible cyclone.

The charity ball ("Les Damies de carite"), in Paris, in the month of May, 1897, was blessed by the pope, and soon afterwards

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Will You Help Us To Reach Our 5000 Goal By January 31?

At this writing (January 4) we have added to THE BAPTIST EXAMINER mailing list 977 names since beginning our enlargement campaign three weeks ago. Due to the season of the year and other circumstances, we consider this a marvelous increase. Christmas and New Year's, no doubt, slowed some folk down about sending in new subscriptions, but now that the holiday season is over, we are expecting our friends to "pitch in" and help us reach our 5000 goal by the end of January. This can be done. In fact, it can be done very, very easily.

A Reader's Suggestion

A faithful friend of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, Brother Kenneth Mauney of Dumas, Arkansas, has made the following suggestion:

"It is good to know that the subscription campaign is going fine. How's this suggestion? If each subscriber would send in one subscription for a friend, relative or church member the cost for each subscriber would

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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.

John R. Rice--An Enemy To The Church Of Christ

By Bob L. Ross

"For the leaders of this people cause them to err."—Isaiah 9:16.

"But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed."—Galations 2:11.

With a zeal deserving a better cause, many preachers contend, labor, and strive to the uttermost to publish doctrines and practices which are foreign to the Word of God. Such a preacher is John R. Rice. Rice is the editor of a weekly paper with a circulation of over 100,000. He is strictly an interdenominational evangelist, although he claims to lean toward Baptist doctrine in the main. And this is where he is hurting the truth. His influence with many Baptist churches and preachers is cancerous. They have wholly given themselves over to follow the error of his way.

We write this article because we feel the great danger of the interdenominational movement. We deal with Rice specifically because he has done and is doing as much as any one individual could do in an effort to promote interdenominationalism and to break down Baptist church doctrine. Rice certainly has his shoulder to the wheel. When union meetings were at a low ebb, Rice was one of the main cogs who labored and pushed them back up.

Here are Rice's words to this effect:

"I have prayed for long hours and have propagandized in THE

SWORD OF THE LORD (his paper) and have set an evangelistic pattern, have insisted on evangelistic preaching and so no one has a better right, I think, than I, to rejoice in the great Billy Graham campaigns. Kneeling in a YMCA room in South Chicago fifteen years ago, I prayed till two a. m. and begged God to bring back great city-wide campaigns, mass evangelism. I promised God I would leave no stone unturned, that I would suffer any persecution, any privation, any toil He would allow me to suffer, to help bring back mass evangelism." *Sword*, June 17, 1955).

In the light of the Bible, I think such zeal certainly deserves a better cause than the abominable practice of so-called mass evangelism. Despite Rice's devotion and labor, and the fact that he knows and holds (and he knows more than he holds) some truth, he is to be considered an enemy of Christ and the church, and "all the counsel of God." He is the cause of many folk being "tossed to and fro" with false doctrine and practice.

I. Rice And Interdenominationalism

Recently when Carl McIntire put the finger on Billy Graham's heretical practices and unholy unionism through the "Christian Beacon," John R. Rice came to Graham's defense. Here is what Rice said concerning Graham's meetings: "I am an out-and-out friend and defender of Billy Graham." And again Rice said: "Yes, his methods are almost beyond criticism, in my humble judgment."

We are thankful that we have better judgment given unto us in God's Word, and that we do not have to accept Rice's "humble" (Continued on page three)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

"Pulling Them Out Of The Fire"

"And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh."—Jude 1:23.

When Jesus was here in this world, and even after He had gone back to Heaven, for a good long while, His church here in this world was on the mountain top. That church at Jerusalem only had 120 members when Jesus left to go back to Heaven, but very shortly after 3,000 were saved on one day and 5,000 on another day, and then we read that multitudes were saved and added to the church, until, in all probability, that church at Jeru-

salem came to be one of great numerical strength.

Then, as a result of persecution, as a result was scattered, and other churches were begun at Antioch and elsewhere that the disciples went, and those churches that grew out of that church at Jerusalem began to spread and grow numerically and spiritually, so that there was a revival, almost continually, for about thirty year after the death of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Then apostasy set in. There were apostate preachers who began preaching false doctrines and they began to infiltrate the churches, with the result that

there came a spiritual decline, and the churches that had been thriving spiritually, began to wane. It was at this time that Jude wrote the book from which I have read. Recognizing the fact that these apostate preachers had crept in unawares, and realizing that they were hurting the cause of Christ, Jude wrote this one short letter, urging those that knew the Lord to stand up, and stand fast, for the Word of God. In view of the fact that the false preachers had come in, Jude said:

"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful (Continued on page two)

MARY IS FIRST WITH CATHOLICS

By accident, I came recently upon an astonishing testimony to the place the Roman Catholic Church is giving the Virgin Mary. In the *Catholic Periodical Index* for June, 1950—June, 1952 there are four columns of references to periodical literature on the Lord Jesus, Christ or approximately 140 titles, but there are twelve columns of references to material on the Virgin Mary issued in those two years, for the most part in the English language—over 400 periodical articles on Mary!—Wilbur Smith

MIXED MARRIAGES

By PASTOR E. V. HOWELL
Erlanger, Kentucky

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. voted, May 22, 1950, to join with the Protestant Episcopal Church in the U. S. A., in opposing marriages between members and Roman Catholics "under conditions required by the Catholic Church."

The objections were directed primarily to the written and signed promise on the part of

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The Kingdom

(Continued from page one)

one kind of a kingdom, when He meant to establish another kind entirely? The answer is, He did not! Isa. 11 portrays a literal kingdom on this earth, with Messiah ruling over it in righteousness and with universal peace. The same thing is taught in the opening verses of Isa. 2. Zechariah foretells the return of the Messiah to this earth (14:4) and following that return, he takes over the rulership of the earth (14:9).

Jesus after His resurrection appeared for the space of forty days to the apostles, and what did He talk to them about mainly? The answer is, the kingdom of God (Acts 1:3). Was Jesus a good teacher? Did He make Himself understood? It is to assume that He was guilty of stupidity if He didn't. After He had taught them about the kingdom, what did they understand—that the kingdom was "spiritual"? NO! They knew that it would be literal and that Israel would be at the top in that kingdom. But Jesus has not made clear when the kingdom would come, so they asked (Acts 1:6), "Wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?" Did Jesus rebuke them for misunderstanding? Did He say, "The kingdom is spiritual and it will never be restored to Israel?" One hundred times no. He did not deny that the kingdom would be restored to Israel, but He told the disciples that it was not for them to know when it would take place (see Acts 1:7).

One passage is often used by exponents of the "spiritual" kingdom, to reverse the entire teaching of the Bible on the kingdom question. The passage in question is Luke 17:20-21. But it is to do violence to the Scriptures to set one passage in contradiction to all the rest. Some do that with reference to baptismal regeneration. They make Acts 2:38 teach something that the rest of the New Testament does not teach. A good translation of Luke 17:20 goes like this: "The kingdom of God cometh not with outward show." And verse 21 should read, "Behold the kingdom of God is in the midst of you." How in the midst? In the person of the King Himself—Jesus. Certainly He did not mean that the kingdom of God was within those wicked, unbelieving rejecting Pharisees.

All of us who are born-again believers are now members of the kingdom of God, and the reign of the King over us has already begun within, but to stop with that and to rule out Christ's reign over this earth is either stupid or else wilfully wicked. When did Jesus say His kingdom will come? Jesus answers that question directly, and in such a way that no one need misunderstand. In Matt. 25:31 He says, "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory." What does that say? It says that He shall sit upon His throne when He comes again. If He were now ruling over the only kingdom that He shall ever rule over, He would never have said that.

Also the picture given in Dan. 2:34-35 and v. 44-45 is that of

Christ first smashing Gentile world rule completely — then His kingdom grows and expands until it covers "the whole earth."



"Out Of The Fire"

(Continued from page one)

for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."—Jude 1:3.

Now, beloved, if I understand the Word of God, and if I understand the times in which we are living, I am sure that our days are very similar to the days in which Jude lived. I am sure that there are plenty of false churches, apostate teachers, and lying preachers in the world today. I am sure that there are many individuals in the world today just like there were in the days of Jude, who are falsely preaching and who are leading astray the people of the various churches. Therefore, I think it is very appropriate that we take this Scripture, and look at it, and think about it in the light of the conditions of this world today.

I

THE FIRE.

You will notice that Jude says that we ought to save some by pulling them out of the fire. Now, beloved, the fire that he refers to is the fire of Hell itself. It is the same fire that he is talking about in the seventh verse, when he said, "suffering the vengeance of eternal fire," so that the fire that he tells us which we as God's children ought to pull others out of, is the fire of Hell itself.

I don't mean to say that the people living here in this world are already in Hell, nor do I mean to say that people get their Hell here in this world. In fact, beloved, it is only a modernist who believes such. I do not mean to say that people are getting their Hell right now in this life, but rather, I believe that he means that we ought to pull out of the fire right now the unsaved people in this world who are on the road to Hell.

Let me say now that even though I am not too old in years, I do believe in an old-fashioned lake of fire. Here is one preacher who believes very, very definitely that Hell is a reality, and who believes that the fire of Hell is literal fire. Listen:

"The wicked shall be turned into HELL, and all the nations that forget God."—Psa. 9:17.

"But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of HELL FIRE."—Mt. 5:22.

"And 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."—Mt. 10:28.

"And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to HELL."—Mt. 11:23.

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves."—Mt. 23:15.

"Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the DAMNATION OF HELL?"—Mt. 23:33.

"And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into HELL, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life with one foot, than having two feet to be cast into HELL, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 1956

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT (Concluded) - - - - - Matthew

MEMORY VERSE: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."—Acts 16:31.

I. Passing Judgment. Mt. 7:1,2.

Jesus never condemned anyone for having discrimination enough to see into one's character. He does condemn us though for fixing our eyes on the faults of another, and magnifying these, thus passing by all virtues. Many are as blind as moles as to the virtues or goodness in another, and yet exceedingly lynx-eyed as to one's failings.

