

The Baptist Examiner

Paid Circulation In All States And In Many Foreign Countries

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

VOL. 25, NO. 10

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, APRIL 8, 1956

WHOLE NUMBER 929

WHEN WILL THIS PRESENT AGE END?

ELD. ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

SEQUENCES OF THE ATONING WORK OF CHRIST, will extend as FAR AS THE EFFECTS OF THE FALL. Otherwise it would fall short of a perfect atonement. Read Romans 8:18-25 for a description of the deliverance of creation from "the bondage of corruption."

The A-MILLENNIALIST is one OF THE MOST INEXCUSABLE HERETICS ALIVE. There has to be a Millennium, with the world brought back to perfection, in order for God's creation to prove

a success. God is going to defeat Satan by RESTORING CREATION to its original perfection and beauty. He is going to make a success out of this world.

WHEN WILL THIS AGE BE BROUGHT TO AN END? We are not going into the date setting business by naming day, month or year. We are not going beyond the Bible, but the Bible does give us some information concerning the time of the end of the age. This information amounts to this:

1. THIS AGE WILL END FOLLOWING THAT TIME WHEN THE LAST OF GOD'S ELECT (Continued on page eight)

1. Was Peter hung with his head downward? Where is it in the Bible?

There is nothing short of Catholic tradition, without one ounce of Bible proof to back it up. There is no reference to it in any sense. There is enough taught in God's Book for us, without taking the traditions of the Catholics.

2. Is it right for a church to have an assistant pastor? Our church has two pastors and there is always a division in it.

In the Bible, most churches had a plurality of pastors. I thank God for my associate pastor—Bro. Bob Ross. Two men who love the Lord and His Word should be able to work together without friction and discord.

3. What is your opinion of the Conservative Baptists?

This group came about as a protest against the modernism of the Northern Baptist Convention. The majority are sound on what they call the fundamentals, but are weak as branch water on the church, ordinances, and all similar doctrines. I number some very close friends among Conservative Baptists, and I guess my only

criticism of them is that they just aren't conservative enough when it comes to church truth.

4. What is your opinion of the American Baptist Association?

Again I'll say that they number a great list of good men. However, I can recall but very, very few that believe the doctrine of election. Furthermore the most of them are confused as to the church, for they identify the church and kingdom as synonymous, which is as far from the truth as the North Pole from the South.

5. If one marries again after divorcing his wife, isn't that one living in adultery?

Generally speaking, yes. See Mt. 19:1-9. Read Bro. Roy Mason's article in the issue of February 25, 1956.

6. Explain James 5:19-20.

A man may be saved only once, yet he may be converted many times. Every time that he strays from the truth and is recovered, he is converted. Every time he sees new truth and accepts it, it can be said that he has been converted. (Continued on page eight)

Here Is Bible Proof That God Hates Sinners

It is commonly said, even by preachers who ought to know better, that God hates sin but loves sinners. The Bible does not make any such statement. God is not the author of any such confusion. The Bible teaches that God hates both sin and sinners. This is the reason that men must be born again — made "meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light" (Col. 1:12). This is the reason that "this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" in the resurrection, "and so shall we ever be with the Lord." (I Cor. 15:53; I Thess. 4:17).

Of course sinful man would rather believe that God loves him in this sinful state than to think that he must forsake his sins before he can be with God. But it is for ever written of the holy city that "there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life" (Rev. 21:27).

"Thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee," sang the inspired David long ago. "The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity. Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing:

the Lord will abhor the bloody and deceitful man" (Psalm 5:6).

Solomon had the same doctrine: "These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: a proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, an heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, a false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren" (Prov. 6:16-19).



Eld. ROSCOE BRONG

"The word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi": "Was not Esau Jacob's brother? saith the Lord: yet I loved Jacob, and I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for (Continued on page two)

Our Tract Ministry Is Greatly Blessed By Our Living Lord

From the depths of my soul, I thank God for the tract ministry which the Lord has laid upon my heart, and I rejoice from week to week as we are able to bring out new tracts for God's honor and glory. I am happy to state that at present, we have a good supply of each of the following ready for distribution:

- A Hebrew's Search For The Atoning Blood.
- Good Night and Good Morning.
- How To Become A Christian And Go To Heaven.
- What If?
- Letter To Life.
- The Security Of The Saved.
- Baptist Baptism.
- The Unpardonable Sin.
- Women In Shorts Are An Abomination To God.
- A Woman's Place In A New Testament Church.
- The Historicity Of Baptists.

A good supply of each of these is on hand, and other titles will be printed just as fast as funds are available to purchase the paper, and we are able to do the work. I am especially anxious to get one of my messages (Continued on page eight)

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.

Baptist Churches - The Only Scriptural Churches On Earth

by BOB. L. ROSS

In proclaiming the truth that Baptist churches are the only Scriptural churches on earth, let us first notice that

THE CHURCH THAT JESUS BUILT WAS A BAPTIST CHURCH.

Nothing but a Baptist church could be the church that Jesus built because all others are forced to admit they were founded by men. Catholics claim to be the oldest church, but they can trace their history back no further than the days of Constantine. Campbellites claim to be "The Church of Christ," but it is a historical fact that Alexander Campbell was their founding father. All Protestants claim to be "branches" of the "Church," but they freely and proudly confess that they were started by Luther, Calvin, John Wesley, etc.

Some dishonest or ignorant religionists have tried over and over again to put their finger on the individual who started Baptist churches. For instance, the Catholics publish a booklet entitled, "The Truth About Catholics," in which they say that Baptists began with Roger Williams. But they also publish another — "Just One Minute Please" — which states that John Smith was their founder. Still others have attempted to prove that Baptists arose during the Reformation.

But the truth of the matter is, not one historian of repute has been able to find an earlier or later date of the beginning of Baptists than the days of Jesus

Christ. Certainly, if a religious organization was founded by a man, it cannot claim to be a true church, because Christ built the true church and promised to be with it until the end of time. (Matthew 16:18, 28:19-20, Ephesians 3:21). All human organizations are unscriptural since they were founded by men and not by Christ.

THE CHURCH THAT JESUS COMMISSIONED WAS A BAPTIST CHURCH.

All agree that without the authority of Christ, no church is a Scriptural church. Unless Christ be the One who has built the church and commissioned it, then it has no authority to do any work in His name. Thus, all the organizations of men are without any authority to preach the gospel, baptize, or to teach the Bible, because Christ has given His Commission to His church. Read Matthew 28:19-20.

This means that all Protestants and Catholics and others, who are not Baptists, have no Divine authority for existing. Although some of these folk may be saved, they have no baptism and no church membership, because the person who baptized them had not the authority of Christ, and the organization to which the person belongs is not a church since it was founded by man. (Continued on page eight)

THE HOLY BIBLE CONVINCED THEM

"The holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation." (II Timothy 3:15).

Two Mongol Tartar chiefs were engaged by a missionary to assist him in preparing a translation of the Gospels into the language of their country, and they had, as a matter of course, to study the subject intently. At length the work was completed, the last correction made, and the book was closed on the table. Still they sat serious and silent. At last the missionary inquired what was the matter, and was equally surprised and delighted to hear them both declare themselves converts to Christianity. "At home," they said, "we studied the sacred writings of the Chinese, and the more we read the more obscure they seemed; but the longer we have read the Gospel, the more simple and intelligible it became, until at last it seemed as if Jesus were talking with us."—Sunday Companion.

THE INDWELLING CHRIST

"That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith."—Eph. 3:17.

The Lord dwelleth not in temples made by hands. These are homeless places, even though they may have the strength and beauty of great cathedrals. We may build these wonderful piles, and we may embellish them with all manner of architectural graces, but, if this is all, "the Son of Man hath not where to lay His head." The wonderful building may be empty. And yet the heart of some poor body, living in one of the miserable little houses which so often huddle around our cathedrals, may be a favored spot in which all Heaven is interested, for it may be all ablaze with the grace and glory of the Lord. The material surroundings matter nothing. Christ was born in a manger; He was cradled in Nazareth, and His Spirit still visits lowly conditions, and He seeks a dwelling place in the hearts that (Continued on page two)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

"GOD'S PURPOSES"

"Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them."—Psa. 139:16.

Every once in a while, someone with whom I come in contact, wants to argue about, and object to the sovereignty of God, and God's elective purposes growing out of His foreknowledge. Particularly do such individuals

like to argue against the doctrine of election.

When I started to build my house a few months ago, the first thing that I did was to buy a set of plans. Then, after we had worked those plans over and made some changes and some alterations, from that time on, those blueprints — those plans, were the basis for the house that we are now building. I would hate to see what a house would look like if a man had no idea as to what he was going to do from

one day to the next — that is, if he had no plans to work by. If an individual were to get up this morning and start to build a house with no plan, no thought, no blueprint, no architectural drawing, and he only built that house, a piece at a time and planned as he went along — I'd hate to see what that house looked like, when he came to the end. Now, beloved, if it be the part of wisdom and prudence that an individual have plans for the building of a house (Continued on page three)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN — EDITOR
PUBLISHED WEEKLY

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE
(Domestic and Foreign)

One Year in Advance50c

Send Remittance to Russell, Ky.

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

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

Paid circulation in every state and many foreign countries.

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

BOUND VOLUMES

We have some bound volumes of the Baptist Examiner for 1955 still available. The price is \$5.00 a copy. These contain the entire 52 issues of the paper for 1955, and are attractively bound with black cloth binding.

We have continuous calls for bound volumes for preceding years. There are none of these available, but we will be glad to send out volumes for 1955 as long as we still have them.



NEWS PRINT SHORTAGE

We are having a harder time securing news print than at any time since this paper was launched. In fact, even during the years of World War II, it was easier to secure paper than it is now.

Please keep this in mind and pray much for us that the Lord will provide sufficient paper for our use. If the paper is irregular, or does not reach you on time, please bear with us. We are doing our best to get it out, although this newsprint shortage has caused us a good deal of grief.



TWO SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

In this issue are the notes for two Sunday School lessons. We are planning a large issue the following week, relative to mission work in Mexico, when everything in it will pertain to missions, and particularly to Mexican mission work. Hence we are carrying the notes for the Sunday School lessons for two weeks in this issue.



The Indwelling Christ

(Continued from page one)
dwell within. He makes His home in the warm and genial intimacies of the soul.

