

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. 43 RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, DECEMBER 1, 1956 WHOLE NUMBER 962

FALSE ORDERS UNDER WHICH CHURCHES OPERATE

by ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

Who should be considered the "Boss" of a Scriptural church? Ephesians 5:23 says, "Christ is the head of the church." The following verse says, "The church is subject unto Christ." He then, is the head of the church, and as such has the right to give orders. His orders are given in what we call the Great Commission, found in Matthew 28:18-20. Note what is involved in this passage:

1.—Jesus states that "all authority" has been given unto him. If he has all authority, then he has the supreme right to com-

mand.

2.—Since these orders of Matthew 28:18-20 have never been countermanded, they are still in force. What are these orders?

(1) "Go into all the world and make disciples." This is to be done of course through the preaching of the gospel.

(2) "Immerse disciples in the name of the triune God." Properly baptize them.

(3) "Teach the baptized disciples to do all that Christ commanded." We find what Christ commanded in the New Testament. These are the orders, and ALL the orders Christ left for his

church.

Have Churches Stuck To These Orders?

No. For centuries there was practically no mission work done, despite this Commission being a missionary commission.

In this modern day the orders given by Christ have been changed, when men have no right whatsoever to do any changing. What are some of the changes that have been made?

1.—Churches have been set off on a mission of bringing in the Kingdom of God. This is the most insane mission possible to con-

(Continued on page eight)

1. You said that Bro. De Haan rejected the doctrine of election. But I have his booklet on this subject, and I find that he preaches it.

You have not read this booklet closely, if you think that he believes the historic position as to this doctrine. He is an Arminian, believing that election is based upon what God foresaw an individual would do when the Gospel was offered to him. Here is his illustration which clearly reveals his Arminianism, basing election on what God foresees will be man's attitude toward the Gospel:

"Suppose on a very hot summer's day twenty boys are playing in the field behind our home. They are hot, tired, thirsty, and weary. So I say to Mrs. De Haan, 'I'll get some ice cream at the drug store, and some cold root beer. You get some cookies and we'll invite all those boys to come on our porch for ice cream and cookies. So I go to the store for the ice cream and when I return, my wife has twenty plates and twenty glasses arranged on the table on our back porch. I look at these twenty glasses and say, 'You can take eight of those

glasses and plates back in the house, for we are only going to need twelve.' But she says, 'There are twenty boys out there, and you invited all of them to come, didn't you?' And I reply, 'Yes, I invited all twenty, but I happen to know that only twelve are going to come. The other eight will refuse. One will say, I don't like ice cream, and another says, I hate old man De Haan, and another, I don't believe they have any ice cream, and another one, it's all a joke. They're only fooling us. Still another says, there's a gag somewhere. We'll pay for it somehow in the end. Still another one says, I can't imagine why that old tightwad wants to be so liberal all of a sudden.' Eight of them have an excuse, and will not come.

"How do you know only twelve will come?" says Mrs. De Haan to me. 'Because I happen to know every one of those boys. I know their thoughts, their sentiments, and their reactions.' Now, of course, this presupposes perfect knowledge on my part, perfect knowledge of just what each boy is going to do. Of course, I do not possess that perfect knowledge. But just suppose that I

(Continued on page eight)

No Bible Ground For Giving Gifts To Friends And Relatives At Christmas

A LIFE SKETCH OF . . .

James Arminius—The Champion Of Arminianism

By GEORGE S. BISHOP

"The lip of truth shall be established forever; but a lying tongue is but for a moment."—Proverbs 12:19.

Men stand behind opinions and make opinions. There is no system which is not built on a man behind it; which is not the incarnation of a man. Find out what the man is and you find out, at once, the animus of his system; even if it bewilders and mystifies you, you may know what will be its outcome. Crookedness can only come from a crooked man. Nonsense, from an idiot. Heresy from a dissembler. Straightness from honesty. Falseness from one who is false, and truth from one who is true.

Character, in other words, stands back of everything, and character alone endures. Genius flashes. Talent looms and shrinks, but character is of a stellar and an undiminishable greatness. Why? Because truth is the summit of all things, and justice is truth borne out in affairs, and character is this moral order in concrete and in expression. "It is the recititude which is perpetual victory and cannot be displaced or overthrown."

Character prevails no matter how the voice may falter, or be drowned in cries, for it is the calm privilege of truth to make itself believed.

A man of downright sincerity is credited however he may blunder. A man of cunning is

suspected even when his words are excellent and to the point. The Devil quoting Scripture is a Devil, and is recognized a Devil however he may look and be robed like an angel of light.

Character cannot be simulated, and it cannot be disguised. It breaks through everything. It is a light which shines through the lantern, however battered its shape or smoky the glass.

The fact is written out in individual lives. Take Abelard, at

(Continued on page three)

WE DO NOT ASK FOR CHRISTMAS "GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS"

Modern Baptists and Christians of other denominations have borrowed or aped many of the unscriptural, human traditions of Catholicism and heathenism. As you know, the Roman Catholic organization does not receive or believe the Bible to be the final authority in matters of faith and practice. Catholic leaders contend that the Roman Church has the authority of God for declaring new doctrines. This it has done through the years.

The Roman Church got the

basic idea of "Christmas" from Nimrod, Semiramis, and the heathen Babylonians. Ever ready to make "converts" and to "Christianize"

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.

AN IMPORTANT QUESTION:

Is The Gospel Designed To Save The Whole World?

As Preached In Memphis Bible Conference July 18, 1956

PASTOR FRANK B. BECK
North East Baptist Church
Millerton, New York

Scripture Reading: I Timothy—Chapter 2.

I have been asked to speak on the subject: Is the Gospel designed to save the world?

It would appear as if it is, to hear some outstanding nationally known and internationally known

evangelists speak. They assure us that people everywhere are hungry for the Gospel. That crowds are seeking the Lord. They have certainly not been near Millerton the last seven years that I have been here! How human nature has changed! It used to be that sinners were "dead in trespasses and sins" (Eph. 2:1) and that none of them were seeking after God (Rom. 3:11).

It would also appear from certain verses of Scripture that the Gospel is designed to save the world. Of course if that be the case it has failed because much of the world has already walked off the stage of life into the curtains of death with many of the people lost and dropping into hell (Matt. 7:13-14).

Let us examine certain Scriptures that are used to infer that God loves all men and would save all men to the last man, if He could.

John 3:15. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Does it not say clearly that God loves the world, and therefore everybody and would thus save all the world through His Gospel? It does say that God loves the world. But what does the word "world" mean in this instance?

There is a sense in which the word world is used in a limited manner. We speak of the business world, the political world, the scientific world, etc. (Continued on page three)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

"Why It Is Wrong To Observe Christmas"

"Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen, For the customs of the people are vain."—Jer. 10:2, 3.

I realize tonight, beloved, that what I have to say on the subject of Christmas will not add in the least to my popularity as a preacher. However, beloved, I would remind you in the very outset of my message that I am not seeking popularity, but rather I am seeking to please my Lord. Every time I face a congregation, or stand before a microphone, I am

reminded of the words of Paul when he spoke to young Timothy saying:

"PREACH THE WORD; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned into fables."—II Tim. 4:2-4.