This passage is often misapplied. It does not mean that we should never weigh nor consider the doctrines taught by another. In all His ministry, Jesus commanded that His disciples be very censorious as to the doctrine they received. Cf. Mk. 8:15. Never receive any doctrine unless it is in accord with the teachings of God's Word.

II. Motes And Beams. Mt. 7:3-5.

Literally, Jesus said that we should take the "saw-log" out of our own eyes before we remove the "toothpick" from our brother's eye. He means that before we attempt a moral reformation of our neighbors, we must attempt to mend our own conduct. A blind guide is bad enough, but a blind oculist is a ridiculous laughing-stock. A remarkable example of condemning the misconduct of others while guilty of even greater misconduct, is the case of David. Cf. II Sam. 12:1-7. Both the mote and beam need casting out, but cast out first the beam, lest you be termed a "hypocritical professor."

III. Pearls Before Swine. Mt. 7:6.

In the Talmud, a good thought is often called a "pearl." Swine are considered as animals without feeling, and can be likened to blasphemous, profane men who are disinterested and without feeling toward the gospel. Then Jesus means that we are to avoid those who would despise the precious Truth. Many times in doing personal work, I have left a home where the inmates were disinterested, and antagonistic to my message, feeling that I have cast my pearls before swine.

IV. Prayer. Mt. 7:7-11.

Jesus was speaking to His disciples. He was encouraging them to pray. There is quite a similarity between an eastern loaf and a stone; a fish and a serpent. An earthly father, however imperfect his love, would never cheat his unsuspecting child with what looks like an answer to his wish. In like measure, our Heavenly Father encourages us to call on Him for our daily needs.

V. The Golden Rule. Mt. 7:12.

This is the summary of all our duties to our neighbors. The world says that we are to treat others as they have treated us — return a kindness, insult, or an injury. Jesus says that we should treat them as we wish them to treat us.

BUT remember the Golden Rule will NOT save. Many are depending upon this axiom of Jesus for their salvation. Jesus was not telling men how to be saved, but was telling men how to live. The Golden Rule will not save. It takes the blood of Jesus to bring any man to God. Cf. Jn. 14:6; Acts 4:11,12; Heb. 9:22.

VI. The Two Roads. Mt. 7:13,14.

There are just two roads that one may take —

the road to Heaven or the road to Hell. These roads are very much different in their character. The road to Heaven is narrow, it leads to Hell and very few find it. The road to Hell is broad and crowded for many travel this road. Every man and woman is on one of these two roads. The proud, cultured, refined, unregenerate woman is on the same road as the vulgar, common prostitute of the street. Lots of dignified, but unsaved church members, are on this same road. The only one who is on the narrow road is that one who knows in his heart that the Holy Spirit is bearing witness with his spirit that he is a child of God. Cf. Rom. 8:16.

VII. False Teachers. Mt. 7:15-20.

Jesus warns His disciples to beware of false teachers. How we need to sound out this message today! In many pulpits there are modernists who whittle away the Genesis account of creation, the virgin birth, deity, and resurrection of Jesus, and the verbal inspiration of the Scriptures. Almost every Protestant pulpit denies the power of God to keep the soul that is saved. At this very time there are easily 1000 different religious faiths claiming to be the one established by Jesus. What the child of God to do? By the Word of God, he should decide which is scriptural and avoid all others, just as a converted drunkard should avoid the saloon or a glass of intoxicating beverage. Cf. II Tim. 3:5; Rom. 16:17; II Thess. 3:6; II John 10,11.

VIII. The End Of A Professor Who Is Depending Upon Works. Mt. 7:21-23.

This passage teaches that not everyone who is called on God in prayer will be saved (V. 21). There will be preachers in Hell (V. 22). Everyone who is depending upon his works to save is going to Hell. There will not be a Methodist nor a Catholic preacher in Heaven if they believe what they preach, for all preach salvation by works. Works will not save. Cf. Jn. 6:28; Rom. 4:5; Rom. 9:11; Rom. 9:30-33; Eph. 2:8,9; Titus 3:5; II Tim. 1:9. It is faith in Christ which saves. Cf. Jn. 3:18; Jn. 5:24; Acts 16:30,31.

IX. The Two Foundations. Mt. 7:24-27.

Growing out of the preceding verses, Jesus gives an illustration. Those depending on "works" which save, have built upon sand. Those depending on Jesus wholly, are built upon the solid rock. The evangelist's song, "On Christ the Solid Rock I stand." Cf. Cor. 3:11-15.

QUESTIONS

1. Should we criticize or judge others?
2. What is meant by "casting pearls before swine?"
3. Does God want us to come to Him with our problems?
4. What are the two roads spoken of in this lesson?
5. Who are false teachers?
6. What is the sure foundation?
7. Will the "Golden Rule" save?
8. Will any religious people go to Hell?
9. Which should be removed first — the mote or the beam?
10. Show how this chapter encourages prayer.

of this building without knowing Jesus Christ as his Saviour, and were to fall on the street with a heart attack, if he died, his soul would be in Hell, before you could lift his body from the concrete. I tell you, beloved, you can't read these Scriptures without the realization that there is a Hell to shun and a Heaven to gain.

I love to preach this truth, because it is the truth of God's Word. I have often thought that a man ought to preach Hell with a broken heart, and with tears in his eyes and with tears in his voice. A man ought to preach Hell, beloved, with a compassion within his soul, but whether he does or not, the truth remains, there is a Hell out there before every man who is outside of the Lord Jesus Christ. If I could, beloved, I would like to burn it into the soul of every one of you, that it is either Jesus Christ as your Saviour, or an everlasting Hell for your soul.

Years ago, I attended church one night, where they had a gas light right behind the pulpit. They had the light fixed in some manner so that it was burning in letters these words, "God is Love." As I sat there and looked at it, I thought, how true. God is love, and it dawned upon me that they were trying to literally burn that message into the minds of people, as they kept that gas light burning continually. It is true, beloved, that God is love, and yet, at the

same time, I would like to burn it into your your soul that God the God that loves His own elect has prepared a Hell for everyone who dies outside of the Lord Jesus Christ. My text says, "Otherwise ye shall be saved with fear, pulling them out of the fire." You may be lost today. You may not be already in the fire, but, brother, sister, the fire is so close to you — the fire of Hell is so near to you, that Jude uses the figure of speech that though you were already falling into it, and he says, "Pull them out of the fire."

As I stand here and preach, am impressed by the attention that you give me, and by the earnestness that I see upon your face, yet, beloved, you don't believe what I am saying. If I were to tell you that between the building and the corner that there is a wide open chasm in the sidewalk, and that if you were to go in that direction, you might fall to your destruction, you wouldn't go there. I might tell you that I don't know where the chasm is, but somewhere between here and the corner, there is that chasm. It may be one foot, two feet, or yard, or it may be a half block, maybe almost to the end of the block. I don't tell you where it is. I just say that there is a chasm out there, and if you go in that direction, it would be at your risk, and you might fall to your death. Believing me, not one of you would take a step in that

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John R. Rice

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Matthew 28:19, 20. Nothing seems to thrill this man more than to see the same conglomeration of every heretical organization in town yoked, and pushing a wide evangelistic campaign.

As for Billy Graham's methods, he has only to open the Bible to expose this unionist and his practices. I sat in on one of Billy Graham's "after meetings" when he was in Nashville, Tennessee, a few months ago, to hear the instructions which he gave to the "converts." I ask my readers to read in the Bible where any New Testament pastor, evangelist, teacher, missionary, or personal worker ever told a convert to join the church of your choice.

Of course, Graham said to join the church which would benefit you most spiritually, and in which the Bible is believed and preached. But of what benefit is such instruction when almost every heretical movement in Nashville is represented in this campaign! It is very evident to the observer that Graham, Rice, and their kind continually and wilfully and wickedly shun "to declare all the counsel of God."

I sat in on the after-meeting of another union evangelist which Graham pushes through his paper, Eddie Martin in Dyersburg, Tennessee, campaign. There was a young girl who had walked down the aisle who was a Pentecostal. The "after-meeting," she made mention of this fact in a question which she asked this evangelist. It was very noticeable to me that the evangelist shunned to make any attempt to lead the girl from the error of Holy Rollerism. The obvious reason that Rice and his followers shun to declare God's counsel in full is that if they do, they will lose the support of the heretical groups.

II. John R. Rice And His "Non-Essentials"

When Rice and his followers are faced through with the plain teachings of the Word of God in concern to their unfaithfulness to doctrines relative to the church, baptism, Lord's Supper, etc., they immediately hang out their well-known and often-used "non-essential" sign. For instance, in an article appearing in Rice's paper sometime ago answering a question concerning baptism, Rice says that it is a "minor detail." Well, it is just big enough of a "minor detail" that the Lord Jesus Christ included it as one of the components of the Great Commission given in Matthew 28:19, 20. Anyone who thinks that baptism is a minor detail would do wisely to search the Scriptures whether these things are so.

Rice has a booklet entitled "Bible Baptism" which we think is very good on the subject of baptism considering who its author is. But Rice even plays the hypocrite by not obeying his own teachings in this book. He shows that baptism is by immersion, that infant baptism is wrong, and that Protestant sprinkling and pouring are wrong.

But what does Rice practice in union meetings? He joins hands with the Methodists, Presbyterians, etc., for a union meeting. And then, he allows his "converts" to go away to these organizations, and they are sprinkled or poured upon for baptism. What is this but playing the hypocrite as Peter in Galatians 2:9?

The reason that Rice disregards many of the Lord's commandments is because he has a "zeal of God but not according to knowledge." He is more devoted to man than he is to God. He has a great "zeal for souls" but very little zeal for submission to the will of God. No one who has zeal according to knowledge will ever be forced to go beyond or come short of "that which is written" (I Corinthians 4:6). He will not have to brand certain teachings of the Bible as non-essentials, but rather, he will strive to obey his Lord and Saviour who said: "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: But whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:19). Scriptural zeal will bow humbly and thank the Lord and ask grace and knowledge not to promote heretical union meetings for the purpose of winning the lost, be their souls ever so precious as they truly are, but to evangelize scripturally, baptize scripturally, and to teach "all things whatsoever I (the Lord Jesus) have commanded." Scriptural zeal will not compromise the least of God's commandments, but will "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." And this is the cause which is deserving of such zeal as that of

John Rice instead of union meetings.