But now let us examine this word, "dwell," and let us get at its vital significance. There is a very great difference between visiting a place and living in it. It is one thing to have a weekend in the Lake district; it is quite another thing to live there all the year round. It is one thing to offer someone "a bed for the night;" it is a very different matter to offer him a home for the rest of his life. Now Christ wants to dwell in our hearts, to settle down there, and live day and night, and all the year through, at the very center of our life, near the very springs of all its actions and dreams. And what do we do with Him? We entertain Him for a single meal. We allow Him to pay us a visit. We give Him a lodging for the night. Yes, perhaps we put up with Him for a weekend — a Saturday till Monday visit—but on the Monday He must go. We don't arrange for Him to settle down and live with us.

All of which means that we are religious by fits and starts. Our piety is a things of bits and fragments. There is no continuity in our devotion. There is no settled purpose. There is no deep and unbroken communion. We have a sort of nodding acquaintance with the Lord; in a certain way we are familiar with His name, but we have no knowledge of that prolonged and vital fellowship which knits days and nights together, and which makes the weeks like moments in the year. In such broken religion there is no ceaseless interflow of noble affection. Things come and go. We let Christ in now and again, but we do not live with Him.

But He is wanting to dwell with us: "Abide in Me, and I in you." He wants to come into our hearts, and never go out again. And what is this heart which he seeks as His home? I do not offer any merely metaphysical or theological interpretation of it. We know perfectly well what it means to live in somebody's heart, and we know perfectly well what it means for somebody to live in

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 1956

THE TRANSFIGURATION

Memory Verse: "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."—Luke 13:3.

Introduction: The last verse of the preceding chapter (V. 28) is to be explained in the light of Mt. 17. The chapter divisions are very imperfect here, as Mt. 16:28 should be the first verse of Mt. 17. The word, "see," of V. 28, is the key to explain the verse. The transfiguration was that some of the disciples might see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom. It was a pattern and sample of the glory of our Lord when He returns in His millennial kingdom.

I. The Mount Of Vision. Mt. 17:1-13.

1. It was near Caesarea-Philippi, at night and about seven months before His crucifixion that Jesus took three of His disciples, Peter, James, and John, and went into some lonely spot for the object of prayer. After this all night prayer meeting, Jesus was transfigured (it was no vision nor dream) before the disciples.

2. The purpose of the Transfiguration was to give His disciples a picture of the glory of His millennial kingdom.

3. "After six days," indicates that this occurred in the seventh day. "One day is with the Lord as a thousand years" (II Pet. 3:80). Then this would tell us that this is a millennial scene—six thousand years of labor followed by a thousand years of rest and peace.

4. Here the disciples got a glimpse of Christ in His resurrection glory (V. 2). Cf. II Pet. 1:16-18. It is thus that Christ now appears in Heaven. Cf. Acts 9:3-5. It is thus that we shall see Him throughout the millennium and forever. Cf. Rev. 21:23, 24.

5. The Old Testament saints are going to have a part with Christ in His millennial kingdom (Vs. 3), as we see by the presence of Moses and Elijah.

6. When Christ comes to earth, He will be accompanied with two classes of saints, those who have passed through death, and those who are changed without seeing death. Moses had died, and had come back. So the dead will be raised. Cf. I Thess. 4:13-18; I Cor. 15:54. Elijah was translated without death. So every living Christian will be instantly transfigured when Jesus comes. Cf. I Cor. 15:51, 52.

7. Moses and Elijah are witnesses to an immortal life. Cf. Job 14:14; II Tim. 1:9, 10.

8. Both the law and prophets converge in Jesus. Moses represents the law and Elijah the prophets. The finger that wrote the law and the finger of the prophets are each lifted to point to Jesus.

9. They talked of Jesus' death. Cf. Luke 9:13. The death of Jesus was the interest and talk of Heaven. The talk and song of the millennial kingdom will be the death of Jesus. Cf. Rev. 15:3.

10. This is doubtless a prophecy of the kind of bodies Christians will have when raised and glorified. Cf. I Cor. 15:49; Rom. 8:30; Phil. 3:20, 21; I John 3:2. When Jesus arose, He had a glorified body, could pass through closed doors. One minute He could be in one place, the next minute miles away. We will have bodies just like Jesus. That is why the millennium will be such a great age for missions.

11. This shows the blessedness of the millennial kingdom (V. 4). With Satan removed, the Anti-Christ destroyed, and God's will being indeed, done, we will say, "It is good to be here."

12. It is not "good" now to worship only and

ours. When we live in anyone's heart it means that we are taken into the interior room of their life. We have all the privileges of "the living room" in their house. It is the room where life moves in perfect freedom. We put off our "calling coat," and we put on our lounge coat. Everything that is stiffly ceremonial is laid aside. Intercourse is born and proceeds without any formal checks. The imports and exports of communion move in perfect freedom of trade. And then secret things come out and play. Free thought has free expression and love flows abundantly without being conscious that it is flowing at all. This is life in the living room. It is life in Liberty Hall.

And it is just there, in that inner room, that our Lord wants (Continued on page eight)



God Hates Sinners

(Continued from page one)
the dragons of the wilderness" (Mal. 1:1-3). Note that God does not say that He hated merely Esau's works, but "I hated Esau." "When Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; (for the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth); it was

said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger, As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated" (Rom. 9:10-13).

God's hatred toward sinners is not a passing fancy; it is not a capricious emotion; on the contrary, it is essential to His unchanging character. God would not be holy if He should countenance sin in His presence: "Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity" (Habak. 1:13).

God's standard of holiness is stated in His law and exemplified in Christ. We read that "the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good" (Rom. 7:12); and Christ warns us: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. 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" (Matt. 5:17-19).

"God is angry with the wicked every day" (Ps. 7:11) because they transgress His holy law: "Because the law worketh

leave demoniacs uncured in the plain. The fact that Jesus descended from the mountain shows that it was not good to leave the uncured demoniacs without His attention and compassion.

13. All Christians will be submissive to Christ's will during the millennium. Peter said, "If thou wilt."

14. God will speak face to face with us during the millennium. He spoke to Israel out of the cloud. Cf. Deut. 5:22. Thus in the millennium. Cf. Isa. 4:4, 5.

15. Jesus Christ is the Son of God (V. 5). If the modernists who deny His divinity are correct, then the Father falsified.

16. Christ is the object of Divine complacency ("I am well pleased"). God was well pleased with His Son.

17. We are to listen to Jesus ("Hear ye him"), even amid the babel of this day.

18. The disciples were afraid (V. 6). The nearer men come to God, the more sinful they realize themselves to be. Cf. Isa. 6:5; Rev. 1:17. In the light of this experience, a man's boast of sinlessness doesn't argue his nearness to Christ, but his distance from Christ.

19. After the vision passed, Jesus only remained (V. 8). So in this world's history. Oblivion wraps the past and the future. Everything else vanishes. Jesus only abides. This tells us that in the millennium, Christ will occupy a position of pre-eminence, high above all else. Cf. Isa. 2:17.

20. The hour of the Transfiguration was at the close of night. Cf. Luke 9:32. The millennium will come at the close of this long night of sin and darkness, through which the earth has passed for nearly 6,000 years.

21. When they came down from the mount, Christ cast out a devil (V. 18). The first thing Jesus will do when He returns to the earth, will be to cast out the Devil and fasten him in the bottomless pit for a thousand years. Cf. Rev. 20:3.

II. The Plains Of Service. Mt. 17:14-18.

When Jesus came down from the mount of vision to the plains of service, He found:

1. The Devil (V. 18).

2. The father having trouble with his son (V. 15).

3. A church that wasn't meeting the needs of the people (V. 16).

III. The Secret Of Power. Mt. 17:19-21.

Prior to this time, Jesus had given His disciples power to cast out devils. Cf. Mt. 10:8. Before this case of demoniacal epilepsy, though, these disciples stand powerless. Has Christ taken away the power to cast out devils? Has He taken back what He gave? No, it is their unbelief (V. 21), which brings all their resources to nothing before this devil-ridden boy. In verse 21, Jesus means to tell us that all difficulties can be removed through the power of faith.

IV. The Coin In The Fish's Mouth. Mt. 17:24-27.

The temple tax was originally levied in the wilderness. Cf. Ex. 30:11-15. It was never compulsory, as there was no power to exact it. Since Christ was lax in many of His views of Pharisaical righteousness, Peter was questioned whether He would pay this temple tax. Christ needed no ransom for His soul, but He voluntarily submitted although free. Cf. Phil. 2:5-8.

wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression" (Rom. 4:15). This wrath of God rests upon sinners whether or not they have heard or read His written law: "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse" (Rom. 1:18-20).

It is the sinner's own fault if he remains under the wrath of God: "Despise thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and long-suffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance. But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds: to them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; but unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey un-

\$ A-MONTH-CLUB \$

Ever since we made our payment on our big press last June, a few of us have been putting aside regularly a small amount in a special fund, with which to pay our note this June 27, which amounts to \$1000.00 and interest. In all, we will owe a little better than \$1200.00 the last of June.

Since our payment last June, I have reported the gifts that have come in, but have said but little about this obligation. Now since the time is getting close to the day when the payment must be made, I want to tell you more of the urgency of the situation.

We have on hand a little better than \$280.00 which has come in as a result of what we call our Dollar-A-Month Club. This club was proposed by Brother L. A. Jarrell, Lordsburg, N. M., one of our faithful readers and supporters. His idea was that if we could but secure 100 who would contribute one dollar a month that the obligation could easily be wiped out. Nothing like 100 have responded with regularity. Hence, today, we do not have even half of the desired amount, with June 27 looming in the horizon, just a little over two months away.

There is not a doubt in my mind but that we will have the money in hand in time. I feel definitely sure that God will provide. However, I will be mighty happy when the note is met in full.

For years our friends kept insisting upon a larger paper — that is, when we were printing only a four-page weekly. I am glad in the providence of God that we were permitted to buy the press we are now using, especially since we bought it at such a remarkably low price, and I am happy to bring this paper to you every week with at least eight pages of spiritual interest for our readers. It is a joy to me to be able to edit it, and send it forth, knowing that God has richly blessed its ministry through the years that have passed into eternity.

We will need an average of about \$75.00 a week between now and June 27, in order to meet our obligation. How about you sending us a contribution today?