I am satisfied that many—perhaps a great majority of my audience will be surprised and even shocked when I say that CHRISTMAS IS NOT OF DIVINE APPOINTMENT. God, at no time, and in no place in the Bible, has authorized the commemoration of the birth of our Saviour. We are told to commemorate His death. This we do every time we observe the Lord's Supper. However, there is not a Scripture from

(Continued on page two)

Have you sent in your ten subscriptions for others to receive TBE? Our goal is 10,000 new readers by January 1, and we need a great number of subscriptions yet, as you can see from the "Campaign Report" above. Please don't wait any longer in regard to this matter; send in your subscriptions immediately. If you have sent ten already, then can you not send more? I trust that you can and will.

(Continued on page eight)

BOOK OF REVELATION AGAIN NEXT WEEK

In this issue, we interrupt the exposition of the book of Revelation in order to publish the message on Christmas. Be sure to read this message and get the truth as to the fake and fraud of Christmas. Write for extra copies of this issue if you can use them, and we will gladly send them to you, if our supply has not been exhausted.

Next week, the exposition of Revelation will continue, chapter 10 being the text.

Our Campaign Motto: "Every Reader -- Ten New Subscriptions!"

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN — EDITOR

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE
(Domestic and Foreign)

One year in advance \$5.00

Send Remittance to Ashland, Ky.

Editorial Department, ASHLAND, 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.

Christmas

(Continued from page one)

Genesis to Revelation wherein we are told to celebrate His birth. I challenge each of you of my audience to find one hint in the Word of God that we are to celebrate a season known as Christmas.

McClintock and Strong in their *Cyclopedia of Biblical, Theological and Ecclesiastical Literature*, say:

"The observance of Christmas is not of Divine appointment nor is it of New Testament origin. The day of Christ's birth cannot be ascertained from the New Testament nor indeed from any other source. It was celebrated with all the marks of respect usually bestowed on high festivals, and distinguished also by the custom, survival probably from heathen antiquity, of interchanging presents, and making entertainment. At the same time the heathen winter holidays were transformed, and, so to speak, sanctified by the establishment of the Christmas cycle of holidays, and the heathen customs, and so far as they were harmless, were brought over into Christian use."

Charles H. Spurgeon, perhaps the greatest Bible preacher since the days of Paul, in his exposition of Psalm 81 says:

"We will keep such feasts as the Lord appoints, but not those which Rome or Canterbury may ordain. When it can be proved that the observance of Christmas, Whitsuntide, and other Popish festivals, were even instituted by a Divine statute, we also will attend to them, but not until then. It is as much our duty to reject the traditions of men as to observe the ordinances of the Lord."

II

Not only is it true that Christmas is not of Divine appointment, but it is also true that **NO ONE KNOWS WHEN CHRIST WAS BORN**. I am positive, and all students of the Scriptures who are willing to take God's Word as a final basis of authority, will agree that He could not have been born in the month of December. Sanford's *Concise Cyclopedia of Religious Knowledge* says of Christmas day:

"A festivity of the Christian church observed on the 25th of December in memory of the birth of Jesus Christ. There is difficulty, however, in accepting this as the date of the nativity, December being the height of the rainy season in Judah, when neither flocks nor shepherds could have been at night in the fields of Bethlehem. Although as regards Christmas, an ingenious case on behalf of the month of October has been made out, from what is known concerning the course of Abia (Luke 1:5). It doesn't seem possible to arrive at any certain conclusion. By the fifth century, however, whether from the influence of some tradition or from the desire to supplant heathen festivities of that period of the year, such as the Saturnalia, the 25th of December has been generally agreed upon."

III

There are many who in spite of

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE TWO

DECEMBER 1, 1956

JEREMIAH 10: 2, 4.

"The customs of the people are vain!"

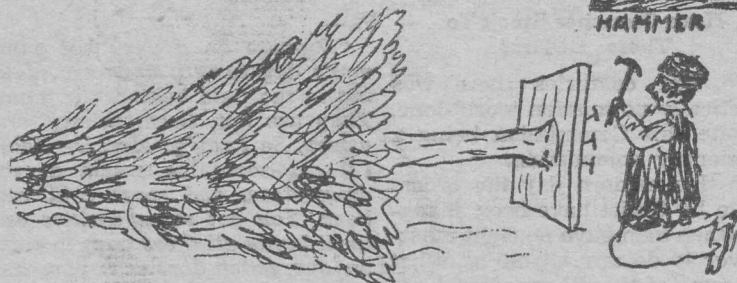
"for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe."



"they fasten it with nails, and with hammers,"



"they deck it with silver and with gold"



what has been said, would argue for the observance of Christmas by replying that **THE WHOLE WORLD CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS**. Strange as it may seem, most people seem to think that God is on the side of the majority, and hence, since the most of the world celebrates Christmas, Christmas must then be pleasing to the Lord. May I remind you, beloved, that throughout the Bible in practically every instance, God was on the side of the minority. When Israel was in Egypt, though they numbered better than two million, they were a hopeless minority, yet no one would dare deny that God was on their side.

When Israel sent the spies into Canaan to investigate conditions before attempting to enter the land, only two of the twelve said, "We can possess it." Ten brought back a pessimistic report. This Scripture plainly shows that God was on the side of the minority.

In the days of our Lord Jesus' sojourn in the flesh, the majority were against Him, though they were badly wrong in their attitude. No one of sensible reasoning ever believed God to be on the side of Hitler and the German government when they opposed the Jewish minority. It is a rare instance that a majority is ever right. I would remind those of you who believe that since everybody observes Christmas, it must therefore be fitting and proper for you to do so—I would remind you that you are on dangerous ground in following the "multitude to do evil" (Ex. 23:2).

"I have refrained my feet from evil way, that I might keep thy word."—Psa. 119:101.

"That which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God."—Luke 16:15.

IV

May I ask you, beloved, a simple question: Suppose that Christmas were of Divine appointment and that it was for the purpose of honoring Christ, **IS THE MANNER IN WHICH IT IS OBSERVED HONORING TO THE SON OF GOD?** It is hard for me to understand how that gluttony, extravagance, drinking, firecrackers, and the exchange of gifts could be pleasing to Him who died for us.

Please note the expression I have used—"the exchanging of gifts." Great care is taken to be sure that the gift made to a friend is worth as much in dollars and cents as the one you expect to receive from this friend. And all this, beloved, is for the purpose of honoring the birthday of the Lord Jesus Christ. If it were my birthday that you were honoring, it would seem logical that you should send the gifts to me, but in this case—observing the birthday of Christ—gifts are sent to one another. It indeed seems strange to me how that the heaping of gifts upon one another could bring any honor to the Son of God. But, says the objector, did not the Wise Men give gifts?

Exactly, beloved! But they did not give gifts to one another—they gave them to Jesus.

For the past several weeks in the papers there has been advertised Christmas whiskeys and special brands of drinks for the holiday season. How could this bring honor to Jesus? Instead, it is a disgrace to civilization.

In a nearby town, the business men presented a demonstration in the form of a parade to open the Christmas business season in which there was no suggestion of the birth of Christ, but rather, the emphasis was emphatically upon the pagan and mythical elements which have always been part of the celebration of this day.

Now be honest, how many of you have remained home from church because it was Christmas, when you ought to have been in God's house? Extravagance, cooking and carnality have characterized the life of many of you. I ask you, have you pleased Christ?