III. Rice Attacks And Smears Baptists

One thing in particular which the observer will note to be very conspicuous concerning Rice is that he has a hatred for the Bible doctrine of the local church as held by Baptists. His favorite slanderous epithets of the local church as held by independent Baptists are "man-made organizations" and "human organization." This seems to be his favorite way to discredit the local church. And truly, he does discredit it. God is dishonored, Christ is dishonored, and the Holy Spirit dishonored by Rice's teaching that the Divine institution of the local church is a "man-made" organization.

Of us who hold to the local church doctrines, Rice says this:

"The Bible does not indicate that Jesus Christ died any more for a Baptist church than for a local Pentecostal assembly or a Roman Catholic organization. In fact, the Bible does not indicate that Christ died any more for a local congregation of Baptists, some saved and some lost, than for a Masonic lodge, with some saved and some lost. To give honor to a man-made organization which God intends for that body He will call out, all the redeemed of all ages, to be assembled in Heaven, is wrong."

As we understand the Bible, this is not short of blasphemy. Comparing Christ's church with the heretical Pentecostal organization and the adulterous Roman Catholic organization is surely blasphemy. And for one to say that Christ died no more for His church than He did for a Masonic lodge, he must surely have dipped his pen in the juice of gall to write such a statement. But thanks be unto God, Christ did do more in His death for a Baptist church which is His church than He did for these institutions of Satan. We do not mean that only people who are Baptists will be saved; many who are not Baptists surely will be in Heaven. But as for the church, Christ has but one, the church which He Himself built.

And Christ built a Baptist church. He commissioned His Baptist church, He promised to be with His Baptist church until the end of the age, and He has fulfilled His promise.

Of course, by speaking of the Baptist church, we do not mean that it is some big organization such as "the Methodist church" or the "Roman Catholic Church." In the Bible when we read of "the church," it simply means the church as an institution, such as the home and marriage. Certainly when we say "the home," we do not mean that there is only one big home. We simply use the home in the generic or abstract sense. "The church" never means a universal body, either invisible or visible. Even in Heaven, the church will be a local body, although it will be only one in number.

IV. Rice's Heresy Concerning The Great Commission

Rice says "It is a mistake to assume that Christ gave the Great Commission to local churches." He quotes Matt. 28:19, Mark 16:15,16, Luke 24:46, and Acts 1:8, and he says after each one that the local congregation is not once mentioned. And then he says "The Great Commission was already given to the eleven apostles." For proof texts, he quotes Matt. 28:16, Mark 16:14, Luke 24:33, and Acts 1:2. And then we read: "So directly, I say, the Great Commission was given to the eleven apostles and not to any local church as such." ("Bible Doctrine of the Church").

We heartily agree with Rice that the Great Commission was given to the eleven apostles, but what he does not perceive or rather, what he abhors, is the fact that the apostles were the first Baptist church. We do not mean that they wore the name "Baptist"; we mean that they held to Baptist doctrine and practiced it. And the Scriptures refer to the apostles as "the church." The only record we have of the Lord Jesus ever singing a hymn was after

He had eaten the Supper with the eleven apostles. And in Hebrews 2:12 a Scripture in reference to the Lord says: "In the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee." And in I Corinthians 11:28, we learn that "God hath set some in the church, first apostles." Searching the Gospels, we learn when God set these apostles in the church. We read in Mark 3:13, 14—"And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. And he ordained twelve."

These passages and many more clearly teach that the apostles comprised the first church. And that this church was a Baptist church in doctrine and practice, both Scripture and history testify. To this first Baptist church—the apostles—as Rice says, Christ gave the commission. That it was not to them as individuals, but as a church He gave the Commission, is evident from the fact that He said: "I am with you always, even unto the end of the age." The individual apostles have died. This promise was to the church (apostles) as a local body and not to individuals. Another Scripture which perfectly harmonizes with the Lord's words is Ephesians 3:21: "Unto him be glory in the CHURCH (not individuals) by Jesus Christ throughout ALL AGES, WORLD WITHOUT END."

But in the face of these clear Bible facts and ecclesiastical history, Rice says: "Some Baptist people say that God gave the Commission to local churches, and some say He gave it only to Baptist churches! But in this matter . . . Baptists . . . are wrong."

John R. Rice can bang his head against the Bible doctrine of the local church and the clear facts of history all he pleases, but he can never change the Truth nor historical facts, nor can he change our Lord's Commission.

We do not in the least desire to lessen individual responsibility, nor to idolize the local church as an organization. We simply desire to follow the Bible teaching as it is. Individuals comprise a local church; without them it would not exist. But it is Christ's command and sovereign will that through local churches— independent bodies made up of individuals— His Commission be carried out. Christ desires that His children be one in faith and practice and service. Not one big universal organization, but one in spirit and truth. And by wisely giving His Commission and ordinances to the local church, He has ordained it as the pillar and ground of the truth. This does not mean that He has made the church the final authority as Rome teaches, but that by His Spirit, He is working in and through individual, local bodies of believers to perform His purpose.

V. John R. Rice Is Definitely An Arminian

In a recent sermon in his paper entitled "God At The Door," Rice makes it very clear that he is of this stock. Jerking Revelation 3:20 out of its context, Rice says that "Jesus calls at every heart's door." And at the close of the sermon, we have this heretical plea: "I beg you to throw open your heart's door this moment to Jesus, then sign the following decision form, copy in a letter, and mail it to me."

In this sermon, Rice would have us believe that Jesus is standing at the heart of every sinner longing to enter, but hasn't the power to do so until the fickle and spurious will of the sinner "opens the door." But what saith God's Word? Is Christ trying to save everyone and is He unable to do so? Did Christ die for some, suffer the penalty for their sins, whom He can not save? Does God's will or man's will determine who shall be saved? To answer these questions, we turn to the Word of God, and we hear the Lord Jesus Christ say:

"ALL that the Father GIVETH me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."—John 6:37.

Again, we hear Him say: "Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me except

it were given unto him of my Father."—John 6:65.

Again, our Lord says:

"But ye believe not, because you are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."—John 10:26-28.

And in John 15:16, Jesus said: "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you."

In Mark 4:11 we read:

"And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of heaven: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables: That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at anytime they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them."

This does not sound like John R. Rice's "door-knocking." If Rice had been there on this occasion quoted from Mark, he might have rebuked the Lord for His teaching in parables, so that certain would not understand the truth, and be saved. May God hasten the day when such zealous Arminians will bow the knee and say:

"Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight."—Matthew 11:26.

Anyone who can read should have no difficulty in understanding that Revelation 3:20 does not refer to the sinner's heart. Verse twenty-two interprets the passage very clearly. We read: "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

Of course, Rice is a heretic as far as the doctrine of election is concerned. He often publishes sermons of the mighty preacher of years gone by, C. H. Spurgeon, but here is a prediction that he will never publish one of Spurgeon's sermons which deals with sovereign grace. Why doesn't he publish Spurgeon's sermon on the doctrine of election? I am sure that Spurgeon would like nothing better, and it would cause him to rejoice in Heaven at this moment, if Rice would do so. This, no doubt, would glorify the Lord more than any other thing that John R. Rice has ever done through his paper!

These are just a few of the heresies of John R. Rice and interdenominationalists in general. To these we might add more: He is a feminist, a communion heretic, an invitation heretic, and a decision-card heretic.

Try interdenominationalism by the Bible, and you will "touch not the unclean thing" (II Corinthians 6:17).



Mixed Marriages

(Continued from page one) the non-Catholic involved, that "all children must be brought up in the Catholic faith."

The resolution said—"the Presbyterian Church, in taking such a stand would take its place with another great communion (the Episcopal) of the Holy Catholic Church in stressing the principles of Christian democracy and religious freedom."

This is a stand that should have been taken by all Protestant faiths long ago. It would be well for all others to do likewise. Too long has the Roman Catholic Church thus been making inroads into the Protestant churches.

The Catholic Church looks upon marriage as one of the sacraments of the church. Therefore, in order for the marriage to be legal before man or God, it must be performed in the Catholic Church, by a Catholic priest. In fact, I have had Catholics tell me that if a Catholic and a Protestant are married by a Protestant minister that the two are not truly joined together in the bonds of holy wedlock.

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
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Baptist Youth Witness

P. O. BOX 7

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY

BOB L. ROSS, Editor

RUTH GILPIN, Associate Editor

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

HOLLYWOOD AND THE MELLOW PREACHERS

The Lord's Requirements For A Christian Home

By RUTH GILPIN

Christian friends, as we view our neighbors and friends around us today, we realize that there is something wrong in the home. Either its foundation or its morals are sinking lower and lower. The divorce record shows that two of every five marriages end in divorce today. The rate of juvenile delinquency has increased sharply; cases of rape and child-molesting are alarming in number. Children are disobedient to their parents, and possess no apparent honor for them.

Yes, the condition of most homes today is shocking and heart-breaking. But more than this: These present conditions are an abomination to the Lord. If homes of today were founded upon, centered around, and conducted according to the Divine laws of our great Almighty Lord and God, they would be entirely different. There would be a great many changes in the average American home. What are the requirements for a Christian home? By speaking of the "Christian" home, we refer to that home which is "Christ-like." Truly, the Lord's requirements for the home which is pleasing unto Him are important and precious.

The first requirement is that the husband and wife be saved, bought by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is one of the most important aspects of the Christian home. If one of the marriage partners — either the husband or the wife — is unsaved, unhappiness, sorrow, and regret will definitely result. A child of God and a child of Satan simply can not yoke together happily! When two such yoke, it is an unequal yoke, and the old adage, has proven true numerous times: A child of God who marries a child of the Devil has trouble with his father-in-law, Satan.