MABEL CLEMENT

This splendid book, which we re-printed this past year has been mailed to all those who have placed advance orders, or who were to receive a free copy as a result of our recent subscription campaign.

During the time that our subscription campaign was in progress, we had a veritable avalanche of mail. It could be, since we are human, that someone may have been overlooked. Please bear in mind, if so, that this was a mistake of the hand and not of the heart.

If you have not received your copy of the book, and you have such coming to you, please write me at once and it will be mailed to you immediately.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE TWO

APRIL 8, 1956

"God's Purposes"

(Continued from page one)

just an earthly structure in which he expects to reside for a few brief years at most — I say, beloved, if that be the part of wisdom and prudence, how much more would it be the part of wisdom and prudence on the part of Almighty God, to have a blueprint and a plan and a purpose for your life and mine.

And, if I mistake not, that's what He has in this verse of scripture. I think, beloved, this verse of scripture tells us about God's plan, God's blueprint and God's purposes, as they relate themselves to you and to me day by day.

Before I even get into the text, I want to call your attention to one word which I think is definitely a poor translation. It says, "Thine eyes did see my substance yet being unperfected." You will notice, beloved, that that word "unperfected" is written in your Bible in italics. That word was not in the original, and I think, beloved, it would be much better if the translators had followed the context of the Bible, in the verses before and in the verses that follow, and had used the word "unformed," instead of "unperfected." Therefore, beloved, if you would do so, it would read thus, "Thine eyes (the eyes of God) did see my substance, yet being unformed; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them."

To translate it thus shows that it's not the question of the body being "unperfected," but its the question of the body being "unformed." Before any of our members were fashioned, and before any of our members were formed, God already saw our substance, and God made the plans, and drew up the blueprints and designed the purposes relative to your life and mine.

I

GOD'S PURPOSES ARE ALL ETERNAL PURPOSES.

"Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, nor according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ before the world began."—II Tim. 1:9.

When you read this verse, beloved, you can't help but see that God's purposes are eternal purposes. From all eternity He has had some plans, some blueprints and some purposes concerning you and me.

I insist, beloved, that those plans, and purposes and blueprints, were all given in Jesus Christ before the world began.

"Hast thou not heard long ago, how I have done it; AND OF ANCIENT TIMES, that I have formed it? now have I brought it to pass, that thou shouldst be to lay waste defenced cities into ruinous heaps."—Isaiah 37:26.

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What does God say? That the things, that take place, beloved, in time, were what God purposed in ancient time, would come to pass. Brethren, whenever I think about the purposes of God in the light of a verse like this, it just lifts me up. It blesses my soul when I realize that God's purposes are all eternal purposes, that everything He does concerning your life and mine, was already planned, and purposed and predetermined by God before the foundation of the world. Let me read you another text to show you that God's purposes are eternal.

"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, **DECLARING THE END FROM THE BEGINNING,** and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure."—Isaiah 46: 9,10.

Read it, beloved, and come back to this fact that God's purposes are all eternal purposes. He has declared the end from the beginning, so that everything concerning us has already been planned and purposed and predetermined and foreordained, and decreed by God to come to pass, and that from the very beginning.

Here is a man who is visiting us today whom I haven't seen for 28 long years. When he was just a little lad, 13 or 14 years old, I saw him for the last time. We drifted apart and hadn't been together from that time until Friday night when he came to see me. We drifted apart and hadn't been together in any wise at all until three years ago, when he read in the paper about my mother's death. At that time, we had some correspondence. I started sending him THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, and he came to spend this weekend with me. It has really been glorious fellowship that God has given to us. He didn't know that he was going to be here on this weekend, with me, until just a few days ago. However, beloved, God had it planned. He knows the end from the beginning. Every purpose and every event of my life is according to God's predetermined plan.

"Known unto God are all his works **FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD.**"—Acts 15:18.

How long, beloved, has God known what His works were going to be? How long has God known what you were going to do? How long has God known, beloved, where you were going to be today? The Scriptures say: "Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world."

Every time I think of this I am reminded of that old song by Cowper:

"God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform. He plants His footsteps in the sea, And rides upon the storm."

Deep in unfathomable mines, Of never failing skill, He treasures up His bright designs, And works His sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take, The clouds you so much dread, Are big with mercy and Shall break with blessing on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, But trust Him for His grace; Behind a frowning providence, He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast, Unfolding every hour; The bud may have a bitter taste, But sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err, And scan His works in vain: God is His own interpreter, And He will make it plain."

I say then, beloved, God's works, God's plans and God's purposes are all of a sovereign predetermined, eternal will.

STREET SCENE... AND UNSEEN



III

GOD'S PURPOSES ARE UNCHANGEABLE.

Sometimes, you and I make plans and then later we change them. Sometimes we purpose to do things, but we change our purposes. Not so with God. God's purposes, beloved, are unchangeable.

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, WITH WHOM IS NO VARIABleness, neither shadow of turning."—James 1:17.

Now, here's a verse, beloved, that says there is no variableness with God. He doesn't change. He's the same yesterday, today and forever. This text says that there's not the slightest shadow that's caused by God turning, or God changing. Aren't you glad this morning that the God who drew the blueprint for your life—the God who eternally purposed the events of your life—the God who predetermined and decreed the experiences of your life—aren't you glad this morning, beloved, that that God doesn't change. He didn't purpose to make you one way and later changed His mind, and made something altogether different. God's purposes never change.

Listen: "The Lord of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand."—Isaiah 14:24.

I am talking, beloved, about God's purposes being unchangeable. Here's a text which says that whatever God hath purposed shall so stand. What a wonderful lesson this offers us. Brethren, you and I are mighty prone to worry. We are prone to allow our burdens to rest heavily upon us. We are prone to look upon the dark side of life. Why, I heard a mother shriek and scream this week over the death of a little child, and she lamented things she had failed to do, thinking that perhaps the death might have been avoided. Today, she blames herself and worries, whereas she should realize that God's pur-

poses are unchangeable purposes. There isn't anything that has ever come into your life, whether it's affecting you now, or whether it affected you yesterday, or in the years gone by, or shall affect you tomorrow, but what, beloved, is according to the unchangeable purposes of Almighty God.

If you wish another proof text, you can have it.

"For I am the Lord, I change not."—Malachi 3:6.

Things come to us by way of burdens and difficulties which cause us grief. We often think that those things might have been avoided—that if we had known them a long time ago, perhaps we could have been prepared for them. Not so, my friend. God's purposes don't change. They have never changed. The purposes and plans for your life have come to pass just exactly as they have, because God purposed it, and it had to be thus.

III

GOD'S PURPOSES EVEN INCLUDE ALL THE FUTURE ACTS OF YOUR LIFE AND MINE.

"But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the LATTER DAYS."—Daniel 2:28.

Here is Daniel speaking to King Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel declares that God knows what's going to happen in the latter days. Let me remind you this morning, brother, that God's purposes include all the future acts of man. He knows what is going to happen in the latter days.

Now, I don't know what's going to happen tomorrow. I don't even know what the weather will be like tomorrow. I don't know what turn business is going to take. I don't know who is going to be the next president. I don't know what kind of health I'll have in the future. I don't know what is going to happen next week. In fact, I just don't know anything about the future.

I might tell you that I am planning to make a missionary tour to Mexico beginning February 25.

However, I don't know that I am going to go. This is my purpose and my plan for myself, but, beloved, I may be dead before the twenty-fifth of February. I may be having a hallelujah time around the Throne of God, the like of which I have never had before, when the twenty-fifth day of February comes around. Only God knows all the future acts of your life and mine, and His purposes include the future, as well as the past.

IV

GOD'S PURPOSES INCLUDE THE THINGS THAT MIGHT APPEAR JUST TO BE CHANCE HAPPENINGS.

"The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord."—Prov. 16:33.

Now, let me illustrate what this text means: When an election comes around, you and I choose sides, and we team up on one side or the other. We work mighty, mighty hard for our particular candidate, and we put out all the effort and all the energy that we can in behalf of our candidate. Thousands of dollars are raised and are spent for printing of literature and for advertising, and multiplied millions of words are exchanged by way of verbal tilts for a few months time, but beloved in the final analysis, the battle of the ballots is in the hands of Almighty God.

I heard one candidate say a few months ago: "I can't elect myself and it's going to be in the hands of the people as to who is to be the next governor of Kentucky." When I heard him express himself thus, I realized that he surely didn't know anything at all about the Word of God. Brethren, it wasn't in the hands of the voters to say who was to be elected governor of Kentucky in 1955, and neither is it in the hands of the voters to say who will be elected president in 1956.

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

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

Are You Trying To Be Saved?

By A. M. OVERTON

Is The World Becoming Better Or Worse?

By RUTH GILPIN

Time and again, in school we are taught that this world in which we live is becoming better. Modernistic preachers tell their congregations to prepare to serve in the world which, they say, is ever becoming more perfect. And most magazines and newspapers continually hold the opinion that the world is steadily improving.

On the other hand, there still remain some few old-fashioned, God-fearing preachers who stand up and tell the Bible truth to people that this evil world is rapidly increasing in wickedness. Few do so, but there are still these few who boldly uphold the teachings of the Word of God.

Friends, who is speaking the truth—these wicked modernists and people of the world, or the Lord's men and His people? We don't have to turn very far in God's Word until we come to the first book that was ever written, Job. Job, in the twenty-first chapter, verses 11 to 15, tells us of man's utter wickedness and depravity. We read: "They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance. They take the timbrel and harp, and rejoice at the sound of the organ. They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave. Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him?"

Then we come over to Romans, and the Apostle Paul tells us more of the evil ways of sinful men. We read in Romans 3:10-18: "There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is

none that doeth good, no, not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the way of peace have they not known: There is no fear of God before their eyes."