V

I realize that there are many who will agree with me in what I have said thus far, yet **THEY PERSIST IN THE CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS ON THE GROUND THAT ONE HAS TO GIVE THE CHILDREN A GOOD TIME**. I am quite ready to agree that it is necessary that children be given a good time, but certainly not at the expense of dishonoring the Saviour. Why should it be considered necessary to drag the holy name of Jesus into a celebration which is purely carnal and fleshly?

Furthermore, I for one, do not believe that it is right to lie to a child even though you may desire to give the child a good time. There are multiplied thousands of parents who have literally lied to their children at this Christmas season, not once but dozens of times, relative to Santa Claus. May I remind you that the Scriptures teach:

"Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."—Gal. 6: 7.

Do not be surprised if that lie comes home to you multiplied many fold.

In a little while that child is going to get older and is going to learn that the story of Santa Claus has been only a lie. In a Sunday School class of seven-year-old boys, they were discussing Christmas. One of the lads had found that there was no Santa Claus. He had exploded the myth of Christmas, and he said: "When I get a little older, I am going to look into this Jesus Christ business also. I never did see Santa Claus and I never did see Jesus Christ. Since they lied to me about Santa, I am wondering if there is really any Jesus." Here, beloved, is a child who has the seeds of doubt and skepticism relative to Christ sown in his mind just because his parents and teachers observe Christmas in order to show the children a good time.

In this respect, beloved, are you willing to listen to the Scripture?

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."—Prov. 22:6.

"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."—Eph. 6: 4.

In the light of these Scriptures, I urge you to be very careful as to the good time you prepare for your children at the expense of the truth, and the honor of the name of Jesus.

VI

I recognize that **THERE ARE MANY CHURCHES WHO OBSERVE THIS CHRISTMAS FESTIVITY**. In many of them upon the Sunday nearest Xmas the preaching of the Word of God will be dispensed with, and cantatas, pageants, and pantomimes will be substituted. Beloved, so far as I am concerned, there is nothing which should take the place of the preaching of the Word of God. Jesus said:

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."—Mark 16:15.

It is through the preaching of God's Word that God has or-

dained that men should be saved. Listen:

"For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe."—1 Cor. 1:21.

When we substitute anything else for the message in sermon, we are substituting the commands of men, for the doctrines of God. Surely no one who does so could fittingly ask the Lord's blessing upon the substitution that has been made.

Today the minds of the majority of those who attend services in the house of the Lord have been turned from the things of God to the festivities of the day. Santa Claus, jingle bells, and Christmas trees, along with all of the carnal jolification which accompanies this season, has occupied a prominent place in the minds of the greater proportion of the people of this country.

And while we have mentioned Christmas trees, will you listen to God's condemnation of this practice?

"Hear ye the word which the Lord speaketh unto you, O house of Israel: Thus saith the Lord, (Continued on page seven)"

BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

You may have copies of the following issues of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER free upon request. Please enclose 10c to cover cost of handling and postage.

- April 14—Special 16-page issue on Mexican Missions.
- July 7—John R. Rice and Storehouse Tithing. Billy Graham's Heresies as to the Church.
- July 21—The Devil's Big Four. How Modern Is Modernism?
- July 28—The Fallacy of Sinless Perfection. The Idolatry of All the Non-Denomination Crowd
- August 11—Special Days Shunned by Baptists. Questions Answered as to Southern Baptist Convention
- August 18—So-called Christian Science. What Catholics Will Find by Reading Their Own Bible
- September 8—The Book of Revelation (Beginning of the present exposition) The New Testament Church and Her Mission
- September 15—Special issue on the Bible Doctrine of Election
- October 13—How the Lord's Supper Is Made An Evil Thing. Mexican Newsflashes
- October 20—A Short Biographical Sketch of the Life of J. R. Graves. Scriptural Church Support. Jehovah's Bible versus So-called "Jehovah's Witnesses"
- October 27—The Glorious Truth of Unconditional Election. More Exposure of the Heresies of Russelism
- November 3—How Teachers of the Seminary Repudiate the Old Book. What Roman Catholics Believe About the Bible
- November 10—The Cooperative Program Is Now Baptist "Doctrine". The Evils of Sprinkling for Baptism. Mexican Newsflashes

Please order these issues according to date.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY

Welcome the cross of Christ and bear it triumphantly, but see that it is indeed His cross, and not your own.

The Gospel Designed?

(Continued from page one)
... world, the religious world, the educational world. The Scripture speaks of the "world of the ungodly" (2 Peter 2:5). In all of these cases the word world is restricted in its use. I maintain that the word "world" as it appears in John 3:16 means the world of believers, or the world of the elect.

In order to prove this I wish to say something here that may shock some of you. God does not love everybody! Are you willing to be bound by the Bible? Listen to what the Holy Spirit says in 1 Peter 2:8, "... God is angry with the wicked every day." Again in 1 Peter 5:5 we read, "The foolish shall not stand in Thy (God's) sight, Thou hatest all workers of iniquity." It does not say there that God loves the sinner and hates his sin, it says that God hates the workers of iniquity. He hates them. If He hates them He cannot at the same time love them. I know of one man whom God hated, Esau. "Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated" (Rom. 9:13). Why should God hate Esau? Why shouldn't He? God is holy, and Esau was vile and sinful and unholy. Why shouldn't God hate Esau? I have a greater problem than that. Why should God love Jacob, lying, scheming Jacob? And I have a

greater problem than that. Why should God love you? And I still have a far greater mystery. Why should God love me?

God hates the workers of iniquity, the wicked. Hence God so loved the world cannot mean the world of the unsaved wicked, but the world of the elect. He loved His "own" (John 13:1). The "wrath of God" abides on the unbeliever (John 3:36), not the love of God. But God loves the world of the elect.

Likewise the word "world" is used in a limited sense in sacred writ. In II Cor. 5:19 we are told that "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them." If this means the world to the last individual then all of the world is reconciled and their sins are not laid to their account. That means everybody is saved. Believe that and you are a universalist. That is only logical. But if you believe the Word of God you cannot be a universalist and believe that everybody is going to be saved, for Christ declared that "many" would be lost (Matt. 7:13-14).

Please notice this reference does not say that God has reconciled the world potentially or would like to do it. He has done it in Christ! And their sins are gone, not imputed to them! A saved world. What world, think you, is God speaking of here? The world of the saved, of the



"AND JESUS ANSWERING SAITH UNTO THEM, HAVE FAITH IN GOD." — MARK 11:22

BUILD A GOOD LIBRARY!