How I earnestly and sincerely desire to impress upon your minds that God's own should not marry a child of Satan. God's Word tells us this in II Corinthians 6:14. Perhaps you have heard this quoted throughout all your life, but let us read it again:

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"

Young Christians, these are the words of our Lord. He spoke these words for our learning, knowledge, and obedience. And if you, Christian young person, are dating or are engaged to an unsaved young man or woman, you are acting in direct disobedience to God. And He will chasten you because of your wilful disobedience unto Him, for we read His words in Deuteronomy when He spoke to His people, the Israelites: "Neither shalt thou make marriages with them (the unsaved people of that land); thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and DESTROY THEE SUDDENLY." — Deut. 7:3, 4.

I believe that most of us have experienced an unequal yoke with an unsaved boy friend or girl friend, and if we speak the truth, we will testify that we disobeyed the Lord, that He chastened us in some way or other, and that we were very unhappy until we broke from the unsaved one.

Christians, true love does not exist in an unequal yoke. God's child has a holy and spiritual love, while Satan's offspring holds a fleshly, sentimental, lustful love within himself. It is sufficient to say that these two can not be compared. One is spiritual love; the other is non-spiritual feeling. Friends, there is no earthly relationship that is

(Continued on page five)

Hollywood is a city of 194,000. Its neighbor, Beverly Hills, has 28,000. They grew up together. Hollywood is among the leading convention and vacation cities of the nation. It has four hotels, three residential hotels, 11 motels, five night clubs, 26 motion picture and TV studios, five theatres, 13 motion picture theatres, 13 radio and TV stations and nine churches.

Hollywood is the greatest manufacturing city in the world. Its factories are called studios. They manufacture perverted sex for world consumption. The material is physically attractive girls collected from all over the world. (Continued on page five)



SHARON MASON

We are indeed happy to publish the following poem written by Miss Sharon Mason of Tampa, Florida. Sharon, nineteen years of age, is a graduate of Hillsborough High School in Tampa, where she was an outstanding student. Having received the Arion Musical Award in 1953, which entitled her to a scholarship, she is now in her second year of college and is majoring in music. Her father is Elder Roy Mason, pastor of the Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church in Tampa. He has written for "The Baptist Examiner" for a number of years, and we truly thank the Lord for him and the wonderful group of people he pastors. We shall look forward to Sharon's poems, and trust that they will be a blessing to our souls.

MY PRAYER

Help me to trust thee Lord today
For oh so weak am I,
To brave the pounding sea of life
That rages swiftly by.
Help me to put my hand in thine
And stand against the blast
Knowing that thy hand will keep
Me safe—and hold me fast.
Help me to pray; to count each day
A challenge from the start,
Demanding that I do my best
Sincerely, from my heart.
Help me to trust thee—this I pray,
Above all else I do,
To realize there's nothing Lord
Impossible with You!
And if thou wilt but help me trust,
How sweet each day can be,
For I can do all things through Christ,
If he but strengthens me.
—Sharon Mason

God's Word To All: "Repent Or Perish"

By A. W. PINK

"Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3). These were the words of the incarnate Son of God. They have never been cancelled, nor will they be as long as this world lasts. Repentance is absolutely necessary if the sinner is to "make peace with God" (Isaiah 27:5), for repentance is the throwing down of the weapons of rebellion against Him. Repentance does not save, yet no sinner ever was or ever will be saved without it. None but Christ saves, but an impenitent heart cannot receive Him.

A sinner cannot truly believe until he repents. This is clear from the words of Christ concerning His forerunner, "Repented not afterward that ye might believe him" (Matthew 21:32). It is also evident from His clarification in Mark 1:15, "Repent ye, and believe the gospel." This is why the apostle Paul testified "Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 20:21). Make no mistake on this point, dear reader, God "now commandeth all men everywhere to repent" — Acts 17:30.

In requiring repentance from us, God is pressing His righteous claims upon us. He is infinitely worthy of supreme love and honor, and of universal obedience. This we have wickedly denied Him. Both an acknowledgment and amendment of this is required from us. Our disaffection for Him and our rebellion against Him are to be owned and made an end of. Thus, repentance is a heartfelt realization of how dreadfully I have failed, all through my life, to give God His rightful place in my heart and daily walk.

The righteousness of God's demand for my repentance is evident if we consider the heinous nature of sin. Sin is a renouncing of Him who made me. It is refusing Him His right to govern me. It is the determination to please myself; thus, it is rebellion against the Almighty. Sin is spiritual lawlessness, an utter disregard for God's authority. It is saying in my heart, I care not what God requires, I am going

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OUR

BIBLE

STUDY

STUDIES IN GENESIS THREE

By H. Boyce Taylor

DEATH

1. Definition: A good way to study a word is to note its first use. Death is defined so clearly the first time it is used that no one need be mistaken about its meaning. Death is defined in its first use as separation.

God told Adam and Eve plainly that they would die the first time they ate of the forbidden fruit, 2:17. They died then spiritually, that very day. 3:8 shows that Adam hid himself from God 3:23 shows that God sent him forth. 3:24 shows that God drove him out of the garden. Death, therefore, means separation from God and from Eden. That is what death always means: it never means cessation of being. This

death was not annihilation as Adventists and Russellites say; death never means annihilation.

There are three kinds of death:

(1) Physical death means the separation of the soul from the body.

(2) Spiritual death means the separation of the soul from God.

(3) Eternal death means the eternal separation of the soul from God.

2. God's Word was fulfilled. God said that they would die in the day they ate of the forbidden fruit, 2:17. They did not die physically that day, but they did die spiritually. They died spiritually and then physically; spiritual death caused physical death. We are born again before our bodies are redeemed from

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YOUNG

PEOPLE

????

ASK...

Q. What do you think of religious movies?

A. We suppose that you have reference to such movies as "The Robe," "Quo Vadis," and "Ten Commandments." We could offer many reasons why we think that they are ungodly. However, there are three major characteristics of Hollywood religious films that stand out most. (1) The characters are unsaved, immoral people, (2) The films are untrue to the Biblical record, and (3) Religious films are commercializing religion. Certainly, no one who reads and studies his Bible can conclude that religious films glorify God. Many things wear the name of God and are paraded as being ornaments of grace, but in reality, God is not in the thing at all. So it is with

these movies. The movie crowd simply makes a big fuss over a piece of the Bible that has been perverted and twisted to appeal to the flesh in order to get religious people in the theatres. They simply want the dollar sign. The reason that many religious folk are for these movies is because they are of the Devil and love the things of the Devil. The Bible teaches, chiefly interested in religion and the religious movies are of the Devil.

Q. What is the age of accountability?

A. There is no certain date, month, or year which God has set as the age of accountability. The Bible very clearly teaches

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JANUARY 14, 1956

BAPTIST YOUTH WITNESS

Young People Ask

(Continued from page four)

that all are sinners — possessed of a sinful nature — from birth. Read Psalms 51:5, 58:3, Genesis 5:3, Job 14:4, John 3:6, and Ephesians 2:3. But the Bible has little to say concerning infants and small children who are not old enough to understand that they are sinners and need Christ. Some teach that twelve years old is the age of accountability. Neither Scripture nor experience upholds this teaching, but rather condemns it. This "twelve" theory springs from a notion relative to the age of Christ when He went up to the feast at Jerusalem (Luke 2:42). But it is not reasonable to conclude that this incident means that twelve years is the age of accountability. The heresy of sprinkling children when twelve years old is probably the source of this "twelve" theory. We think it is safe to say that the age of accountability is the moment that a person understands what disobedience and obedience are. And we, personally, believe this to be very young.

Our Bible Study

(Continued from page four)

sin, Luke 15:24, I Tim. 5:6, Heb. 9:27.

3. *There was no death until Adam sinned.* Rom. 5:12. If Adam had never sinned, there would have been no death, human, spiritual, or animal.

4. *Satan lies today about eternal death* just as he did to Eve about spiritual death. He told Eve that she would not die that day; he tells men today that they will not die eternally (Hell). Just as Adam and Eve did not cease to exist when they died spiritually because of their sin, so the soul of man does not cease to exist or lose consciousness when men die physically (Luke 16:19-31). Even so men who die eternally are not unconscious or annihilated but suffer consciously and eternally in their resurrected bodies in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, Ezek. 18:4, Rom. 6:23, Isa. 66:24.

Hollywood

(Continued from page four)

lected from beauty contests throughout the nation. Agents of those factories are scattered everywhere in an effort to keep the factories adequately supplied.

The finished product of these factories goes for commercial advertising purposes. Hollywood will furnish its product to advertise everything from snake oil to revivals of religion.

The Hollywood "glamour" is also a product of the factories. It is manufactured by improvised background, artificially created atmosphere, the juicy tones of radio and television announcers, music manufactured for the occasion and a system of lighting.

Actually, Hollywood factories are not glamorous at all. Some of them look like a lumber yard that has been hit by a cyclone. When a scene is finished, the mansions and offices and palaces and thrones are torn down by sweaty carpenters and the lumber is piled in the lot until it is needed again.

Hollywood glamour is like a shroud; it has no back in it. But its front is as resplendent as the embalmed, perfumed, painted and powdered corpse of a Cleopatra.

The owners and operators of these Hollywood sex factories are cold, calculating business men. They play for keeps. Nearly all of them are internationalists. They are internationalists because they want international coin. They don't like the Bible, because the Bible creates morals and unites and solidifies the family. In proportion as morals and a wholesome family life prevail, the sex factories lose money. And the sex factory, like the distillery and the gambling hall, is designed to

make money for the owners and operators.

Unfortunately, there is little opposition to these sex factories from church people and preachers in general. The technique of modern advertising and coercion has silenced the lips of nearly all the preachers in the land. The average preacher is terrified at the thought of saying anything against Hollywood. That means he has nothing to say about the local beauty contest.

On the contrary, Hollywood is rejoicing that popular "revivals" of religion in this country have drawn 7 million new customers to the theatre box office from the churches. They rejoice because they never have been able to do it themselves. The religious leaders have done it for them. Some months ago NBC's Star News broadcast had a special report on this subject, which originated in Hollywood. It is significant that the news did not appear in the newspapers or magazines. This will be the first time that the report has been mentioned in a religious journal. The report will be confirmed by Mr. Ray Henley, NBC Star News Broadcast, NBC, Washington, D. C.