Realizing the deep and utter depravity of all human beings as we have read of, how could any of us—and these passages do teach that we all are wicked and depraved—how could any of us ever hope to improve ourselves and this world? Well, we cannot; it simply cannot be done. And, men and women who are living to satisfy the lusts of their corrupt flesh will never improve themselves. A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump (I Corinthians 5: 6). A little sin develops into mountains and oceans of sin. What does Paul tell us of the sinfulness of people who have rejected the salvation of our Lord Jesus? He tells us that these people continually become more evil and sinful and will make the world just as they are. We read in II Timothy 3:1-5: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy. Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false

(Continued on page five)

WHY THE BAPTIST PREACHER'S BABY WAS NOT SPRINKLED

J. B. Jeter's third wife was a Presbyterian. A baby was born in that home. His wife said something about like this: "Mr. Jeter, you knew I was a Presbyterian when you married me. As an honest Presbyterian I believe that our baby ought to be baptized." He consented on condition that she would consent to his holding the baby while the ceremony was performed. She thought it would be a feather in her cap to have the most prominent Baptist preacher in Virginia and one of the best known Baptist editors in the South to hold their baby, while a Presbyterian preacher baptized it.

So she consented. J. B. Jeter announced in his church in Richmond, that he would be out of his pulpit to be present at the Presbyterian church and why. That church was jammed and packed. The scholarly and dignified Presbyterian preacher preached and then announced that those who had babies to be baptized would please bring them forward. Bro. Jeter and his wife arose, and he took the baby in his arms and they walked to the front. He was careful to get at the end where they were to begin. Quite a number of other parents had children present for that purpose. Just as the honored pastor of that Presbyterian church raised his hand to say the baptismal formula and baptize Bro. Jeter's baby, Bro. Jeter said something like this: "My brother, you and I have been good friends for many years. My wife has been a member of your church for years, and I have never tried to proselyte her to my faith. But as a Baptist, I believe that we ought to be able to give a 'Thus saith the Lord' for all that we do. This is my baby as well as my wife's. Before you sprinkle my child, I want you to take your Bible and read out of the Book your authority for what you are about to do."

The scholarly, old-school Presbyterian preacher slowly raised his hand and pronounced the benediction. Mrs. Jeter soon became a Baptist. She said that her

(Continued on page five)

"But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness" (Romans 4:5).

Very often, when you ask a person if he is saved, you will get this answer: "I'm trying to be." And the sad part about it is that those who so answer seem to think that there is some degree of safety in such a statement.

One of the plainest of all truths is that every human being who is trying to be saved is lost! If one is trying to be saved, it is self-evident that he is lost. If one is saved, he is not trying to be.

Ask the young man, "Are you married?" His answer, "I'm trying to be," declares plainly that he is not married. Ask the candidate, "Are you sheriff?" When he says, "I'm trying to be," you know positively that he is not sheriff. No one is anything that he is trying to be. Only the blind can fail to see that.

The Lord flatly declares that one must quit trying before he can possibly be saved. The religious world believes and teaches that one must work in order to be saved. God declares in His Word that one must stop working. "But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness" (Romans 4:5).

The natural man thinks that it is "to him that worketh"; but God says it is "to him that worketh not." How much work is there in "worketh not"?

One of the meanings of the word here translated "worketh" is "to produce," "to exercise." Whatever man produces is a work of man. Whatever man "exercises" is of a man. In the light of this truth it is apparent that there is much "works for salvation" being preached and taught by those who profess to believe in salvation by grace.

A "work" may be something done with the head, heart or

hand. Of course if one says that he believes that one must be baptized in order to finally be saved, we know that he believes in salvation by works. We can see that. But, suppose someone preaches that the lost sinner must be sorry for his sins, turn away from his sins, give up his sins, beg God to save him, "exercise faith of a certain kind, before he can be saved. Is that not salvation by works also?

God's gospel is good news. It is not something for poor, lost, helpless man to do, but it is a message of what a loving, gracious and merciful God has done for him. And what He has done for him is reckoned, or counted to him, not for work performed or promised, but to him "who worketh not." It is counted for righteousness when he "believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly." This verily is the message of grace.

If lost men are not to work for salvation, how then may they be saved? They may be saved eternally and unconditionally by grace. Grace is favor shown of God upon utterly unworthy sinners.

How does He impart His wonderful grace? He does it through the Lord Jesus Christ who is revealed only in His Word. "The Word of God is quick (life-giving), and powerful" (Hebrews 4:12). "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever" (1 Peter 1:23).

(Continued on page five)

WANTED - - 60,000 BOYS

And girls also, to take the places of those dropping out, for Hell's gin-mill must grind on, no matter how many lives are lost, careers blighted, and souls ruined to keep the liquor dealers, the cigarette manufacturers and all other tools of the Devil rolling in wealth. "For the love of money

is a root of all evil."—I Tim. 6:10.

But a thousand other temptations await boys and girls today, even if they do not fall for booze and cigarettes, for the Devil is cunning, and if he cannot get them by one thing, he will try something else.

Illinois.

"I enjoy your part of TBE. They are for the young; I am not of that group, but don't miss reading your pages. How much the young folk need good food. My prayer is that God will richly bless you in all things."—Mrs. L. B. Viall, Pennsylvania.

"It has always been fine but especially am glad for the youth pages. They need this very much."—Mrs. Will Bennett, Florida.

"We enjoy the BAPTIST YOUTH WITNESS." — Mr. and Mrs. James A. Frederick, Texas.

"I've been intended to write to let you know how enthused we are over your young people's section of the paper. For some time we have been reading articles to our children when we thought they could understand, so this

young people's part of the paper will come in fine for our family altar." — Mrs. Frank R. Parrish, North Carolina.

"I've been getting a blessing from the section of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER that you are writing. May God continue to bless you."—Miss Sue Hughes, New Mexico.

"I think the YOUTH WITNESS section of the paper is grand. My daughter reads it every week."—Elder Eugene Hensley, Ohio.

"I'm sure the BAPTIST YOUTH WITNESS will be a blessing to many as it has been to me. May the Lord bless your work."—Mrs. Dempsey Henderson, Kentucky.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF BAPTIST YOUTH WITNESS?



Our Bible Study

STUDIES IN GALATIANS

by A. M. OVERTON
(now in Glory)

Chapter Two

"But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision. And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation. But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest

after the manner of the Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?" — vv. 11-14.

Poor Peter fell into a very common fault of those who "receive honor one of another, and seeketh not the honor that cometh from God only" (John 5:44). He knew enough truth to walk in the truth when he was among those who stood for it, but when the "big boys" came along, he let the truth "go hang" while he fawned on the "leaders" for their favor.

Paul called Peter's hand before them all. He was doing what the Holy Spirit later used him to tell the young preacher Timothy (I Timothy 5:20): "Them

(Continued on page five)



"The BAPTIST YOUTH WITNESS is wonderful."—Myron L. Randall, Illinois.

"I would like to compliment you on the YOUTH WITNESS which appears in the paper now. May God be with you."—Will R. Brock, Louisiana.

"I enjoy the BAPTIST YOUTH WITNESS. It is reading material that should be in every home in America."—Raymond E. Spence,

Check-Forgers Cut Off His Writing Finger

"A check-forgers in San Jose, California, really meant it when he wrote Judge William F. James he was going to cut off his writing finger."

"Judge James hurriedly checked the jail Friday after receiving this note:

"I know you won't believe a thief like me but to show that I'm sincere, I'm going to cut off my writing finger. P. S.: When you receive this, the finger will be off."

"Jailers said that the 31-year-old man, confessed check-forgers Hullen Howard Watkins, walked into the kitchen, got a meat cleaver and lopped off his right index finger at the first joint."

"Judge James has continued the case for one week to make up my mind on the strangest case I've ever heard of since presiding in criminal court."—News-paper clipping.

No doubt, this man is not aware of the salvation that is to be found in Christ Jesus. His trouble is not the hand, but the heart. The Lord Jesus said: "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemousness, pride, foolishness: all these evil things come from within, and defile the man" (Mark 7:21-23).

This check-forgers needs more than a finger cut from his hand. He needs a new heart, as do all men everywhere. Had he heard the message of Christ, and had he received it, he would have received new life which would have cured him of his sins. The Lord Jesus said: "Come unto me all ye that labor, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10) was also a thief, as this check-forgers. He was a tax-collector and had become a rich man as the result of his dishonest practices in this job. But when our Lord saved him, Zacchaeus became a new man, and he was even willing to give half of his goods to the poor and to make restitution for all of his dishonest deeds. The power of Christ can change the most wicked-hearted person into an honest, humble, God-fearing person.

This check-forgers of San Jose needs this change that only the Lord Jesus Christ can give. We have sent him some tracts and trust that the Lord will use them to bring him to salvation.

Trying To Be Saved

(Continued from page four)
Peter 1:23). "The gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed" (Romans 1:16, 17).

Men may hear His Word and learn of Him. "Every man therefore that hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me" (John 6:45). Those who hear God's Word, and see Him whom God reveals therein, come to Him, or believe in Him, are born of God. "This is the will of Him that sent me, that every one that seeth the Son, and believeth on Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:20).

Stop trying to be saved, and learn from God's Word how He saves sinners without their trying.

Sprinkled

(Continued from page four)
Pastor was one of the most scholarly Presbyterian preachers in all the South. If he could not find infant baptism in the Bible, then it must not be there. If infant baptism was not in the Bible, she had never been baptized, for infant baptism was all that she had ever had. With an open Bible, she soon was led to the truth and obeyed her Lord in baptism. The Bible was written to make Baptists, and it will do the work in every regenerate heart if they will only read it and obey it.

—H. B. Taylor, Sr.

Our Bible Study

(Continued from page four)
(elders) that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear."

Peter was playing the little game of being a hypocrite. The word translated "dissimulation" (v. 13) is the word from which our word "hypocrite" comes. A hypocrite is a person who attempts to put on two fronts, or one who "straddles the fence." He may be honest and sincere in his own evaluation of his motives, but the result is the same.

The point in it all was this: Peter, a saved Jew, was willing to fellowship, eat with, and treat as equals the Gentile believers, when he was with them by himself. But when the "leading brethren"

from Jerusalem, where James was the "seeming somewhat" leader, came down to Antioch, Peter shunned the Gentile brethren and stuck close to the "big boys" from the city.

Paul turned on the light of publicity and truth. "If you, a Jew, have been living like the Gentiles, why do you now give your approval to those who hold to the doctrine that the Gentiles must live like the Jews?"

We never read this passage but that there comes before us this question: Those who preach and teach that one must live right in order to be saved, all live just like, if maybe not quite as well, those who make no claims for salvation. Now why do they (those who teach right living for salvation, and yet themselves do not live right) demand something of other people that they do not do themselves? Such teachers and preachers dissimulate, or "play hypocrite."