CHURCH HISTORY LIBRARY

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------|
| The Church That Jesus Built by Roy Mason | \$ 1.00 |
| Orchard's History Of Baptists by G. H. Orchard | 1.50 |
| First Baptist Church In America by J. R. Graves | 1.00 |
| The Trail Of Blood by J. M. Carroll | .25 |

BIBLE LIBRARY

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------|------|
| All About The Bible by Sidney Collett | 2.00 |
| Alleged Discrepancies Of The Bible by Haley | 3.00 |
| The Inspiration Of The Scriptures by L. Gaussen | 3.00 |
| Wonders Of Prophecy by John Urquhart | 2.50 |

SAVATION LIBRARY

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------|
| God's Plan With Men by T. T. Martin | 1.25 |
| Heaven, Hell, And Other Sermons by T. T. Martin | 1.25 |
| All Of Grace by Charles H. Spurgeon | .35 |
| Sinners In The Hands Of An Angry God by Jonathon Edwards | .20 |

BAPTISM LIBRARY

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------|------|
| Alien Baptism And The Baptists by William Nevins | .50 |
| John's Baptism by J. R. Graves | 1.00 |
| The Origin Of Sprinkling by R. A. Venable | .25 |
| Trilemma by J. R. Graves | .40 |

DOCTRINAL LIBRARY

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------|
| A Systematic Study of Bible Doctrine by T. P. Simmons | 4.00 |
| The Sovereignty Of God by A. W. Pink | 3.00 |
| Definitions Of Doctrines by C. D. Cole | 1.50 |
| The Doctrines Of Grace by George Sayles Bishop | 3.95 |

EXPOSITORY LIBRARY

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| John Gill's Commentary by John Gill | 45.00 |
| An Interpretation Of The English Bible by B. H. Carroll | 27.50 |
| Exposition Of The Epistle To The Romans by Robert Haldane | 9.95 |
| Exposition Of The Gospel Of John by A. W. Pink | 11.95 |

VITAL CHURCH TRUTH LIBRARY

| | |
|------------------------------------------|------|
| Baptist Church Manual by J. M. Pendleton | 1.00 |
| Ecclesia—The Church by B. H. Carroll | .35 |
| Why Be A Baptist? by H. Boyce Taylor | .25 |
| The Lord's Supper by J. R. Graves | .25 |

ANTI-HERESY LIBRARY

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Mabel Clement (on Campbellism) by J. M. Sallee | 2.00 |
| Thirty Years A Watchtower Slave (on so-called "Jehovah's Witnesses") by William J. Schnell | 2.95 |
| The Two Babylons (on Catholicism) by Alexander Hislop | 3.50 |
| An Antidote To Arminianism by Christopher Ness | .75 |

STUDY HELPS LIBRARY

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Young's Analytical Concordance | 10.00 |
| Davis Bible Dictionary | 5.95 |
| New Topical Text Book | 2.50 |

Order From:

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY

elect. There can be no other logical or Scriptural conclusion.

Again in John 1:29 we hear John the Baptist saying, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." If this means the whole world of men without exception then no sin remains in the world. Christ has taken it away. But this cannot be. This cannot be because Christ says to self-righteous Pharisees: "Your sin remaineth." (John 9:41). Then Christ did not take their sins away. "But," someone may answer, "Christ took away the sins of the whole world, but the unsaved do not believe it, and are therefore judged." I answer, if Christ took away their sins He also took away the guilt of their unbelief and that is not imputed to them. This we know from other Scripture is not so. Many will die in their sin (John 8:24), therefore Christ did not take away their sin.

Then John 3:16 refers to the world whom God loves and reconciled to Himself and whose sins are taken away, the world of elect believers.

The next reference is in 1 Tim. 2:4, where of God it is written that He "will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." Here is plainly declared the will of God to save all men. But what does the word *all* mean here? Does it mean all men without exception, (Continued from page seven)

James Arminius

(Continued from page one)
one time reckoned with Dun Scotus, and Anselm and Thomas Aquinas, among the foremost scholars of Christianity. He was guilty of an immorality, and that ruined all his works. No one quotes Abelard, not because he is not masterly, profound, but simply on account of a defect of character which nothing can repair.

The same thing reappears in later instances. Over the graves, alas! of many a splendid modern career has been written the epi-

taph: "How art thou fallen, O Lucifer, Son of the morning!"

Character stands behind everything. It is that, that abides. It is not what a man knows, or acquires, or achieves, but what a man is that outlives the centuries. Moses and Paul and John stand on their moveless pedestals untouched by the fingers of time. What they were, they are; and what they are, they will be through the unmeasured and immeasurable ages.

The Divine Legation of Moses is and remains Mosaic; the Divine Doctrine of Paul, Pauline—the Divine Apocalypse of John Johannine. The reason is that truth was in these men. They spoke the truth.

Not so Judas—not so Hymenaeus and Philetus—not so Pelagius—not so Servetus—not so Laelius Socinus. The words of these men—false as themselves—ate like a canker and died in corruption.

Another illustration is Van Harmen—James Arminius—a man known only from those who opposed him. Arminians themselves never speak of Arminius. No one quotes him but to confute him. He lives but a target—a foil. No man, however like him, or however in harmony with his sentiments, is willing to own him. His opinions stand but as Theses to be condemned.

Arminius put the same things in his day which men are putting now. He put them more shrewdly—with far greater sagacity, with finer tact, and, as he was a profounder man than any of our nineteenth century errorists, he put them less defiantly, less coarsely and more as insinuations, subtleties, suggestions—tropes of rhetoric—differences of mere words. The course of heresy, however, is so uniformly the same that if you know Arminius you know every man of his class. Just as having seen one serpent you know forever, after that, what is the serpentine twist.

Arminius, or as the Dutch called him, Harmensen, was born at Oudewater—a quaint old town of South Holland, lying on the

Yssel, and about half way from Rotterdam to Utrecht. This was in the year 1560—fourteen years after the death of Luther and four years previous to that of Calvin.

The parents of Arminius were peasants, and while he was a child their humble home was burned by Spanish soldiers—his parents murdered, and he left an orphan.

For some time the young boy was employed as a servant in the village *herberg*, or inn, but having attracted the attention of several well-to-do people by his deftness and cleverness, he was kindly taken under the care of a clergyman, who superintended his education until he was fitted to enter the University of Utrecht. During his course at the University, this benefactor died, but another came to his rescue, who transferred him to the University of Marburg. From thence he was removed again to Leyden, and thus enjoyed superior advantages for acquiring what of learning and culture the Dutch, then the first scholars in Europe, had to confer.

At length, at the age of 22, to round out his studies, he was sent to Geneva, where he had the high privilege of studying under Beza, the successor of Calvin, in whose arms the great Reformer died.

Already, in Geneva, the spirit of Arminius began to show itself. To great activity of mind and ardor of inquiry, he added a self-sufficiency and self-assertion, which soon expressed itself in whispered criticisms upon the professors, and in an artful sowing of the seeds of discord, chiefly by means of private conversations, which resulted in drawing together a party of young malcontents, and led to his dismissal.

This circumstance impaired to no small degree the confidence hitherto placed in Arminius—but, (Continued on page six)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE THREE

DECEMBER 1, 1956

Since Jesus bore the cross and died upon it for us, ought we not be willing to take it up for Him?

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

Baptist Youth Witness

P. O. BOX 7

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY

RUTH GILPIN, Associate Editor

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

WOMEN'S DRESS

A NEW SERIES FOR...

Our Bible Study

By M. L. Moser
Little Rock, Arkansas

THE COMPOSITION OF THE BIBLE

I have in front of me a very wonderful Book. It is called the Word of God or the Holy Bible. This Book is an amazing Book. There is no other book in the world like it. In a series of Bible messages, we want to acquaint you with some of the facts of the Bible.

- First—The Composition of the Bible.
- Second—The Inspiration of the Bible.
- Third—The Influence of the Bible.
- Fourth—The Message of the Bible.
- Fifth—The Purpose of the Bible.

I love this Book. It is a Book that is my constant companion. It is an ever present help in time of trouble. It is the only Book in the world that bears the imprint of divine revelation.