The Hollywood sex factories have an interest in religion, and it is an intelligent interest. It is producing "religious" films. It will be glad to furnish one of its "stars" to give a "testimony" in any big "revival" meeting. There never has been any mystery about it, except to starry-eyed, sentimental yokels.

I will tell preachers how to be popular and to begin to climb in the world. Preach the "simple gospel." Make it a point to take up Hollywood. Tell how Jesus refused to condemn the woman taken in adultery. (You need not emphasize that she was forgiven because she repented, and you need not say anything about the evidence being that she turned away from her trade, as did the woman of Samaria. Just leave all that off). And then take up the "narrow, sectarian Pharisees." Get really lathered up. Hammer the life out of them. In eloquent, quavering tones, say: "I had rather be a Hollywood actress with love and charity, ready to forgive, ready to lend a helping hand, than be one of these pious-talking puritanical fundamentalist preachers."

You will go to town. You will find yourself addressing the Lions, the Billygoats and the Bearcats.

There never was any secret about it. Hollywood, like the whiskey dealers and the gamblers, gets mushy over a tolerant, understanding preacher. He can always get a handout from them.

Southern California has more orthodoxy than any place in the world. It is an abstract, academic orthodoxy. It is confined to the radio studio, to the pulpit, to Bible schools. It is in the form of lectures, which later on appears in books.

This orthodoxy has grown old and "mellow" and tolerant. It never thinks of translating itself into concrete form. And the very thought of "religious controversy" unnerves it like a mouse appearing in a sewing party of "us girls." This orthodoxy knows nothing of getting out among the sweaty, grimy masses and winning them to Christ and then organizing the converts into local New Testament churches. Most of it belongs to the "true, invisible" church. Most of it is waiting for Christ to come and "clean up the whole mess." How "mellow" and tolerant one can be when all he has to do is to sit back and wait for the Lord to come and do everything! Brethren, it is not greatly to your credit that you have become so respectable, "mellow" and tolerant that neither the world, the flesh, nor the Devil has any ground for controversy with you. When a thing gets mellow, something has got to be done with it; you either eat it or put it in the refrigerator. It won't keep.

—BAPTIST BIBLE TRIBUNE

For Little Children

The Wicked Sin Of Adam And Eve Against God

Boys and girls, Satan is our enemy. He has been the enemy of boys, girls, men, and women ever since the Lord God made Adam and Eve. After the Lord God placed Adam and Eve in the beautiful Garden of Eden, Satan came to cause them to sin against God. The Lord God had told Adam not to eat of a certain tree in the Garden. Of this one tree the Lord God said, "Thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:17). But Satan told Eve that God was wrong. Satan said, "Ye shall not surely die" (Genesis 3:4).

Eve listened to Satan and ate of the forbidden fruit! Then she gave Adam some of the fruit and he ate also! Both of them disobeyed God and sinned against Him! What a wicked sin this was. It was the first sin ever committed by people against God. And boys and girls, this one sin is the reason for all the sins that have ever been committed. This one sin of Adam has made all men sinners. Everybody is a sinner because of Adam's sin. And here is the reason for this: Adam was a perfect person be-

fore he sinned. He had a heart that was pure and clean. He had no thought of anything that was wrong. But when he sinned, all things changed. His heart became wicked. His mind thought evil thoughts. And he did not love God; he ran from Him.

Because of the fact that all people came from Adam, we have a wicked nature like him. The Bible says that we are born sinners. Read what God's Word plainly says: "All have sinned." —Romans 3:23.

You may have been a good little boy or girl, but still God says you are a sinner. You may have committed only "little" sins. But remember, Adam committed only one sin which caused him to lose his happy condition. Regardless of our sins, whether we think they are little or big, God cannot permit one sin to go unpunished.

Did God punish Adam and Eve's sin? Yes. And next week we will tell you how God did punish their sin. God showed mercy to Adam and Eve and saved them, but He punished their sin. Next week we will tell you how.

Next week: How Adam and Eve Were Saved By God.

Christian Home

(Continued from page four)

any greater or that brings more happiness than the true spiritual love experienced only by two born-again believers. This love is ordained of God and is promoted by and through Him.

The married life of two Christians who possess this holy love for each other is indeed very happy. The husband and wife take joy in working together, helping each other, and honoring each other. The husband provides for his wife's needs, honors his wife, understands her shortcomings and faults, and fulfills his place as her earthly lord and protector. The wife likewise honors and reverences her husband, ministers to him to her fullest ability, takes care of her duties toward him in every way, and realizes her place as his beloved servant in obedience unto him. I could write much more, but this is sufficient to express the love and joy which exists in the marriage of two Christians.

The second requirement for the Christian home is that *the Lord Jesus Christ be the prominent Heavenly Ruler* and be given the highest pre-eminence within the home. It is not enough that the husband and wife be born-again believers; but they must crucify the old fleshly motives and actions with the Lord Jesus, submit to Him completely as their Lord, and follow Him obediently in all matters of their married life. The attitude of the husband and wife should be as Paul's that their lives might count wholly for the Lord. We read in Philippians 1:20, 21: "According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." We read also in Psalms 27:1: "The Lord is the strength of my life." Might we daily utter in our married life: "ALL that the Lord hath said will we do, and be obedient" (Exodus 24:7).

The third requirement for a happy Christian home is the *obedience and honor of the children to the parents*. Every commandment of the Lord concerning the home must be fulfilled in order to promote happiness. This requirement for obedient children is equally as important. The Lord's ten commandments to Moses contain this, for we read in Exodus 20:12: "Honour thy

father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

Yes, children must honor and respect their parents. This honor must be the result of training and discipline, besides careful study in God's Word. Parents should teach the Word of God to their children and uphold it daily to shape and mold their lives for future training. A child neglected of Bible training in the home is a classic candidate for juvenile delinquency. They must be taught about the Lord, His death on the cross, His wrath towards sin and His hatred of it, as well as His love and mercy to sinners. Children are never too young to teach or to discipline. Both are vital to their lives, and the Lord has commanded that they be taught as well as chastised (Proverbs 13:24). May we not neglect this great duty.

The next constituent for a happy Christian home is *daily family worship*. Family worship takes the family's minds from the things of this world, and sets them upon Heavenly things. Whatever hour of the day the worship period is, this time should be guarded zealously, and nothing of this world should ever interfere with it. This is the period of drawing all the family closer to the Lord, fellowshiping with Him, and studying His Word.

Family worship also impresses upon the minds of the children more of the Lord's great and sovereign Being. They will learn to reverence the Lord and His teaching. Again, how important it is that both parents be "heirs together of the grace of life; that their prayers be not hindered" (I Peter 3:7). The period of family worship will be indeed sacred and precious if both parents are born-again, have crucified this world with the Lord, and He is the Head of their home.

The last characteristic of the Christian home which we shall mention briefly is that the home be furnished plainly and simply, not extravagantly decked with this world's goods. Of course, this is our own personal revelation from the Lord, but I believe that the Christian home who is living for the Lord and is trying to serve Him will likewise be impressed. Christians who are busy serving the Lord and who are using their time and means for His glory do not have money to lay up earthly treasures in their homes. Rather, as Matthew's Gospel tells us, they are laying up for themselves "treasures in

heaven . . . for where their treasure is, there are their hearts also" (Matt. 6:20, 21). Of course, we can have attractive and pretty homes without being so elaborate. Our meaning here is that the home and its furnishings should not hinder the family in any wise in the Lord's service.

These furnishings also include the objects which you have for your children's enjoyment. Do you have comic books and fleshly, sentimental "love" story books? Or do you have inspirational godly books for their reading? Do you have a television set which continually, daily sets forth the sinful example of living to your children? If you have a TV set, do you carefully, very carefully select the programs of educational interest for their watching? Friends, let's examine our lives and homes.

Christian friends, in closing, I want to remind you of the four important requirements for the happy Christian home. First, both husband and wife must be born-again, saved people. Second, the Lord Jesus Christ must be the Highest Head of their home. Third, the children must be obedient and respectful to their parents. And lastly, family worship must be daily. If these prevail in your home, I know you join with me in saying that yours is a happy home—happy together with one another, and happy in the Lord's service.

How about your home, Christian? Is it as it should be? You can make it such with the Lord's help. Remember, *the husband and wife must be equally yoked*. As problems and difficulties arise, you can take them to the Lord in prayer together. Serve Him, and trust Him to lead you according to His will. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding." —Proverbs 3:5.

May your home truly be a Christian home.

Repent Or Perish

(Continued from page four)

ever and ever, in the Lake of Fire. Which shall it be?

THE LITTLE GIRL'S PENNY

Nearly seventy years ago, a little girl who knew and loved the Lord Jesus, and who longed to spread His name among those who knew Him not, gave a Christian missionary a penny to help to spread the Gospel among the Burmese, to whom the Lord's servant was going forth with the Word of Life. That penny was all that the dear child could give; it was all that she possessed, and it was given with the heart. The missionary remembered the child's penny while in that far-off land, and he invested it in the name of the Lord, by purchasing with it a gospel tract. That tract was given a young Burmese chief, and followed by prayer. He could not read it, but so strong did the desire become to know the meaning of the words of the little tract that he traveled two hundred and fifty miles to get someone to read it to him. God spoke to the heart of the young chief through the words as he heard them read. He believed the Gospel, and was converted to Christ. Then he returned to his people and began to tell them what the Lord had done for his soul. He invited missionaries to come and preach to his people, and many heard the Word, received the Saviour, and became true and devoted followers of the Lord Jesus. All this sprang from the little girl's penny, given for Jesus' sake, with the desire to spread His Gospel among the lost. How great a fire this little spark kindled! How vast the growth from this tiny seed! A little done, even by a child — if done for Christ — will have results. If you are saved, go thou and do likewise.

The best sort of revenge is not to be like him who did the injury.