Better Or Worse?

(Continued from page four)
accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good. Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof; from such turn away."

Does this sound as if the world is becoming better? No, indeed! Look about us, friends. Why, these same conditions which Paul speaks of prevail today! Murders, thefts, and rapes are committed every day! Filthy magazines and books that shouldn't ever be touched are being read by young people! Women and girls today dress in such a scanty and lustful manner that they cause so much sin! Few have any fear of the Lord within their hearts!

What a grief this evil is to the hearts of the Lord's people. But, how do all these wicked sins appear to our sovereign, omnipotent, thrice-holy Lord God? "How long, O Lord, wilt thou tolerate this evil people who are living so wickedly everyday?" the souls of the Lord's people continually cry out. Oh, how wonderful when the day of our Lord shall appear, and He shall catch away His redeemed unto Himself! Come, Lord Jesus!

No, this world is surely not becoming better! It is rapidly growing more sinful and evil. And as we, the Lord's people, pass hurriedly along on our pilgrimage through this short life, we are

exhorted by the Apostle Paul to "be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might" (Ephesians 6:10) that we may overcome Satan's temptations. Our eyes and hearts should ever face toward that Celestial City where someday we shall live for ever and ever. Our bodies should be continually useful in our Lord's service. Our whole life should ever be set apart and fully surrendered to our Lord who sacrificed Himself for us.

Are we doing this, Christians? Are we wholly abstaining from the sin of the world? Or, are we "playing" even a little bit with sin?

May we who belong to the Lord "earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered unto the saints." And may we ever "commit our ways unto the Lord; and trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass" (Psalms 37:5).

WHAT A BARREL OF WHISKY CONTAINS

A barrel of headaches, of heartaches, of woes;

A barrel of curses, a barrel of blows;

A barrel of sorrow for a loving weary wife;

A barrel of care, a barrel of strife;

A barrel of unavailing regret;

A barrel of cares, a barrel of debt;

A barrel of hunger, of poison, of pain;

A barrel of hopes, all blasted and vain;

A barrel of poverty, ruin and blight;

A barrel of tears that run in the night;

A barrel of crime, a barrel of groans;

A barrel of orphans' most pitiful moans;

A barrel of serpents that hiss as they pass;

That glow from the liquor in the bead of the glass;

A barrel of falsehoods; A barrel of cries;

That fall from the maniac's lips as he dies!

—SELECTED

I WISH MY MUMMY DIDN'T SMOKE

I know my Mummy loves me. She dresses me up in nice clothes. She feeds me on the things that are good for me. She buys me lots of things. She reads books about how to take care of me. She sits up with me when I do not feel good. She will do 'most anything for me. But I wish she didn't smoke!

I've never had a clean kiss in



my life. Sometimes her breath is awful bad; and when she kisses me just after she has been smoking, it almost makes me sick. All the time there's something funny tasting about it. Once, it did make me sick and I cried, and she said it was from something that I had eaten.

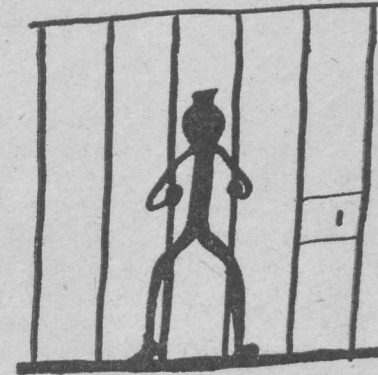
She was fixing my oatmeal the other morning and smoking, and she got ashes into it. 'Course she didn't see it, but I had to eat it.

For Little Children

THE LIFE OF JOSEPH JOSEPH IN JAIL IN EGYPT

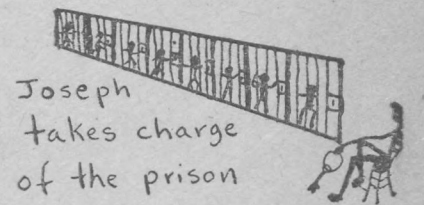
After Joseph's brothers had sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites, the Ishmeelites took him into Egypt. There they sold him to Potiphar, an officer of King Pharaoh. Potiphar saw that the Lord was with Joseph. He treated Joseph very kindly. He made Joseph the boss over all his business and his servants.

But Potiphar had a very wicked wife. She and Joseph did not get along with each other. She told lies about Joseph and caused him to be put in jail.



But the Lord was with Joseph. The Lord caused the keeper of the prison to like Joseph very

much. The keeper of the prison liked Joseph so well that he put him in charge of all the other prisoners. All of this was because that the Lord was with Joseph.



Boys and girls, many things happen to us as they did to Joseph. Those who do not like us may say evil things about us. They may do things to us that will hurt us.

But the Lord has promised to be with us who are saved, just as He was with Joseph. So, when people speak evil of us and do things to hurt us, remember that the Lord will work it out for our own good.

Here is a memory verse for you who are saved. Remember it when you are having hard times, as Joseph did. Here it is: "We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

An Excerpt From Edwards' Sermon: "Sinners In The Hands Of An Angry God"

"So that thus it is that natural men are held in the hand of God over the pit of hell; they have deserved the fiery pit, and are already sentenced to it; and God is dreadfully provoked: his anger is as great towards them as those that are actually suffering the execution of the fierceness of His wrath in hell; and they have done nothing in the least to appease or abate that anger, neither is God in the least bound by any promise to hold them up for one moment. The devil is waiting for them, hell is gaping for them,

the flames gather and flash about them, and would fain lay hold on them, and swallow them up; the fire pent up in their own hearts is struggling to break out; and they have no interest in any Mediator; there are no means within reach that can be any security to them. In short they have no refuge, nothing to take hold of; all that preserves them every moment is the mere arbitrary will, and uncovenanted, unobliged forbearance of an incensed God."

(Order from us today; one copy is 20c, or six copies for \$1.00.)

you believe me—Grandma has started smoking to!

I don't know what people want to smoke for. I wish my Mummy didn't.

OUR BOOKS

Systematic Study of Bible Doctrine, by T. P. Simmons, \$4.00.

The Church That Jesus Built, by Roy Mason, \$1.00.

No Uncertain Sound, sermons by Forrest Pack, \$2.00.

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A FATHER'S HAND



God's Purposes

(Continued from page three)

It is entirely in the hands of God.

This text says that "the lot is cast into the lap, but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord." The "lot" refers to the method of voting that was used in Bible days. Then, each man wrote his name on a piece of paper and they would drop those pieces of paper into someone's lap, and then, blindly one man would reach in and pull out a name. It looked like it was just a chance happening, but the whole disposing of it was of the Lord. I tell you, beloved, there never is an election held but what God is back of it, and God disposes of it as seemeth good to Himself.

Even the chance happenings, I say, beloved, are a part of God's purposes. Do you remember how that Jonah tried to run away from the Lord when God wanted him to go to Nineveh? The Word of God tells us how that Jonah bought a ticket on a boat going in the other direction and went down into the bottom of that boat, and went sound asleep. The storm broke upon the water, and it looked like the vessel was going down to the depths of the ocean. The mariners came and stood beside Jonah, and said, "What meanest thou, oh sleeper?" They decided to cast lots to see who it was that was back of all of this tragedy that had befallen them.

"So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah."—Jonah 1:7.

Why? Because God's purposes, my brother, include even the chance happening of this life.

There are things that we say took place, just by chance, yet God is back of each event.

This past week, there was a patch of ice on the road. I did not see ice any place else that morning, except in this one spot. I never drive fast anymore—usually 30 to 35 miles an hour, yet

my car started sliding, and I was as helpless to control it as a babe would have been. I thought surely that a telephone post right in front of me was going to be my target. Just before I crashed it though, my car swerved to the right and went up into a yard and turned on its side—at about a 45 degree angle, and stopped. I backed out, and so far as I was concerned, I could not see a thing that had happened to my car, or myself in any wise at all. As I got back into the car and drove on to my house, I thought of this text of Scripture. Even the things that appear to us to be just chance happenings, God sends them. I don't know what His purpose was for this "near wreck," but I know He had a purpose in it. Actually there is nothing that happens by chance.

Here is another example.

"And Jesus saith unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this day, even in this night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice."—Mark 14:30.

It would appear that the crowing of a rooster, at the time of Peter's denial, was only a chance happening. We need to remember that it had been foretold by the

Lord Jesus, and though it appeared to be only a chance event, actually it was the fulfillment of God's predetermined will.

Most of us think that lightning strikes in a haphazard manner, and that if one is struck by lightning, that it is merely a chance event. In other words most of us think when one is killed by a bolt of lightning that it was only a chance event which took the individual out of this life. However, the Bible makes it clear that God directs even the charge of lightning, and it strikes nowhere, or no one, apart from God's direction.

Listen:

"He covereth his hands with lightning, and GIVETH IT A CHARGE THAT IT STRIKE THE MARK."—Job 36:32 (RV).

Let me give you an illustration to show you that there is no such thing as chance or luck. In I Samuel five and six, you have positive proof that luck or chance is absolutely out of the question. The ark had been taken captive into Philistia and set up in Dagon's temple. God would not stand for His ark, which was symbolic of God's presence, to be put on a level with a heathen god or idol. The next morning when the worshippers of Dagon came into the temple, they found that Dagon had fallen over. They set him back into place, but when they came into the temple the second morning, they found Dagon not only fallen over, but that his hands and face were broken off. Well, the Philistines decided at once that an idol that could not take better care of himself than that, could not help or hurt them, so they worshipped Dagon no more.