As I open the Book I discover that it is not a Book with many different chapters. It is in reality a divine library. There are sixty-six books in this divine library, written over a period of some fifteen hundred years. In fact, there is a distinct possibility that some of its pages are even older than that. A library composed over so long a period must have been written by many men, and as I turn the pages of the Book I discover that it has some forty authors. Among its authors are numbered kings, priests, lawyers, herdsmen, fishermen, and statesmen. It does not come to us from any one class of writers, but from men out of every walk of life. Some of the books of the Bible are historical, some contain a great code of laws, some, the songs of a nation. Some are biographical, yet others prophetic. It is a library of sixty-six books by forty authors, written over a period of some fifteen hundred years and yet, as I read it there is something about the Book that impresses me with the idea, that though the Book seemingly has many authors, behind it all and through it all is one author. That author is God.

Again, as I read the Book I discover another fact. The Bible is centered around one person, the Lord Jesus Christ. His personality shines through every page of the Book. No matter whether I am reading the first chapters of Genesis, or the middle portion of the Bible, the Psalms, or turning over to the last pages of the Book to Revelation, I read of Jesus Christ. The Bible is Christocentric. Christ is the sum and

substance of this Book we call the Bible.

Yet again, as I read the Book I am impressed with another



PASTOR M. L. MOSER

thought. This Book is the oldest book in the world. It deals with matters that no other book in the world deals with.

First—The origin of the universe. Second—The origin of the earth, the fish of the sea, the animals of the earth, plants and trees, the origin of man. It tells us why the earth is in its present condition. It speaks of the fall of man. It is the only record we have of the first thousand years of the history of the world.

Third—It informs us of the origin of the races of man, of the origin of languages, of the beginning of the Jew as a distinct people and his preservation all down through the ages when other distinct people disappeared by absorption into yet other people.

It answers questions that no other book answers. Is there a God? What kind of a God is He? What does He require of me? How can I know Him and how can I please Him? Yet other questions are answered in this Book. What am I doing here? Why did God create me? If I die will I continue to live? If so, when and where? Many other questions are answered between the pages of this old Book, and the answers are strangely satisfying.

(Continued on next page)

TEACH THE YOUNG WOMEN

"Teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children."—Titus 2:4.

What a beautiful picture Paul the Apostle paints in the words of our text of the happy Christian home! He exhorts Titus to "teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children."

The great Madame Ernestine Schumann-Heink wrote the following in answer to the question, "What is home?": "A roof to keep out the rain? Four walls to keep out the cold? Yes, but home is more than that. It is the laugh of a baby, the song of a mother, the strength of a father, warmth of loving hearts, light from happy eyes, kindness, loyalty, comradeship. Home is first school and first

church for young ones, where they learn what is right, what is good, and what is kind; where they go for comfort when they are hurt or sick; where joy is shared and sorrow eased; where fathers and mothers are respected and loved. Where children are wanted; where the simplest food is good enough for kings because it is earned; where money is not so important as loving kindness; where even the teakettle sings from happiness. That is home. God bless it!"

May God make ours, pious, God-fearing homes in which father and mother, parents and children strive earnestly to do our Heavenly Father's will!

—Christian Cynosure

Extract from a sermon by Preston B. Coss, Detroit, Michigan, preached in 1926. If this were true 30 years ago, how much more today!

I will now speak of a matter at some length which I ought perhaps to handle with tongs, so to speak. Other preachers are dealing with this subject, and perhaps they feel the same way—and that is immodest dressing by women and misses. Many dress immodestly on purpose. They might better take a gun and shoot a man, or a knife and stab him. They do worse than murder. They tempt men to sin. Some Christian women and misses dress this way. Some are ignorant in regard to the matter. They should have the subject explained to them gently in plain English. If that does not suffice, then they should have it explained to them emphatically in plain English. If that does not suffice, then those who are young enough ought to be argued with the old-fashioned Bible remedy, a hickory switch.

Some children might plead ignorance in regard to the matter, but when Ma and Grandma run about thus attired and try to plead ignorance, some folk might tap their heads and say, "Nobody home," and advise them to eat lots of fish as it is said to be good for the brain.

Away back in the Garden of Eden, Satan beguiled Eve to eat the forbidden fruit. And instead of hastening away, Eve looked, listened, longed and disobeyed God, by eating of the fruit. Now, Satan has concocted a masterpiece of temptation—an immodest costume, and he holds it up to the eyes of today and whispers, "It is the style. It is the fashion." And so millions of Eves would walk 10,000 miles to get it. And Satan knows that, and whispers, too, "You will be a nobody if you don't. You will be up to date if you do." So Eves of today hasten to swallow the bait,

hook, sinker, line, and part of the pole. Like the Eve of long ago, they are puffed up, disobedient, vain, and some of them might aptly be described in II Timothy 3:6 as "silly women laden with sins and led away with divers lusts."

And Eve proceeded to assist Satan and snare other Eves. And Eves snare many Adams. Many Eves are guilty. So are many Adams. For the Adams don't turn their eyes away, quite often. In Matthew 5:28 it says: "But I say

(Continued on next page)

Amazing Grace

By JOHN NEWTON

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Thru many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath bro't me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

The Way To Have A Sound Heart

By Ruth Gilpin

"A sound heart is the life of the flesh."—Proverbs 14:30.

Today we Americans are very conscious of the value of a sound physical heart. In their fight against heart disease, medical scientists and doctors have tried to impress upon our minds the importance of good heart care. They have attempted to convince us that a sound, healthy heart will not only add to our well being, but also to the length of our life's years.

And fortunately, most of us are quite concerned about our physical hearts. We try to follow our doctor's orders. We regularly get a good night's sleep. We eat nourishing food, and we take many other precautions. Like Solomon of old, we each believe that a sound heart is the life of our bodies, and we want that sound heart.

But what about that spiritual heart, our soul, man's inward being? Do we take the same precautions to keep it sound and healthy? Do we feed it food from the Word of God, the Bible? Do we each follow the prescription that has been given us by the Holy Doctor of Heaven?

Yes, many of us do try to safeguard our spiritual heart. We take

it to church every Sunday. We feed it food from God's Word. And we take many other measures, hoping that all these will benefit our soul.

But, friends, most people have never realized that their spiritual hearts are fatally diseased already, and that they have no human opportunity for recovery. The Bible says in Jeremiah 17:9: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Actually, this means that our hearts are "incurably sick." Yes, the spiritual heart of every person in the world is so wicked and depraved that the Lord terms its condition as humanly incurable.

So in view of the fact that it is incurably sick, with no chance of recovery, how are our hearts to be made sound and pure from sin? In view of our own helplessness to cleanse our hearts from sin, how shall we ever become justified before the Lord?

Friends, the Lord gives us His prescription in His Word: "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." Yes, God, in eternity past, purposed to send His Holy Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, into this world to die for us at Calvary that we might be made righteous in Him. And when the fullness of time

was come, the Lord Jesus came to this world and gave Himself a Sacrifice for sin.

Why did Jesus have to die for sin? The Bible says in Romans 6:23 that "the wages of sin is death." As we all have sinned, so must we all receive the wages for our having sinned, which is death, or eternal separation from God. Either we must suffer in Hell throughout eternity to pay the debt our sins owe to God's holy law which we have broken, or we must trust the Sacrifice He has given to be our Substitute.

We read in II Corinthians 5:21: "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." Yes, God placed our sins upon Jesus as He suffered our death upon the cross, and He thereby took the guilt that will be ours no more when we trust Jesus as our Saviour who washed away our sins in His blood.

In conclusion, I ask: Has your heart been made sound and pure from sin by Jesus' blood? There is only one remedy for your sinful heart's sickness, and that is Jesus' blood.