REINSTATING SPIRITUAL VALUES



Subscription Campaign

(Continued from page one)

be very small (only fifty cents each) and the circulation would double, in addition to the great good it would do. I have been sending in at least two names as often as I could."

To this we say a hearty "Amen!" Will you not follow this good brother's wise suggestion and send one or two subscriptions for others who need to be blessed?

A Pastor's Reaction

Just a sample of the good that is done by sending THE BAPTIST EXAMINER to others is expressed in the following letter from Pastor Hillary Howell of Santa Rita, New Mexico.

"Dear Brother:

Sometime ago a friend sent in to have my name entered as a subscriber to THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. I have been receiving the periodical for about two months. I want you to know that this paper is the happiest discovery in a Baptist paper that I have ever found. I am in full accord with the old-fashioned Baptist stand and teaching of the EXAMINER. I am pastor of the Santa Rita Baptist Church of New Mexico. This is a Southern Baptist church but we are a New Testament church in practice and ministry, premillennial, independent in church promotion and it is our hope that the Lord willing by next budget making time to have all mission funds designated. I thank God for men who will defend the purity of New Testament churches as historic Baptists have proclaimed it. May the Lord bless you in your great paper.

"I want my father-in-law to have this paper. I am enclosing fifty cents (50c) for a subscription to be sent to:"

A Preacher's Plea

As-a preacher of the gospel of

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE SIX

JANUARY 14, 1956

Christ, I am ever anxious to see the truth being spread far and wide. We are like Paul who said, "For me to live is Christ." We have no other reason for wanting to remain upon this earth than to spread the truth of God's Word. In fact, we feel that there is no other reason for our being here than to preach Christ and His Word. We believe it is the deep-seated, God-implanted desire of every born-again person to see others blessed by God and rejoicing in His love. If we can but have a part in God's program of reaching His elect who are scattered to the four corners of the earth, we will be forever blessed.

Christian friend, won't you help us get out this glorious gospel? Resolve now to get God's Word out to the multitudes this new year. Resolve now that you will be an instrument for the spread of the gospel for the glory of God.

We seriously doubt if there is a better way of getting out the truth than by means of the printed page. And we are thoroughly convinced that it is the most inexpensive. Radio broadcasts, television programs, revival meetings, Bible conferences, and other means of spreading the gospel cost thousands of dollars. But THE BAPTIST EXAMINER goes into the home, office and other places fifty-two times a year for only 50c. Spoken messages are very valuable and needful, but after being heard, for the most part, they are forgotten, whereas printed matter can be studied, meditated upon, prayed over, and re-read for weeks, months, and years to come.

In closing we ask you this question: Will you help see to it that we reach our 5000 goal by the end of January?

May the Lord bless you!

"Out Of The Fire"

(Continued from page two)

I tell you, beloved, that there is a Hell of fire awaiting everyone who is outside of the Lord Jesus Christ. I tell you that Hell

is a lake of fire. I tell you that the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever. I tell you that out yonder in front of you, somewhere, there is a Devil's Hell. It may be one foot, it may be one day, it may be one week, it may be one month, it may be one year — but somewhere between now and eternity, there is a Devil's Hell awaiting. You wouldn't take steps in the direction of the chasm where your physical life might be destroyed but you go right on hot-footing the road to eternity, even though you know there is a Hell awaiting at the end of a Godless life. Surely, in your blinded condition, you don't believe what I preach to you.

Brother, sister, if I could, I would like to make you feel like that Hell wasn't a half mile off. I would like for you to even feel the flames from Hell now. I would like to make you so Hell-conscious, that you could smell the fire and brimstone. I would like to make you feel so close to Hell that you could even hear the shrieks and the groans that come up from the tortured ghosts in Hell. Oh, beloved, it is out there awaiting you, and God says to the preacher, to the Christian, and to His churches, "Pull them out of the fire."

II

WHO ARE SOME OF THE CHARACTERS REFERRED TO?

If you will study very carefully, you will find that there are at least seven classes of people in these preceding verses that Jude wants us to pull out of the fire. First of all, there are those that deny the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ. Listen:

"For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and DENYING the only Lord God, and OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST."—Jude 1:4.

How any man could read the Bible and deny that Jesus Christ is God's Son is beyond me, yet there are thousands of people who believe just that. One day Jesus came to be baptized, and when

How God Cursed

(Continued from page one)

the house where the ball was to be held was destroyed in a few minutes by a terrible fire, where the Duchess of Alencon perished and many other persons of the French aristocracy.

Some years ago when Brazil received the papal blessing, the exchange went down, coffee lost its value and the Bubonic plague appeared. On the occasion of the four hundredth anniversary, the pope blessed Brazil, and soon afterwards the principal banks of Rio de Janeiro were declared bankrupt, and there followed an intense crisis of work which caused misery to innumerable families, resulting in a number of suicides.

In December of 1905, the pope blessed Brazil again and there followed the catastrophe of "Aquidaban," which brought grief to the whole nation; there came the pest of grasshoppers in S. Paulo and the drought in the south; there were floods such as were never known before in Brazil, causing deaths and colossal losses. Even the sea revolted! On the same occasion, at the request of the Brazilian cardinal, the pope blessed America, and four months later a violent earthquake and consequent fires destroyed S. Francisco, Calif.

The pope also blessed the ex-president, Campus Salles until the third generation, and following his brother was assassinated on his farm.

The pope sent his blessing to the president of the republic, Rodriguez Alves, and to the minister of justice, J. J. Seabra, and on the occasion of the vaccination, they almost paid with their lives, like the Irishman, who "paid for the wrong he didn't do."

Alfonso Penna died more or less one month after receiving the papal blessing.

The pope blessed "Jimmy" Cox (defeated by Harding) and Al Smith (defeated by Hoover) when they ran for president and each were defeated.

Behold in short the demonstration of the individuals and nations who believe in a mortal

John the Baptist immersed Jesus in the Jordan River and they came up out of the water, God the Father looked down and broke the silence of Heaven by saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." On another day, on the Mount of Transfiguration, when the Lord Jesus Christ had been transfigured, God the Father broke the silence of Heaven by saying, "This is my beloved Son; hear him." Beloved, the man who denies that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that man is the same as calling God the Father a liar, because on two occasions He said, "This is my beloved Son."

Even the Devil believes that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Listen:

"Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the HOLY ONE OF GOD."—Mark 1:24.

Beloved, I don't contend that Jesus was a man. I don't contend that He was a good man. I don't contend that Jesus Christ was merely a man in the flesh. I do say that Jesus Christ was God in the flesh. I do say that He is the Son of God. Jude says that one group of those characters that we are to pull out of the fire is the man who denies the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ.

There is another group that we are to pull out of the fire, and that is the group who rebel at God's authority. Listen:

"I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great

(Continued on page seven)

man and sinner, who declares himself holy and infallible and is worshipped almost as a God on earth!

Oh, people, rich and powerful by the Orient of the West and of the North, come explain to the blessed of this Man—God—Roman, how, you not being blessed by him (on the contrary, some even cursed) could prosper and become rich and respected, without the grace of this mysterious personage?

Consider, sons of Adam! The nations which march at the vanguard of progress are not those who believe in the pope, but those who confide exclusively in Divine Providence and worship the Triune God in the heart, those which exercise charity and justice, those which repel idolatry—the greatest affronts to the Creator of the universe.

What advantage to humanity is this pope who displays unbridled luxury upon the "many waters" and among "the seven hills of the city of Rome?"

How was it conceived, how did it enter the minds of the people, that this pretended Catholic king, who is elected for this place as any other profane president, could be the Vicar of Jesus Christ? Blasphemy! Blasphemy! Deluded people! We have arrived at the twentieth century! It is time to throw off the yoke of this hellish power and to return to God alone and to rest in the Redeemer, in order that we may have guaranteed the happiness beyond the tomb and that we may march in the company of virtue.

The "infallible" teachings of this "Grand Master, etc." have not succeeded in regenerating the people; the crimes and disorders of respect of law and authority and become continually growing. Yes, because they are not derived from the Most High!

The prophet 666 and thus about "woman of the Apocalypse," adorned with purple, with scarlet, with gold, with silver and with precious stones, only can give of these things which they possess in this abundance — corruption, vanity, hypocrisy, death!

—A BRAZILIAN TRACT

Mixed Marriages

(Continued from page three)

On page 193 of the book, "The Catholic Christian Instructed," we read: "Question—Why is the church so adverse to this (mixed) kind of marriages?"

Answer — 1. Because she would not have her children communicate in sacred things, such as matrimony is, with those that are out of her communion. 2. Because such marriages are apt to give occasion to dissensions in families, whilst one of the parties draws one way, the other another; 3. Because there is a danger of the Catholic party being perverted, or at least of not being allowed the free exercise of religion; 4. Because there is a danger of the children being brought up in error, of which we have seen some instances. Where, note, that those bargains are by no means to be allowed of by which the contracting parties agree to have the boy brought up in the religion of the father, and the girls to follow the mother. God and his church will have no such divisions nor give up thus their right to anyone."

Not Toleration, But Liberty

During an earlier pastorate in Clarksburg, W. Va., I was approached one day by one of the finest young women in the church regarding her marriage to Catholic. She proclaimed her love for him and stated that she would marry him regardless of his religion. She said that she would never leave her church but that her children would have to be brought up in the Catholic faith. Her fiancé had insisted upon that and also that they were to be married by the priest. He agreed, however, that, for his sake, they would also be married by her minister, BUT—she were to be married by the priest first and then by me. Of course

(Continued on page seven)

Mixed Marriages

(Continued from page six)

I refused to do this. I told her that I would perform the ceremony if they came to me first. I certainly saw no point in playing second fiddle to a priest. She went away hurt and angry. To my knowledge she never darkened the door of our church again. For this I was called "intolerant" by those of the Catholic faith.

Toleration has been the cry of Catholicism down through the ages, but there is no toleration or compromise on their part whatsoever. Their rules are more than rules; they are decrees, and are not to be broken regardless of circumstance.