This should have been enough to convince them that God was controlling their destinies. However, it wasn't. Soon hemorrhoids broke out on the men, and mice ruined all of their crops. In order to get rid of the ark, for they feared that God was punishing them thereby, they sent it from Ashdod down to Gath. The same thing happened there, for hemorrhoids broke out on the men and killed them, and mice destroyed

their crops; so they bundled up the ark and sent it on over to Ekron, which is another capital city of the Philistines. The people of Ekron would not have it, so the commissioners of Ekron called together the commissioners of Ashdod, Gath, Askelon, and Gaza, which were the five capital cities of the land of the Philistines; and they held a conference to see what they should do with the ark. They decided to put God to a test, and God accepted the challenge. They built a cart and put the ark and their trespass offering on it, and took two young heifers that had never yet been broken to work—that had never yet had the yoke upon them—put their calves in their stalls at home, and put these unbroken heifers to the cart. Then, they said, "If these cattle that have never yet been broken to work, leave this country and take the ark up into God's country, without a driver, we will know that it was His hand that struck the men with hemorrhoids, and it was His mice that destroyed our crops. If not, we will know that it was luck or chance that happened to us." Now, beloved, God accepted that challenge and the Word of God tells us that those two young heifers took that ark right along the highway to Bethshemesh, and went along the road lowing as they went, carrying the ark back up into God's country. Thus God proved to this heathen nation of the Philistines that there was no such thing as luck. So, beloved, they learned that if hemorrhoids killed their men, it was God's hand against them, and they learned that if mice destroyed their crops, it was God's hand against them because of their sin. God showed them that there was no such thing as luck or chance.

Would to God that we might learn the same truth!

Too many people have never learned just how big, and how sovereign, and how Almighty, God really is. I think that too many people think about God as being just a little bit bigger than man. Well, beloved, God is not just a little bit bigger than man. God, beloved, is God. He is sovereign. He is almighty. He is powerful and so much so, that He controls this world in every particular from the least to the greatest, from the infinitesimal to the infinite. In all things, God is a sovereign God, and I rejoice in the fact that everything that happens in this world takes place according to a well defined plan that He has laid out for your life and for mine.

I insist that that is especially true in the things that appear to be just chance happenings.

V

WHAT LESSONS CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS?

First of all, we can learn this lesson that man's purposes fail, but God's purposes never fail. Jonah purposed not to go to Nineveh. He purposed to go to Tarsus, but the Lord's purpose was for Jonah to go to Nineveh, and Jonah went to Nineveh because it was God's purpose for him to go there.

Brother, sister, listen to me. You may purpose, and you may propose to do certain things, but you will do them only as God Almighty permits you to do so.

I often think of Napoleon Bonaparte. History says that when Napoleon made his plans to invade Russia, the Russian ambassador reminded Napoleon of the rugged winters of Russia, in an effort to forestall Napoleon, and to cause him to cease in his determination to invade Russia. Napoleon drew himself up arrogantly, and said, I would have you know that I have purposed to do so. The Russian ambassador reminded him that man proposes, but God disposes, but Napoleon in his arrogant attitude declared "I am he that proposes, and he that disposes." What is the balance of this story? Well, there is a monument just entering the land of Russia and on one side it says that Napoleon passed this way on such and such a day with 45,000 men in his army. On the other

side of the monument, there is a sign which says Napoleon passed this way going back with 9,000 men in his army. Thirty-six thousand Frenchmen were left to bleed and freeze to death in the snowy land of Russia. Napoleon had reckoned, but without God. Those tiny snow flakes came down and piled up three feet deep, and Napoleon was defeated.

Let me tell you something, brother, man may propose, but God does the disposing. What a lesson for us. Man may make his plans. Man may have his purposes, but brother, the purposes of God will be the purposes that will last—that will stand the test. Here's another lesson for us, namely, that we oughtn't to do anything without taking God into consideration. If God is sovereign as I have said, and since His purposes stand fast, then, we oughtn't to do anything without taking Him into consideration.

Listen:

"Go to now, ye that say, To-day or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, IF THE LORD WILL, WE SHALL LIVE, AND DO THIS, OR THAT."—James 4:13-15.

Oh, listen to me, beloved, you have no business saying, "This is my plan for tomorrow." We ought to always say that we will carry out our plans, the Lord willing. I want to insist upon this, this morning, Christians ought to always take God into consideration concerning every plan of their lives. I am often reminded of an old veteran preacher of this area, 20 years ago. I say, I am often reminded of him, how that he would never say that he was going to do anything, without adding the words, "The Lord willing." Brethren, we should learn to do likewise. We should never say that we are going to do anything, unless we add, "the Lord willing," for the only reason in this world that we will do it, is as the Lord wills concerning our lives.

Another lesson which this brings to us has to do with our evangelistic effort. The majority of churches put on evangelistic crusades, revival meetings and give invitations in a manner and in a way that would shame the devil himself. As a result of all their propositions, begging, and emotional appeals, our churches are filled with ecclesiastical corpses rather than born again believers.

God's word makes it clear that everyone whom He has ordained to eternal life will be saved. Listen:

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me."—John 6:37.

"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will FINISH it until the day of Jesus Christ."—Phil. 1:6.

"As many as were ordained to eternal life believed."—Acts 13:48.

No one can read these verses without the realization that God has an elect remnant whom He has chosen unto salvation.

That individual who thus believes that God's purposes are eternal and unchangeable, and who believes the doctrine of election as set forth in these three Scriptures which I have just read, will certainly be very careful as to the appeals he makes in behalf of the lost.

Beloved, here is another lesson for us, that God has a time for everything that comes to pass.

"These words spake Jesus in the treasury, as he taught in the temple: and no man laid hands on him: FOR HIS HOUR WAS NOT YET COME."—John 8:20.

God had a time for the arrest of Jesus Christ. It couldn't come to pass until God's time came.

"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only."—Matt. 24:36.

(Continued on page seven)

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE SIX

APRIL 8, 1956

"God's Purposes"

(Continued from page six)

Jesus is talking about the second coming, and He says that God has a time set for it. We need to learn this lesson, God has a time for everything in your life and mine.

Listen:

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace."—Eccl. 3:1-8.

God thus declares that all the events of our lives are timed, and I would say this morning, God has a time for our salvation. I believe that God has an exact time and hour for every person that is yet to be saved and come into the kingdom of God.

Here is another lesson: It is also true that our days are determined here within this world.

"Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with thee, thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass."—Job 14:5.

I don't know how long that I am going to live. I have no idea as to when I am going to die, but as I know one thing, I am serving a sovereign God this morning, and that God, beloved, knows the number of my days and the number of my months, and He has a boundary set, beyond which I cannot pass. Doesn't that just sort of lift you up, when you realize that you are serving a God that is on His Throne, a God whose purposes are eternal and unchangeable.

Well, here's another lesson that we can learn. So far as we are concerned, what's the use in you worrying, and what's the use in being grieved and upset and fretting over everything that comes to pass in life. What can we do about it. God's purposes, as I have said, are eternal and unchangeable. Well, if that be true, beloved, why in this world should you and I be grieved or worried or upset or aggravated over the things that take place? Everything that comes is God's plan, God's purpose, and God's will. We need to remember that God brought me to this place; God brought me to this hour; God has sustained me in it, and God will sustain me throughout the entirety of it. I tell you, beloved, Romans 8:28 never meant anything to me until I came to see the Sovereignty of God, and that God's purposes are eternal and unchangeable. Then it really meant something to me.

Listen:

"All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Everything has to be for good. It couldn't be otherwise. His purposes, I tell you, are eternal; they are unchangeable. Therefore, beloved, it has to be for our good.

We have a marvelous illustration of this in the case of Joseph and his brethren. I am sure that you will recall that Joseph as a lad was sold by his brothers to the Ishmaelites, and they in turn sold him as a slave in Egypt. I am sure that you will remember how that he was made manager in Potiphar's home and how that Potiphar's wife lied about him and caused him to be put into a dungeon for two years' time, and yet each thing that happened was God Almighty's purpose and plan for his life, so that ultimately, Joseph became the prime minister in the land of Egypt. After he had revealed himself to his brothers, he sent wagons back to Palestine to bring his father and all the

family down to Egypt where he sustained and nourished them throughout all the years of the famine. After the famine was over and after his old father had died, those brothers came to talk to Joseph, thinking that he would surely bring vengeance upon them because of what they had done. However, instead of wreaking vengeance upon his brothers, Joseph reminded them of this fact, that what they did was but the working out of God's divine providence for his life and theirs. Listen:

"But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people."—Genesis 50:20.

You cannot read this verse without realizing that God is a sovereign God, and that He was controlling the steps and the events of Joseph's life, to the extent that each step of the destiny of the lives of the children of Israel depended upon each step that Joseph was forced to take, through the pit, through the dungeon, and through the lies of Potiphar's wife, and through all of those varied and various experiences. He was merely being brought to the place where God might use him. Thus we can see that God was back of it all, and that God controls the lives of all individuals.

But I want to remind you of one thing else. God's purposes being eternal and unchangeable, therefore, God deals with people just as pleases Him.

"The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: HE TURNETH IT WHITHER SOEVER HE WILL."—Prov. 21:1.

This means that God rules the king's heart and God changes it just like God might turn a river in its course. God turns our hearts as it pleases Him. Haven't you had this experience in life, that somebody who was supposed to be a good friend, maybe turned against you. Hasn't that been true in your life? I doubt if there is a person here this morning, but what sometime in your life, there has been somebody whom you thought was a real friend, that turned against you. This has been my experience and I'm sure it has been yours, too. Such an experience comes to be a burden to you and you grieve over it, but, beloved, after all, the Bible says that God changes the king's heart. He turneth it whithersoever He will. I look back across the years of my pilgrimage here within this world, and I think of some who have pledged themselves to me as friends, who today, beloved, are my bitterest enemies. If I would do so, I might sit down and grieve over it. If I would do so, beloved, I might shed tears concerning it. If I could let it, beloved, it would be heartbreaking and heartrending to me.

But, beloved, I have come to this conclusion long, long ago that the God we love and serve is a sovereign God, and he is so sovereign that even He may give us friends and take them away, as seemeth good in His own sight.

Well, beloved, if what I have said to you this morning, be true, then, what attitude ought we to take in life? With simple trusting faith, we should ever say: "Thy will, O God, be done."

Our business this morning is to look up into His face and say

"My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary."

Thank God this morning, beloved, He's on His Throne and it's our business to trust Him, knowing that whatever comes to pass—knowing that whatever takes place, is just God's predetermined counsel being worked out in our behalf.

May God bless you!

God Hates Sinners

(Continued from page two)

righteousness, indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil" (Rom. 2:4-9).

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 1956

JESUS' TEACHING CONCERNING THE KINGDOM

Matthew 18

Memory Verse: "The just shall live by faith."—Rom. 1:17.