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

Our Bible Study

(Continued from preceding page)
This Book gives stamina and courage to the young. It enables men and women of all ages to meet the strains, the trials, and the difficulties of life. It brings comfort and hope to the aged. It enables us to meet death with calm assurance. It is the Book of Books.

Women's Dress

(Continued from preceding page)
unto you that whosever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her in his heart." So Christian women and misses say that they don't care about that?

If a man spoke as immodestly in the presence of women as some women go about immodestly attired before men, the man would be arrested. Rightly so.

Twenty years ago if a woman or miss dressed as many do today, they would have been shunned as though they had leprosy. No virtuous woman or miss would then speak to or associate with such an one. Some may say that the immodest costume of today is progress. Perhaps in another 20 years it will be style for women

to use profanity in public. And Christian ones too, why not? Satan is cunning; he has got them dressing immodestly. Are oaths worse than indecency? And perhaps swearing will then be called progress, and the preacher who denounces it will be dubbed a crank.

We should be thankful for modestly dressed women and misses. They are important to a community; the immodestly dressed ones are a curse. My memory of my mother is sweet. It is not clouded with immodest dressing. Down here on earth the bobbed skirt and the bobbed waist, exposed garters, and rolled stockings contribute to murder, theft, drunkenness, dens of shame, gambling, rape, suicide, fornication, adultery, lies, perjury, state prison, electric chairs, the noose, AND TO HELL. The abominations will not be fashionable in Heaven.

If Jezebel and the Virgin Mary were on earth today, some folk might say that Jezebel's clothes represented "progress" and that the Virgin Mary's were out of date. One can be quite sure how each of them would dress. Now some women may say, "Mr. Preacher, I hear what you say; but you are an old foggy and back number, and what you say is not going to make me change my way of dressing."

Still, if Paul and Stephen and

John the Baptist were here, I am sure that they would say "Amen" to what I have said. The Lord Jesus is here, and I am sure He approves of what I have said. If the Devil were here, he, of course, would not say "Amen."

Whose side are you on — the Lord's or Satan's?

WHICH DESCRIBES YOU?

Some Christians are like wheelbarrows; not good unless pushed. Some are like canoes; they need to be paddled.

Some are like kites; if you don't keep a string on them, they'll fly away.

Some are like kittens; they are contented only when being petted.

Some are like footballs; you can never tell which way they are going to bounce.

Some are like trailers; they have to be pulled to get anywhere.

Some are like balloons; full of wind and ready to blow up.

Some are like neon lights; they are always going on and off.

Many are Christ-like; they are ready to fulfil any duty, regardless of how menial the task may be. Always loyal and true. Which are you?
—The Faith

THE LORD'S MAN, JOB (The Book Of Job)

Boys and girls, Job was a very wealthy man who lived in the land of Uz. Job had a large family of children and many many sheep, camels, oxen, and she asses. Job really had many of this earth's blessings.

But Job also had much spiritual wealth, because Job feared the Lord. Job realized the Lord's power and strength and righteousness. And he served the Lord daily. Job even sacrificed unto the Lord for the sins of his children.

One day, boys and girls, the Devil made a plan in his mind that he thought would make Job quit serving the Lord and start serving him. He asked the Lord for permission to take away everything that Job had in this world, and then the Devil said that Job would curse the Lord and quit serving Him. So in one day, Job's family of children were destroyed, his oxen and she asses were carried away by the Saboteurs, his sheep were burned up, his camels were carried away by

the Chaldeans, and Job was left without anything in this world except his wife who was a foolish woman.

But even after the Lord permitted Satan to take away all of Job's goods, Job did not curse the Lord; instead, he blessed Him.

Then the Lord gave Satan permission to touch Job's body, but not to take his life. So the Devil caused Job to have big boils over all of his body, from his feet to his head. Still Job did not curse the Lord, but continued to bless Him and serve Him.

Of course, boys and girls, Job was a human person just as we are. And, no doubt, he probably wondered why that the Lord saw fit to allow these things to take place in his life. But he did not curse the Lord. He trusted in the Lord that He would work it all out.

As Job's boils began to hurt, he got a piece of glass and sat down in a pile of ashes to treat his boils. And as he sat there, four men who pretended to be Job's friends came to see him and to comfort him. But they were not his friends. One of the men, Eliphaz, told Job that the Lord was just punishing him for his sins. Another man, Bildad, accused Job of being a hypocrite, pretending to be somebody when he wasn't. Zophar said that Job was a hypocrite and liar too. Elihu said that Job was self-righteous.

Right then, boys and girls, the Lord spoke out of Heaven and told these four men that they didn't know what they were talking about (Job 38:2). And the Lord encouraged Job and blessed him, and He gave Job many sheep and camels and oxen and she asses. The Lord also gave Job some sons and daughters, so that Job in the end had more than he had ever had in his life.

Boys and girls, the Lord blesses His people when they fear Him and serve Him. He always takes care of His children and will provide everything that they need. He tells us in His Word:

"No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."—Psalm 84:11.

THINGS NOT IN THE BIBLE

Purgatory is not in the Bible.

Limbo is not in the Bible.

Burning candles for the sick is not in the Bible.

Sprinkling or pouring for baptism is not in the Bible.

A second chance to go to Heaven after death, is not in the Bible.

Prayers to Mary or to any of the saints to help us, is not in the Bible (I Tim. 2:5).

Speaking in tongues to be saved is not in the Bible.

Be good and you will go to Heaven is not in the Bible.

Be sincere and you will go to Heaven is not in the Bible.

Be baptized in water to be saved is not in the Bible.

Join the church to be saved is not in the Bible.

Confession to a priest or preacher for forgiveness is not in the Bible.—Western Voice

THREE BOOKS

Small In Size But Rich In Content

ALL OF GRACE by C. H. Spurgeon..... 35c

WHY BE A BAPTIST? by H. Boyce Taylor, Sr. 25c

THE TRAIL OF BLOOD by J. M. Carroll 25c

ORDER FROM
THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
Ashland, Kentucky

The Little Baptist

CHAPTER IX

REFLECTIONS — CONVERSATION — VISITORS

The pastor's remarks weighed heavily with Mrs. Brown. Reflections and misgivings were aroused that had never before entered her mind. She could only interpret certain expressions to mean that a too free use of the Bible was dangerous to certain tenets of her church. She had been a church member twenty years, and such a thought had never before entered her mind. She had not even allowed herself to doubt that the Bible was the reliance of her church for the defense of all its practice. These reflections gave her great trouble. Had she been all her life mistaken? Instead of following God's truth, had she been only following the creeds of men? Was Mellie's conclusion indeed correct, that the Bible is a Baptist book? Such questions as these passed hastily through her mind. She here resolved to study the Bible more thoroughly than she had heretofore done, and by God's assistance, to follow its teachings.

Like thousands of others, she had trusted the opinions of fallible men, instead of going directly to the fountain of all truth to learn her duty. Mellie's arguments had paved the way for this decision; yet it might never have been fully reached had not her pastor's visit resulted in a further shaking of her faith in the creed of her church.

The little book that Dr. Farnsworth gave Mellie proved, on examination, to be a defense of the practice of the Pedobaptists, and was considered as a masterly argument, both for the infant rite and for sprinkling and pouring as the action of baptism. Mellie devoted all her spare time to the book until she had reached the end. But while reading it, she kept her little Bible by her side, and would turn and read all the references given, so that when she had gone through comparing the teachings of one with the other, she had also learned much in the Bible, and the result was that her confidence in it as a Baptist book was not in the least shaken.