Therefore, I too, must insist that mixed marriages under these circumstances be protested and advised against in our churches, and that we continue the fight for absolute religious freedom.

—Daybreak



"Out Of The Fire"

(Continued from page six)

day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."—Jude 1:5-7.

In the fifth verse, Jude is telling us about that group of Israelites that came out of the wilderness and went along with Moses, yet who died in the wilderness, rebelling at the authority of Almighty God. In the sixth verse, he tells us about that group of angels that left their first estate and became sinners and are now awaiting the judgment bar of God, who rebelled at God's authority.

In the seventh verse, he is telling us about those two cities of Sodom and Gomorrah that were burned to a scarlet, because they rebelled at the authority of Almighty God. In these three verses, Jude is telling us about three classes who had no respect for the authority of Almighty God.

Beloved, how many people there are today just like that. You reverence Him, but there are thousands of people who have no reverence for God in any wise at all.

Sometime ago, the man who was then the president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America referred to God as a "dirty bully." You say, "How could any individual dare to pen with his own hands those words that God was a dirty bully?" Before I would ever write those words — before I would ever speak those words in accusations before my Heavenly Father — before I could ever think them in my brain, I would pray that the God would paralyze my hand and there is my tongue and my brain, so that I could never think, or speak, or write that God was such.

But, beloved, that individual is only a fair sample of those that rebel at the authority of God. I can go out on the street today and show you hundreds of people who do not reverence God, who take His name in vain at every provocation. They have no reverence for Him. Every individual whose heart has not been brought into subjection to the Lord Jesus Christ, who has never trusted Jesus as his Saviour, is in rebellion against God. He is a rebel against Almighty God and His authority. My brother, Jude says that we are to pull these individuals out of the fire.

There is another group that we

are to pull out of the fire, and that is the group who live in unbridled lusts. Listen:

"Likewise also these FILTHY DREAMERS defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities. But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they CORRUPT themselves."—Jude 1:8-10.

Notice that Jude is telling us of a crowd who are almost in Hell right now. They are the group that defile the flesh, and Jude says that they are nothing but brute beasts.

I walked along the streets some days ago and I observed the movies. Bear me record, I haven't been in a movie for many years. I don't guess that I would hardly know how to sit down in one. I observed the advertisements as I walked by the movies. What are they designed for? Just one thing — the corruption of your minds and your flesh. Mark it down, beloved, there is not one thing about most movies but what is definitely written, designed, patterned, and blueprinted for the corruption of your flesh.

"Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind."—Eph. 2:3.

Beloved, listen, on every steam engine there is a governor. On every gasoline engine there is a governor. On every diesel engine there is a governor. If you are unsaved, the governor of your life is your flesh. Movies and the world at large are set for the destruction of your flesh. Jude says that the man who has given himself over to unbridled lusts and to the things of this world that cater to his flesh, is so close to Hell that we need to pull him out of the fire.

Furthermore Jude says that those who follow in the way of Cain are almost in Hell and need to be pulled out of the fire.

"Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain."—Jude 1:11.

What was the way of Cain? In the Old Testament, there were two sons born in the home of Adam and Eve. One of those sons was named Cain and the other was named Abel. When the time for sacrifice came, Abel brought a blood offering, a lamb dripping in its own blood, as a sacrifice unto God. God looked down upon it and was well pleased with what Abel brought. In the case of Cain, he brought some garden vegetables or a sheaf of grain — something that he had grown himself — a bloodless offering. He brought a thank offering to God, whereas Abel brought a sin offering. Beloved, Cain looked upon the offering that his brother Abel had brought, and said, "I can't stand a blood offering. I can't stand the sight of blood. Away with the idea of a blood offering for me. I thank God that He is God and that I am a man, but I will not take my position and say that I am a sinner before God. I will not bring a sin offering to the Lord." What was the result? God had respect unto the offering of Abel, but he had no respect unto the offering of Cain.

Now, what is the way of Cain? The way of Cain is to reject and ignore the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Word of God says that those like Cain are so close to Hell that you need to reach out and pull them from the fires thereof, yet there are thousands of people just like that. They are following the way of Cain — a bloodless way.

I insist that there can be no salvation apart from the Lord Jesus Christ.

"And without shedding of blood is no remission."—Heb. 9:22.

In the six thousand years of earth's history, God has never saved one man apart from blood redemption. God has only one way of salvation, and that is by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sometime ago, at Georgetown College, which is my Alma Mater, a young man was walking on the campus of the college. Another young man, a young preacher student, was walking with him, and they were talking about the



atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ. This second young man rejected the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ for atonement. He said that in his opinion there was no more saving power to the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ than there was in the blood of a dog. Oh, my brother, I feel for the man who says that he does not believe in the saving power of the Lord Jesus Christ.

"What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood, nothing but the blood."

What can pay sin's old back debt? Nothing but the blood, nothing but the blood.

What can make me a Christian yet? Nothing but the blood, nothing but the blood."

There is another group that we are to pull out of the fire, and that is the compromising group. Listen:

"And ran greedily after the error of Balaam for REWARD."—Jude 1:11.

Now, beloved, if the way of Cain was a bloodless way, then the way of Balaam was a compromising way. Balaam was a compromiser. He knew better than to do what he did, yet he did it because he wanted to get paid for it. He knew what God's will was, yet he went contrary to it. God permitted him to go contrary to His own will, and Balaam became blinded as a result of his disobedience to God. In fact, he didn't have as much sense as the jack ass that he rode, for the jack ass could see an angel in the highway, whereas Balaam didn't have sense enough to see the angel.

How many people there are in this town who will compromise! A man came to me some years ago and said, "Brother Gilpin, I think you ought to tone down your message. You make some people mad when you preach certain doctrines." At that time I was getting a salary around \$250 or \$300 a month, and I said, Brother, when I compromise my message, it will be for something more than \$250 or \$300 a month."

I say to you, beloved, when the time comes for me to compromise the Word of God, it will be for something more than a Baptist preacher usually makes. The Word of God is dear to me. I wasn't born a Baptist. I grew up believing other things contrary to what I now preach. I'm a Baptist by conviction. I'm a Baptist because I believe that the Baptist people are the people that Jesus started two thousand years ago when He established His church, and I can't compromise what I believe. God says concerning that man who is a compromiser, who will compromise spiritual truths like Balaam did — God says that you had better reach out and put him out of the fire.

Then Jude talks about another group that is close to Hell. Those are the ones who followed after Core who denied the authority of God's Word. Listen:

"And perished in the gainsaying of Core."—Jude 1:11.

Core was the man who stood up in rebellion to Moses. He said, "Now this man Moses says that he is the leader. How do you know that I am not the leader? How do you know but what God has given me a commission to lead you Jews out of the wilderness?" Thus it was, beloved, that Core stood in rebellion and objection to the authority of Almighty God.

Let me tell you, brother, there are hundreds of people who are in the same rebellion to Almighty

God. I go out here and talk to some man about the Word of God, and he says, "I think so-and-so." Beloved, I don't care a thing about what any man thinks. What he thinks doesn't amount to a thing. What you and I think put together doesn't amount to a thing in this world. Beloved, the final word is what God says within His Book. The man who denies the authority of Almighty God is just as bad as old Core, who denied the fact that Moses was God's man, through whom God was speaking. God says that the man who puts any question mark about His Word — God says to pull him out of the fire.

Then Jude tells us of another group who is just about in the fire. Listen:

"And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints. To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their UNGODLY deeds which they have UNGODLY committed, and of all their hard speeches which UNGODLY sinners have spoken against him. These are mumurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts: and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage."—Jude 1:14-16.

If you will notice carefully, you will see that he is talking about the ungodly. Who is an ungodly man? Any man, beloved, who doesn't give God first place within his life. He may be a vile sinner, or he may be a good moral man. He may be a reprobate, morally, ethically and spiritually, or he may be one of the finest men in this town, but if God doesn't have first place in his life, he is an ungodly man. Jude says that the man who is ungodly needs to be pulled out of the fire.

Beloved, I think about these (Continued on page eight)

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE SEVEN

JANUARY 14, 1956

"I Should Like To Know"

(Continued from page one)
was a local church.

(1). That is the meaning of the word "Ecclesia."

(2). That is Christ's universal usage of the word.

(3). That is the only meaning that would have been understood by the Apostles.

(4). That is the only kind of church recognized in the New Testament.

(5). That is the only kind of church to which the promise has been fulfilled.

(6). That is the only kind of church adapted to human nature.

(7). That is the only kind that is suited to preach a pure Gospel.

4. Prof. H. E. Dana of the Fort Worth Seminary in his book, "Christ's ekklesia" page 23 says: "There were in the classical use of this term four elements pertinent to its New Testament meaning: (1) the assembly was local; (2) it was autonomous; (3) it presupposed definite qualifications; (4) it was conducted on democratic principles."

5. Probably the Rotherham translation of the Scriptures is one of the best and most accurate of all the versions. In the appendix on page 268, in giving his reasons why he uniformly translates the word ekklesia by the word assembly, he says: "It is well known that the Greek word for 'Church' is ecclesia, and that ecclesia strictly and fully means 'called-out assembly.' The very fact that Mr. Rotherham uniformly translates the word ekklesia 'assembly' throughout the New Testament is the very strongest proof possible that he thought the word ekklesia meant only an 'organized and assembling' body."

6. Ramsey in St. Paul the Traveler says on page 124: "The term (ekklesia) originally implied the assembled constituted self-governing body like a free city."

7. Harnack in his History of Dogma says the Catholic or Universal idea of the church sprang up in the third of the third century. Eusebius, Tertullian, Clement of Alexandria, Hiero, Cornelius, and Cyrian all speak of "Holy Churches" and never of the catholic or universal church. On page 83 of Vol. III Harnack says: "No one thought of the desperate idea of the invisible church: this would probably have brought about a lapse from pure Christianity far more rapidly than the idea of the Holy Catholic Church." Do not forget that, Scofield's idea of the invisible church is a lapse from pure Christianity. It is neither biblical nor scriptural but is a desperate idea born in the brain of a heretic and swallowed by Scofield in our day to decoy Baptists into the camp of the enemies of the only true churches, built and preserved by the Lord Jesus Himself.