I. The Question Of The Disciples. Mt. 18:1.

The disciples are now thoroughly convinced that their Master is the promised Messiah. Peter has confessed Him as such (Mt. 16:16), and Jesus has admitted the confession (Mt. 16:17). Since this is true, they dispute as to which one will have the highest office in the Messianic kingdom.

In the preceding chapter, they had failed to cast out a devil. It is not to be wondered that they failed. The dispute of the lips, prompted by a selfish desire of the heart, had severed their spiritual power. May all Christians beware!

II. Jesus' Sermon On The Kingdom. Mt. 18:2-10.

Jesus does not mean to apply this sermon directly to the apostles. They were already converted. Cf. Acts 1:22. He merely used their ignorant question to further instruct them.

1. Jesus used a child for His text. Jesus was a master in the art of using illustrations.

2. Jesus showed the necessity of conversion (V. 3). The word "converted" literally means "turn." Nothing but a complete turning can enable one to enter Heaven. Cf. Lu. 13:3, 5; John 3:3, 7.

A sinner must turn to childhood ways to be saved. The confidence, modesty, and humility of the child must be the characteristics of a sinner to be saved. To possess these required a turn for no man naturally possesses these characteristics.

3. There will be degrees in Heaven. Verse 3 speaks of "the greatest." Salvation is equal for all. Rewards for works are different as the work of Christians is unequal. Cf. I Cor. 3:8, 14, 15.

4. The Christian is so identified with Christ that a blessing or a curse from the world is personal to Christ (V. 5, 6).

5. It is a fearful offense for a man of the world to cause one of God's own to experience a moral fall (V. 6), yet wicked men often think it is great sport to cause a Christian to sin.

6. Not only should the worldling beware lest he cause a Christian to sin, but he should be willing to mutilate his own body in order to be saved. It would be better to be maimed in life than to go to Hell whole in body.

7. The fires spoken of (V. 8) is sure enough Hell fire. The Greek word is "Gehenna," the place of everlasting burning.

8. The guardian angels (V. 10). Cf. Mark 1:13; Acts 12:15; Dan. 3:25; Dan. 6:22.

III. The Lost Sheep. Mt. 18:11-14.

1. Sheep represent a lost sinner. Cf. Isa. 53:6; Mt. 10:6; I Peter 2:25.

2. The sheep wandered away. Man did that in the Garden of Eden. Cf. Rom. 3:12.

3. The sheep was of no value to the shepherd while lost. Cf. Rom. 3:12.

4. The sheep would never return of its own accord. Cf. Rom. 3:10, 11; John 6:44.

5. The Shepherd represents Christ. Cf. Ps. 23:1; John 10:11; I Pet. 5:4.

6. The Shepherd goes all the way where the sheep is. Jesus does everything necessary for the

The apostle Paul knew better than to tell people that God loves sinners: "For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience" (Eph. 5:5, 6).

"But," protests the sentimentalist, "what about John 3:16? Well, what about it? John 3:16 does not say that God loves sinners. It does not say that God loves the world. It does not even say, without qualification, that God loved the world in the past. In view of the fact that the same inspired apostle who wrote John 3:16 also wrote, 'If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him' (I John 2:15), we would do well to inquire as to what world is in view of John 3:16. But even apart from this question, there is a plainly stated limitation to God's love: 'God so loved the world.' This love found its expression in the gift of Christ, 'that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.' There is no excuse for interpreting this or other passages of Scripture that describe God's love and mercy, or rather misinterpreting them, in such a way as to contradict the uniform teaching of the Bible that God hates all sinners or 'workers

of iniquity" (Ps. 5:5).

No wonder the inspired apostle writes of lost sinners as "having no hope, and without God in the world" (Eph. 2:12). "Who then can be saved?" "With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible" (Mark 10:26, 27).

God does not love a sinner, but He does love the saint into which He is able to change even the vilest sinner. He loves His elect, not for what they are, but for what they shall be. The lost sinner cannot please God (Rom. 8:8; Heb. 12:16). True Christians have been "born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" (I Peter 1:23). And "whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God" (I John 3:9).

"That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" (John 3:6). Even after we have been born again, God hates our sinful flesh and all its works: hence the necessity for the resurrection. "The flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would" (Gal. 5:17). "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall

sinner's salvation. Nothing is left for the sinner to do. Cf. John 6:28, 29.

IV. A Rule Of Discipline. Mt. 18:15-17.

Beware of Scofield's notes, for he says this is a rule of "discipline in the future church." Not at all! The fact that Jesus gave this rule proves that the church was already in existence, and that it was not set up on Pentecost. It was not for the future church, but for the one already present.

V. An Encouragement To Pray. Mt. 18:19, 20.

How God's children ought to get together for prayer with such a promise! How it encourages the heart to know that Jesus promises to be in the very midst of the prayer circle wherein there is agreement.

VI. The Parable of The Unmerciful Servant. Mt. 18:21-35.

1. The King represents God the Father.

2. The servant represents any Jew, Jewish proselyte, or any one else trying to live under the law.

3. The servant does not represent the Christian, for the Christian is not under the law. Cf. Rom. 6:15; Rom. 10:4. Therefore this parable does not apply to believers, although we can draw some lessons from it for believers.

4. This parable was to show that no man could be saved under the law, by keeping the law, for no man could keep it. Cf. Acts 13:39; Rom. 8:3; Heb. 10:4.

5. The 10,000 talents is approximately \$20,000,000. The 100 pence is slightly over \$15. Our sins against one another are mighty small in comparison with our sins against God.

6. This debt of 10,000 talents shows the immense magnitude of every man's transgressions against God.

7. The debt was too big to pay. The debt we owe God because of sin is so big that no sinner could ever pay it.

8. The talent was the largest denomination of the currency of that period. That shows that every sin is a great sin.

9. Notice what the creditor could have done (V. 25). God could have justly sent every man to Hell.

10. No man sins to himself. It affects his family as well (V. 25).

11. This shows the hopelessness of salvation if it depended on us.

12. It shows the worthlessness of good resolutions (V. 26).

13. It shows the wickedness of an unforgiving spirit. Cf. Eph. 4:32.

14. The Campbellites and Methodists who believe in salvation partly by works, draw their idea that God puts one on probation from this parable. Accordingly, not one of them will be saved, for this shows that no one can live up to the law. This period of probation is a failure.

15. Thank the Lord, no one is saved by the works of the law, but by Jesus. When Jesus settles the sin debt for us, it is never charged against us again. Cf. Rom. 3:25. Christ puts our sins away once for all. Cf. Heb. 9:12; Heb. 10:10-14; Rom. 4:1-8.

be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (I John 3:2).

Remember, God is a holy God; God hates sin; God hates sinners. If you dare to face the anger of the almighty God, do not blame anyone but yourself for the inevitable result. You have been warned. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

—Roscoe Brong



LIQUOR: ITS FRUITS

Kansas repealed its prohibition law in 1948. Now see the increase in serious crimes since that time. The number of murders in 1949, the first liquor year, was 18; rape, 68; aggravated assault, 152. By 1954, they had increased from these figures to 38 murders, 102 cases of rape, and 480 aggravated assault. The population had increased not quite 15 per cent in this time, but the increase in murder was more than 100 per cent; in rape, 50 per cent, and in aggravated assault, 200 per cent, for there were three times as many cases in 1954 as in 1949, the first year of legalized liquor.

—Christian Victory

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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APRIL 8, 1956

"I Should Like To Know"

(Continued from page one)
verted to that particular truth. Every time that one turns away from error as a result of reading God's Word, it can be said that he has been converted.

It is because of this fact that we ought to be patient with all weak Christians. Many of them need converting, and many could be converted, if we would but patiently teach them God's Word. Remember: we hide a multitude of sins when such an one is converted.

7. How can Hell-bound sinners be saved during the Tribulation Period when the Holy Spirit has been taken out of the world?

Rev. 14:6 shows that angels will preach here in those days. If God thus miraculously works, could He not just as well work supernaturally and have the Holy Spirit accompany the angel as he preaches the "everlasting Gospel"—the same kind that true preachers preach today? I don't know just how He will accomplish it, but I am sure it will be accomplished.



The End

(Continued from page one)
SHALL COME INTO THE FOLD. See Rom. 11:25, "till the fulness of the Gentiles be come in." That evidently means when the full number of the Gentiles in God's elect plan shall have come into the fold. One day there will be one last person saved—the last in God's purpose and plan, and when that takes place, the age will have just about run out.

1. THIS AGE WILL END FOLLOWING THE TIME "WHEN THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM SHALL HAVE BEEN PREACHED TO ALL NATIONS FOR A WITNESS." (Matt. 24:14). This does not teach the conversion of the world, but the preaching of the gospel "for a witness" to all nations. The American Bible Society alone disseminates the Scriptures in more than 1000 languages, and missionaries are in virtually every nation, now.

3. THIS AGE WILL END WITH THE COLLAPSE OF GENTILE WORLD POWER. Anti-Christ will build a mushroom kingdom and shall bear swift and violent rule over the whole earth. (See Rev. 13:4-10). When Anti-Christ reigns it will be a matter of months until the age will be at a complete end.

4. THIS AGE WILL END AT THE RETURN OF CHRIST IN POWER AND GREAT GLORY, as described in Rev. 19, beginning with verse 11.

HOW WILL THE AGE END?
1—NEGATIVELY, it will NOT end with a world converted, or with the kingdom "brought in" as is falsely taught. The parable of the tares, drag net and others teach otherwise. Such expressions as, "As it was in the days of Noah" and "when the Son of Man cometh shall he find faith on the earth" argue against it.

2—The age will end WITH THE WORLD TURNED TO ATHEISM, worshipping the devil and the "Beast." Complete repudiation of God on the part of the unsaved world.

3—The age will end WITH CHRISTIANS BEING BUTCHERED FOR THEIR FAITH. The "great multitude that no man can number" will be martyrs from the Tribulation.

4—The age will end with ORGANIZED RELIGION BECOME WHOLLY APOSTATE, such that it readily accepts the leadership of the "False Prophet."

5—The age ends with ANTI-CHRIST DEFYING CHRIST TO RETURN. His armies are drawn up to fight against Christ.

6—The age ends in its final completion WITH A VAST BATTLEFIELD COVERED WITH

THE DEAD BODIES OF SOLDIERS—the soldiers of Anti-Christ. A warless world will ensue because militarism is destroyed when Christ destroys the military forces of a world gone atheistic.