Her mother said but little to her concerning the new book, because she thought that as Mellie was so quick to observe every expression in the Bible, favoring the Baptist ground, if this work was conclusive against it, her quick perception would enable her to discern it. But one day Mellie said: "Mamma, what do you think Dr. Farnsworth gave me this book for? I've read it all, over and over, and it talks all the time about baptisms, covenants, dedications and sealing ordinances, and I can't see the point."

"Why, my dear," answered Mrs. Brown, "I thought that you had been studying the subject until you could understand all about baptism."

"Yes, yes, Mamma, I can understand it in my Bible—it's so plain there. It's not mixed up with all these things about circumcision, covenants, and sealing ordinances—and a dozen things that nobody can see any reason in. I believe that the man who made this book did it just to confuse people's minds, so as to keep them

from understanding the Bible. Mamma, I don't want to believe anything that needs so much explanation and mystification. So I will just believe my Bible, for I can understand a good deal of it now, and I'll keep on trying to learn more about it. The Bible is God's book, and all He has put into it is right. And if Dr. Farnsworth meant what he said when he preached about the duty of people, to do as God commands them, why doesn't he want them to learn from God's book? And why doesn't he quit giving them books that some man has made so mysterious that they can't understand them? I don't like a book that tries to explain away the plain words of my Bible. I guess that God knows just what He wants us to do, and tells us so plainly that we can understand it."

Mrs. Brown suggested to Mellie that perhaps she was too young to understand all these things correctly, and advised her to let the subject rest until she was older, and to employ her time on her school books, telling her it would not be long until she must go off to school.

When school was mentioned, Mellie replied: "That will just suit me, Mama. Papa said that I must stay at home one year, and then I should go to school two years. I guess it is nearly time for me to go. I wish that Papa would let me go to the country to school. I love to stay in the country where I can see the trees and birds and the pretty wild flowers, and where I can gather berries and fruits, like I did when Buddie and I went to Aunt Julia's last summer. O, it would be so nice! Won't you persuade Papa to let me go to the country to school?"

The entrance of Laura Thompson and her mother put a stop to the conversation, and while Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Thompson engaged in a regular chat, Mellie and Laura took a walk, first into the garden, then to see the young chickens, and finally back into the library. In looking around the room, Laura soon discovered Mellie's new book on baptism, and began to turn the leaves and to examine its contents. Mellie told her all about Dr. Farnsworth's giving it to her, and the opinion that she had formed of it, and of her determination to stick to her Bible.

"Well, I declare, Mell," said Laura, "here's the little 'Baptist Bible' that you used to read in school. I hope it will make a little Baptist of you some day, sure enough. You know that we girls treated you rudely about your little Baptist Bible, as you called it, but we were all ashamed of it afterwards. But, Mellie, I believe it turned out to make me a better girl after all. I really never knew how mean I was till that day Mr. Hamilton gave us that lecture about doing good for evil, and heaping coals of fire on the heads of our enemies. It seemed like every word went to my heart. And when I reflected about treating you so badly, and how kind that you were to me in return, it was indeed coals of fire on my head, or something worse about my heart."

"Well, but our hearts melted and ran together, you remember, and we made it all up, and never thought about it any more," said Mellie, laughingly.

(Continued Next Week, D. V.)

It is not a sin to work for the daily bread one eats, but it is sin to work for nothing else.

EQUIPPED FROM WITHIN



FOR GOD HATH NOT GIVEN US
THE SPIRIT OF FEAR; BUT OF
POWER, AND OF LOVE, AND OF
A SOUND MIND."

—II TIMOTHY 1:7

James Arminius

(Continued from page three)
regarding his vagaries as the crudities and unintentional irregularities of youth, which larger and matured experience would overcome; his friends resolved to overlook them and projected for him an extended tour through Italy, including Rome. Here again, however, the unhappy youth proved false to principle. In Rome he adopted the maxim—"Do as Romans do." At least he is accused of kissing the Pope's toe and of a secret understanding with Bellarmine, the chief antagonist of Protestantism.

His cleverness, however, still blinded his Netherland friends to his inward dishonesty. In spite of strange hints, now and then, of that which was not loyal, Arminius was elected one of the pastors of Amsterdam.

Here, while posing as most orthodox among the orthodox, he surreptitiously promulgated opinions, the inevitable tendency of which was to undermine and overthrow the doctrine professed and to stir distrust and dissension. He was soon accused of not loving the Doctrines of Grace, and many of his brethren began to look upon him and upon his expressions with deep apprehension.

At length, in 1602, the illustrious Francis Junius, professor of Divinity in Leyden, died, and the friends of Arminius conspired to place him in the vacant seat.

Notwithstanding the most strenuous efforts of the staunch orthodox, the thing was accomplished, and Arminius became the professor—the Classis, however, in setting him apart, exacted from him a solemn and particular promise and pledge that if it should be found that he held any notions other than those of the Belgic Confession,

he would confess this in private to his ecclesiastical peers and conscientiously refrain from disseminating them broadcast.

Arminius agreed to this, and on entering upon his professorship, he seemed to take much pain to clear himself from all suspicion by publicly proclaiming the received doctrines—doctrines which he afterward as publicly contradicted and which his intimate friends acknowledged were against his convictions at the very time.

This course of things went on a year or two, when it was all at once discovered that Arminius was in the constant practice of maintaining one set of opinions in the professor's chair, and another and opposing set by means of private manuscripts and talks among the students. He was also accustomed while publicly commending the characters and sentiments of the Reformed divines, to artfully insinuate such things as were adapted indirectly to bring them into discredit—lower their influence and weaken their hold on the popular mind.

It was observed along with this, that those who associated with Arminius became disaffected—fell off in their warmth of attachment to principle, and were often dropping words and hints which could not but do damage to the faith and the peace of the saints.

"In this posture of affairs," says Bro. Samuel Miller, to whose valuable essay upon the Synod of Dort I am indebted for assistance in regard to these facts, "In this posture of affairs the magistrates of Leyden, alarmed by the evils which were at work, besought Arminius to hold a conference with his colleagues of the university, before the Classis, respecting those doctrines to which he objected, that the extent of his objections might be ascertained and made known. But this Arminius declined. In the same manner he treated one proposal after another—declining all explanation—either before a committee or before a Church Court. Now and then in Synod and Classis, and even by secular men the attempt was made to move in the case, but Arminius was never ready, and had always insurmountable objections to every method proposed. It was evident that he wished to gain time in which his heaven might work—to put off all decisive action until he should have such an opportunity of influencing leading minds in the country as eventually to prepare them to side with himself. Thus he went on, evading, postponing, concealing, shrinking from investigation and endeavoring in secret to throw odium upon the doctrines and their adherents, hoping thus gradually to diminish their power and ultimately to gain a majority in whatever Synod then might be called."