8. Prof. Royal of Wake Forest College, when asked if he knew of any passage in classical Greek, where the word ekklesia was ever used of un-assembled or un-assembling persons, said: "I do not know of any such passage in classic Greek."

9. Joseph Cross, in his book, "Coals From The Altar" says this:

"We hear much of the invisible church as contra-distinguished from the church visible. Of an invisible church in this world I know nothing: the Word of God says nothing; nor can anything of the kind exist, except in the brain of a heretic. The church is a body; but what sort of a body is that which can neither be seen nor identified? A body is an organism, occupying space and having a definite locality. A mere aggregation is not a body: there must be organization as well. A heap of heads, hands, feet and other members would not make a body: they must be united in a system, each in its proper place and pervaded by a common life. So a collection of stones, bricks and timber would not be a house: the material must be built up to-

gether, in artistic order, adapted to utility. So a mass of roots trunks and branches would not be a vine or a tree: the several parts must be developed according to the laws of nature from the same seed and nourished by the same sap."

10. Bishop Hort, one of the publishers of the Wescott and Hort Greek Testament, whose scholarship and ability certainly can not be called in question, confesses the "necessity of finding some other than etymological, grammatical or historical grounds" on which to prove the universal church. That means it can not be proved by the word ekklesia nor by the grammatical construction of New Testament Greek nor by the historical use of the word ekklesia in New Testament days. Where does Mr. Hort say then that the idea of an universal church came from? He says the idea of an universal church came from away this side of the New Testament from the theology of uninspired men. Note what he says. He says that the idea of an universal church is not "the proper origin of ekklesia": that it is not traceable to "Current usage": that the Word ekklesia is always limited by Paul himself to a local organization which has a "corresponding unity of its own"; "each is a body of Christ and a sanctuary of God." By each he means each local church. Again he says: Paul uniformly speaks of the individual church "as a body of Christ" — I Cor. 12:27: "a virgin" — 2 Cor. 11:2: "a temple." I Cor. 3:16.

In Eph. 2:2 he refers to the Ephesian church as "a holy temple." In Col. 3:15 he calls the Colossian church "called in a body." All the references are from Hort's "Christian Ekklesia." Mr. Hort's testimony that Paul's use of the word ekklesia in Ephesians and Colossians is to the local church at Ephesus and Colosse is especially convincing because Scofield and all the balance of the universal church heretics go to Ephesians and Colossians to substantiate their heretical teachings. Again Mr. Hort argues that in breaking down the wall of partition between Jew and Gentile and alien classes of all sorts, the local church is the chief, if not the only agency thro which this change is manifest.

11. Jesse B. Thomas in his book, "Church and Kingdom," calls attention to the fact that in John 2:19-21 Jesus calls His own body a temple. This involved both local and visible tangibility. Cf. 2 Pet. 1:16; 1, Jno. 1:1. So building in Matt. 16:18. All these allusions, according to Mr. Thomas point irresistibly to a concrete organism. In Eph. 2:21 (R. V.) the local church is spoken of as "each several building." "Fitly framed" refers to the local church as a building and "fitly joined and compacted" as a body. The first in 2:21 and the latter in 4:16.

12. Alexander Campbell said in Christian Baptist, p. 214: "Ekklesia literally signifies an assembly called out from others and is used among the Greeks, particularly the Athenians, for their popular assemblies, summoned by their chief magistrates and in which none but citizens had a right to sit. By inherent power it may be applied to any body of men called out and assembled in one place. If it ever loses the idea of calling out and assembling, it loses its principal features and its primitive use."

13. David Lipscombe in Gospel Advocate, Oct. 28, 1926: "There is not the shadow of any universal church in the New Testament, nor is there the representation of a tangible church or of one that may be reached and associated with, save the local church." Again in the same article, Mr. Lipscombe says: "Just so, when speaking of things common to all churches, we say the church is the body of Christ, not meaning that all the churches are consolidated to make one body, but that each and every church is the body of Christ in its locality and what is common to all is affirmed of the church as of one body. This style of speech is common. This can be its only meaning. There is no development of the church of Christ in the

"Out Of The Fire"

(Continued from page seven)
seven classes that Jude speaks about. They don't want to burn, but they are so close to the fire of Hell that they are almost on fire now. Jude says to pull them out of the fire, hating even the garment that is spotted by the flesh.

III

OUR BUSINESS IS TO "PULL."

If I have a business, that business is to tell you about Jesus Christ and to pull you out of the fire. Why does this church exist? What is its purpose? To bear a witness of my God and my Jesus, that it might be a means of pulling men out of the fire. What is the purpose of our broadcast on Sunday? What is the purpose of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER? Beloved, I think I could take what ability I have, and what mentality that God has given to me, little as it may be, and I could make a living at anything, far easier than I make it in life. But, beloved, my work, my ministry as an editor, my business as a preacher, my business over the radio, the business of this church, and the business of any Christian is to pull them out of the fire.

How can we go about pulling men out of the fire? As I have already said, we can pull men out of the fire by earnestly contending for the faith. You are not going to pull anybody out of the fire by compromising with him. You are not going to pull a single

world save in the local church." Paul uses this same general language of the church being the body of Christ to the church at Corinth that he does to the Colossians, Ephesians and others: "Ye are the body of Christ and members in particular." The church at Rome, the church at Ephesus, at Colosse, each was just as much "the body of Christ and members in particular" as the church at Corinth. The church at Jerusalem was a complete body of Christ before another church was established. It lost none of its completeness when other churches were planted. And every other church was as complete within itself as was this church at Jerusalem. Each church was in itself a complete body of Christ, without any reference to any other church or churches in existence.

God has given to us the local church as the only manifestation of His body. It is the only body ordained or recognized by God as acceptable to Him. It is the "pillar and support of the truth." It is "the body of Christ." The body of which He is the head. "From Whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." Eph. 4:15-16.

Let us sum up a little.

The word church was used by the Master 23 times and always meant a local church. Mr. Hort of the Westcott-Hort New Testament, admits that Paul never used it of anything but a local church. Scholars testify that ekklesia was never used in classic Greek except of an assembled or assembling body. The two essential ideas in the word ekklesia are assembly and organization. Every illustration of a church in the New Testament, such as temple or house or body, makes the veriest of nonsense, if it is not assembled and organized. The etymology of the word ekklesia makes it of necessity a local church. The grammatical construction of the passages where used can not be twisted to mean anything but a local church. Both Hort and Harnack testify that historically the word ekklesia was never used of anything but a local church, until long after the close of the New Testament. So you are on safe ground, when you say that the church, which as the body of Christ, is always a local Baptist church.

Hell-bound sinner out of the fire by going easy with him. The Word of God says to earnestly contend for the faith.

Also, if you are going to pull people out of the fire, you have to keep yourself built up all of the time. Listen:

"BUILDING UP YOURSELVES on your most holy faith."—Jude 1:20.

Beloved, our bodies tend to deteriorate. We get up in years and we have to start doing things to build ourselves up. Some people take shots. Some people take vitamins. Some people just take plain, ordinary common drugs. Some people have to start getting more sleep.

When I was a boy, I had a feeling that a man ought to have a good strong body and that he ought to take plenty of exercise. I used to see how many times I could "chin" myself, and I used to see how many times I could take a concrete block and put it up in the air. Well, I believe that a person ought to build up his body just as much as he can, but, beloved, there is something more important than that, and that is to build up yourself in the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ. If you are going to pull people out of the fire of Hell, you will have to keep yourself built up spiritually in order to do so.

We are also told that we need to pray and keep ourselves in the center of God's will. Listen:

"Praying in the Holy Spirit, Keep yourselves in the love of God."—Jude 1:20,21.

Beloved, if you are going to use yourself to pull others out of the fire, you are going to have to do a lot of praying, and you will have to keep yourself in the center of God's Will. I have often said that God will bless His Word if the biggest devil of Hell preaches it, for God said:

"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void."—Isa. 55:11.

Even though God says that His Word shall not return unto Him void, He will bless His Word more if the man who preaches it is in the center of God's will.

I knew a man years ago, in his later years, became ill and somewhat of an invalid. He had to stay in a wheel chair most of his time. The doctor prescribed one of the strangest remedies that I ever knew. He told him that he ought to stay in the sunshine at least twelve hours out of the day. He had a porch on one side of his house and he could sit there in

the sun only in the early part of the day. When the afternoon came, the sun would leave the porch and the result was that he didn't get the benefit of the sun. What do you suppose he did? In order to be sure that he stayed in the sun twelve hours a day he had a carpenter build a porch all the way around his house — a porch on all four sides. When the sun moved, he moved his wheel chair, and he kept himself continually in the sunshine.

Beloved, that is what God wants you and me to do spiritually. He wants us to keep ourselves in the center of His Will all the time. If we are going to pull others out of Hell fire, we ought to keep ourselves in the center of His will.

IV

THE WARNING.

"And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh."—Jude 1:23.

Here is a warning for you. While you are pulling others out of the fire, be careful lest you become contaminated with their flesh. In order to pull others out of the fire, you have to get mighty close to it yourselves. The Bible warns us to be mighty careful, for it is indeed easy for us to become contaminated and defile ourselves with the flesh as we seek to win others.

A woman had a canary that sang beautifully. Out in her garden there were a lot of sparrows that chirped incessantly. She thought that it would be nice if she would put her canary in the garden and teach the sparrows to sing like her canary. She put her canary in the garden and in a few days time, to her consternation and amazement, the canary had stopped singing and had started chirping like the sparrows, but not a single sparrow had started to sing.

Beloved, it is mighty easy for us, as we deal with the world, to become contaminated and defiled by the flesh. It is mighty easy for us instead of being a help to other fellow, for the other fellow to hurt us. God says for us to keep ourselves in the love of God, to pull others out of the fire of Hell.

Oh, may you go out of this place of worship with the realization that there are men all around you that are going to Hell, and may you pray that God will send you to someone that you may pull him out of the fire of Hell. May God bless you!

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