7—The age finally ends WITH SATAN ARRESTED AND BOUND AND SHUT UP. He is not conquered by ecclesiastical forces—he is conquered by the mighty angel who "lays hold on him" and binds him at the command of God.

THE TRUE AGE ENDING IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THE WAY MEN TRY TO MAKE IT APPEAR!



Baptist Churches

(Continued from page one)
It is a mere unscriptural religious society.

The church that Christ commissioned was a Baptist church, and no other body of people, nor any other individual on earth, has any authority whatsoever to preach, teach, or administer the ordinances.

ALL PROTESTANTS ARE UNBAPTIZED AND UNCHURCHED.

It is not to sprinkling or pouring we refer when we say that Protestants are unbaptized. We refer to the authority of their so-called baptism. If the authority of Christ is not behind their baptism, they do not have scriptural or valid baptism.

And where do Protestants get their authority for baptizing? Well, Luther and Calvin were "baptized" by the Roman Catholic organization. Later, both Luther and Calvin denounced Rome and its authority. Is Rome the true church? If not, Luther and Calvin could not have had scriptural baptism, because Rome had no authority to baptize. But if Rome is the true church, then where does that leave Luther and Calvin? They are without authority because they have denounced the authority of Rome. Thus, either horn the Protestants take will gore them through, proving they do not have one scintilla of authority for their baptism and ecclesiastical organizations. This principle is applicable to all but Baptists, who were commissioned by Christ.

BAPTIST CHURCHES ARE THE ONLY CHURCHES WHICH HAVE EXISTED SINCE CHRIST.

Probably the most overwhelming proof of all that Baptist churches are the only scriptural churches on earth is the combination of Christ's promise to perpetuate His church and the testimony of history regarding Baptists. In Matthew 16:18 is a definite promise by Christ that nothing will prevail against or overcome His church. And in Matthew 28:20 is recorded His promise to be with His church until the end of the age. This should be enough to convince anyone that Christ's church has existed in every century, year, month, day and hour since it was founded.

Historians testify that Baptists have been in existence since the days of Christ. This cannot be said of any other religious organization. Here are a few statements by historians and religious leaders (none of them Baptists) regarding the history of Baptists:

"The Baptists are the only body of known Christians that have never symbolized with Rome."—Sir Isaac Newton.

Ypeij and Dermout, eminent historians of the Dutch Reformed Church, say: "The Baptists may be considered as the only Christian community that has stood since the days of the apostles, and as a Christian society has preserved pure the doctrine of the Gospel THROUGH ALL AGES."

Alexander Campbell, who hated Baptists perhaps more than any man within the past century, wrote: "The sentiments of Baptists and their practice of baptism FROM THE APOSTOLIC

AGE to the present, have had a continued chain of advocates, and public monuments of their existence in every century can be produced."

Robert Barclay, a Quaker historian, says of Baptists: "We shall afterward show that the rise of the Anabaptists took place PRIOR to the reformation of the Church of England, and there are also reasons for believing that on the continent of Europe, small hidden Christian societies, who have held many of the opinions of the Anabaptists, have existed from the times of the apostles. In the sense of the direct transmission of Divine truth, and the true nature of spiritual religion, it seems probable that these churches have a lineage or succession MORE ANCIENT than that of the Roman Church."

John Clark Ridpath, doubtlessly the greatest historian the world has ever produced, (a Methodist by denominational conviction), said: "I should not readily admit that there was a Baptist Church as far back as 100 A. D., although without doubt there were Baptist churches then, as ALL CHRISTIANS were then Baptists."

Mosheim, the outstanding Lutheran historian, said: "Before the rise of Luther and Calvin, there lay secreted in almost all the countries of Europe, persons who adhered tenaciously to the principles of the modern Dutch Baptists... the origin of Baptists is lost in the remote depths of antiquity... the first century was a history of the Baptists."

Zwingli, a Presbyterian collaborator with John Calvin, said: "The institution of the Anabaptists is no novelty, but for 1300 years has caused great trouble in the church."

Even Cardinal Hosius (Catholic), President of the Council of Trent, December 13, 1545 to December 4, 1564, said: "Were it not for the fact that the Baptists have been grievously tormented and cut off with the knife during the PAST 1200 YEARS, they would swarm greater than all the reformers... If the truth of religion were to be judged by the readiness and boldness of which a man or any sect shows in suffering, then the opinions and persuasions of no sect can be truer and surer than those of the Anabaptists, since there have been none for the 1200 YEARS PAST that have been more generally punished or that have been more cheerfully and steadfastly undergone, and have offered themselves to the most cruel sort of punishment than these people." (Hosius, Letters, Apud Opera, pages one hundred twelve and thirteen).

"Crossing the Centuries," edited by William C. King, having as associate counselors, editors, collaborators and contributors such as: Cardinal Gibbons, Roman Catholic; Bishop John H. Vincent, Methodist; President Theodore Roosevelt; President Woodrow Wilson; W. H. P. Founce (President of Brown University); Albert Bushnell Hart, Ph.D., L.L.D., Litt.D., head of the History Department of Harvard University; George B. Adams, M.A., Ph.D., Litt.D., of Yale, and many more such famous men, says: "Of the Baptists it may be said that they are not reformers. These people, comprising bodies of Christian believers known under various names in different countries, are entirely distinct and independent of the Roman and Greek churches, and have an UNBROKEN CONTINUITY OF EXISTENCE FROM APOSTOLIC DAYS DOWN THROUGH THE CENTURIES. Throughout this long period, they were bitterly persecuted for heresy, driven from country to country, disfranchised, deprived of their property, imprisoned, tortured and slain by the thousands; yet they swerved not from their New Testament faith, doctrine and adherence."

"Baptists are justly proud of their parentage—the New Testament. They have an ancient and Scriptural origin. Certain characters in history are named as founders of different denomina-

Tracts

(Continued from page one)
on election in tract form immediately, in view of the many requests we have had for it.

I do thank God for the friends He has raised up in our behalf who are helping us with this ministry. Every mail brings a much appreciated letter relative to the printing of these tracts. Here is one today from a fine young Baptist preacher at Paris, Kentucky. He says:

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I thank the Lord for the privilege I've had of coming in contact with THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. I do thank Him for what it has meant in my life. What we need in this world of modernism today is more servants who will stand for the Truth, like you do in TBE.

I preach at the Ruddles Mill Baptist Chapel. It is a mission of the First Baptist Church of Paris, Kentucky. When we received the announcement as to your desire to publish these wonderful tracts, I talked to the people about it and we (the mission) voted to send this offering (\$10.00) to help with this ministry.

May the Lord bless you and your work!

Sincerely,
Kenney T. Edgington

If you desire any of these tracts, let your requests be made known and we will send them to you for prayerful and careful distribution.

The Disciples began with Alexander Campbell, the Methodists with John Wesley, the Presbyterians with John Calvin, the Lutherans with Martin Luther, and the Church of England, with Henry VIII and Cranmer's Book of Common Prayer, in the reign of Edward VI. Not so with the Baptists. There is no personality this side of Jesus Christ, who is a satisfactory explanation of their origin... they acknowledge no founder but Christ." (Handbook of All Denominations).

Beloved, lay this avalanche of testimony by noted historians beside the promises of the Lord Jesus, and we have the most convincing argument ever to be produced that Baptist churches are the true churches of God.

All other religious organizations were started without any Divine authority whatsoever. And Jesus said of them, "Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up."

MY AIM IN ALL I DO OR SAY

Mrs. Thad Griffiths

When I think, when I speak, when I read, when I write,
When I sing, when I walk, when I seek for delight—
To be kept from all evil, at home and abroad,
I live always as under the eye of the Lord.
Whatever I think—both in joy and in woe,
I think nothing I would not want Jesus to know—
Whatever I say—in a whisper or clear
I say nothing I would not want Jesus to hear.

Whatever I read, tho' the page may allure,
I read nothing of which I'm not perfectly sure.
Consternation at once would be seen in my look
If God would say solemnly, "Show me that book!"
Whatever I write in haste or with heed
I write nothing I would not want Jesus to read—
Whenever I sing in the midst of my glees
I sing nothing that God's listening ear could displease.

Wherever I go, I never go where I fear
God's question being asked, "What doest thou here?"
Whatever the pastime in which I engage
For the cheering of youth, or the solace of age—
I turn from each pleasure I'd shrink from pursuing
Were God to look down and say, "What are you doing?"
I stay away from paths that He has not trod
To spend ceaseless ages in Heaven with God...

The Indwelling Christ

(Continued from page two)
to dwell. He wants to be taken into our intimacies. He wants to be one with us in our privacies and simplicities. He wants to have a vital share in all the deep primary impulses which are the creative forces of our outer life. All this is what the Lord is seeking. But we keep Him out of the living room. We offer Him the more formal room of our ceremonies, our cold rituals, our stiff conventions, our stated worship. We engage Him for our solemn moments, but we keep Him out of our mirth. We pay Him courtesies, but we don't play with Him. We have grave words with Him now and again, but we do not talk freely with Him at the fireside, and in the intercourse find that life's water flows like wine. And all the time He wants to dwell with us.

There is, I think, a classical usage of the word which is translated "dwell," and it means to govern, or to administer. This may not be in the New Testament content of the Word, but it is certainly in the New Testament gospel. When we let the great Friend into our life He begins to administer our affairs. The Guest becomes the Housekeeper, and He arranges things which are beyond both our strength and understanding. And what again is our part? To let Him do it! To hand everything over to Him in deep, quiet, constant trust. It is ours to surrender the living room to the Lord. And when I have done that I shall be able to say with the apostle Paul, "I live, yet not I, Christ liveth in me."

—British Weekly

MUCH IN LITTLE

George Douglas tells a story of a young man who was packing his trunk for his first long journey far from home. As a friend stood by, the young man packed one article after another—his suits, shoes, clothes, books, and finally his tennis racket and balls. There remained a space—about six inches by four inches. The rest of the trunk was full.

"What are you going to pack there?" asked the friend.
"I have reserved this corner," replied the young man, "to pack a guidebook, a lamp, a looking-glass, a volume of poems, a microscope, a telescope, several fine biographies, a package of love letters, a book of songs, some histories, a hammer and a sword. I'm going to put in that little space the Bible my mother gave me."

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