"It is a painful narrative," says Bro. Miller, "but may truly be affirmed to be the history of every heresy which has ever arisen. "When heresy rises in an Evangelical body it is never open and frank. It always begins by sulking and assuming a disguise. Its advocates, when together, boast of 'advanced thought,' of vast improvements, and congratulate one another on having done

greatly beyond the 'old dead orthodoxy' and the antiquated errors of our fathers, but when charged with deviations from the accepted faith, they complain of the injustice of the accusation as they differ from it only in certain expressions, and indeed only in words. This has been the standing course of errorists ever since the apostolic age. They are almost never honest and candid as a party, in the avowal of their sentiments, until they gain strength enough to feel sure of some degree of popular support. Thus it was with Arius in the 4th Century, with Pelagius in the 5th Century, with Arminius and his companions in the 17th, with Amyraut, the father of modern New Schoolism, who ruined the orthodoxy of the Huguenots of France, with Channing and the Unitarians of Massachusetts when the last century came in. These men denied their real tenets, evaded examination or inquiry, declaimed against their accusers as merciless bigots and heresy-hunters, and strove, as long as they could, to agree with their orthodox neighbors, until the time came, when partly from inability to hold in any longer and partly because they felt strong enough to come out, they avowed their real opinions."

An illustration of the working of the same corruption has been furnished by a great denomination of our country during the last two decades of years, and while granting that the rank and file who follow their buck are innocent of wrong intention and are led by the plausible whisperers of 'progress' and 'peace,' it is patent to all observation that the leaders are men of precisely the spirit just now depicted—as like to Arminius as Z is to Zed.

Finally, in the case of Arminius, as in the present juncture, there was a universal desire that a Council should settle it. From the Provinces of Holland, there went up to the States General a petition that a National Synod should meet "for the purpose of revising the Belgic Confession and the Catechisms of the Church." The Synod of South Holland took alarm at this and begged the substitution of a less radical word in the place of "revising."

This attempt to call a National Synod, through the influence of Arminius, failed, but he could not stave off the issue. Finally the nerve of the Church was aroused. Men like Gomarus, Voetius, Bogerman and others threw off their cowardice and a Synod embracing representatives from the whole Protestant world was convened in the city of Dort, for the purpose of helping the Synod of Holland to cope with an evil now grown so formidable that it threatened, like the North Sea, to beat in all her dykes.

Before that Synod, made up of commissioners of the Church of Scotland, of bishops of the Church of England, then Calvinistic, and of delegates from Germany, the Palatinate, Switzerland and France, Arminius was summoned.

A greater summons, however, awaited him. Agitation and horror of mind seized on the unhappy man in his 49th year. To it he succumbed. "In his last sickness," says his friend and apologist, Bertius, "he was sometimes heard to groan and sigh and cry

Modern Boastful "Evangelists"

The modern Arminian interdenominational "evangelists" are undoubtedly the most boastful creatures on God's earth. They depend upon their showmanship and "Hollywood" sensationalism to draw their crowds. I remember one of them who came into town a few years ago: he advertised himself as being "God's Fire-Ball."

Many of the present day "evangelists" in their past lives held places of prominence in the sports and entertainment world. Those who have such backgrounds think that by using their past fame to advertise themselves, they will thereby have great influence. They boast of how they forsook a life of glory in the world of sports, or in the field of entertainment to "dedicate their talents to the Lord." They make it sound as if they did the Lord a big favor.

I can just imagine what these "evangelists" would have done had they been the Apostle Paul. I can see it now: "Hear the dynamic evangelist Paul this Sabbath in the Synagogue at Damascus. Former disciple of Gamaliel; persecutor of the church; famous Pharisee; said by some to have turned the world upside down with his messages; possessor of the gift of healing; saw Jesus face to face; God's chosen apostle to the Gentiles; known throughout the world for his crusades for Christ. Don't fail to hear this famous evangelist. Also get his book, 'My Life Story.' You'll never be the same after reading it!"

May God deliver His children from these heretics.—Selected

out 'Woe is me, my mother, that thou hath borne me a man of strife and of contention to the whole earth. I have lent to no man on usury, nor have men lent to me on usury, yet every man doth curse me!'"

Such is the report of his friend. Those who opposed him did not hesitate, however, to apply to him those words of Zechariah 11:17 and 14:12, "Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! The sword shall be put upon his arm and upon his right eye; his arm shall be clean dried up and his right eye shall be utterly darkened." "And this shall be the plague wherewith the Lord will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall consume away, while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in the holes; and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth." The death of Arminius is like many another interposition where enmity to the truth and its supporters has been artful, concealed, wilful and virulent. God has a way of reaching the case which is beyond the circle of man's ken or action. His providence down the ages sets its solemn seal to this unalterable fiat: "The lip of truth shall be established forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment."

(The foregoing is taken from the book, "The Doctrines of Grace," 509 pages, \$3.95. Next week we will publish "What Is Arminianism," by the same author).

"THE TWO BABYLONS"

By ALEXANDER HISLOP

Price — \$3.50

This book will give you the facts about Christmas, Easter, Lent and all other Catholic-Babylonish holidays.

Order From:

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY

Nuggets of Scripture

A Book Of Bible
Teachings On

The true church, its origin and many doctrines. Doctrines are separately presented in a simple way but to the point. Verify them with God's Word.

Prepaid \$1—6 for \$5.00

12 for \$9.00

Order From

BIBLE TIMES

1367 Palmetto Avenue

Winter Park, Florida

It is not enough to lighten the crosses of others -- we must bear His cross.

Christmas

(Continued from page two)

Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the ax. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not."—Jer. 10:1-4.

You will notice that God declares that this practice is a heathen one, and He thus admonishes saved folk to abstain from heathen ways. I do not mean to say that each person who has a Christmas tree in his home is a heathen; yet, I do say that it is a heathen, idolatrous practice which you have allowed to come into your home in the guise of Christianity, and under the pretext of honoring Christ.

VII

In this respect may I tell you **A LITTLE MORE CONCERNING THE HISTORY OF CHRISTMAS.** Of course, it was borrowed from Rome—that is, from Roman Catholicism. John A. Broadus, in his tract, "Glad Giving," says:

"When the Western or Latin (Catholic) Christians began the practice of observing a certain day in commemoration of the Saviour's birth, one thing which we first find mentioned about two centuries after that event, and had settled upon the last week of the year for that purpose, they very naturally transferred to this celebration some old Roman customs (heathen customs) which had been for many centuries attached

to the feast called the Saturnalia, observed by the Romans in connection with the winter Solstice."

You see, beloved, Christmas came through Roman Catholicism. Instead of taking it into our homes, we ought to take it back to its original home.

However, beloved, if you have been shocked at what I have said thus far, may I intensify your feeling by telling you that Christmas was observed fully 800 years before the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. In Nelson's Encyclopedia, Volume 3, page 114, we read:

"It is, nevertheless, apparent that the sanctity of this feast was recognized in times long antecedent to the birth of Jesus of Nazareth. The Roman winter Solstice as celebrated on December 25, observes Professor Tylor in connection with the worship of the sun god, Minthoa, appears to have been instituted in the special form by Aurelian about 273 A.D., and to this festival the day owes its opposite name of the birthday of the unconquered son. With symbolic appropriateness, though not with historical justification, the day was adopted in the western (Roman) church where it appears to have been generally introduced by the fourth century and hence in time it passed to the eastern church as the solemn anniversary of the birth of Christ, the Christian Dies Natalis (Christmas day). A study of the customs associated with this period also reveals a heathen, if not invariably a solar origin. The decorations of churches with the once sacred mistletoe and holly is in itself pagan survival. Other illustrations might be cited such as the sending of Christmas presents, analogues of which are found in the yule gifts of northern Europe and ancient Rome."

Thus, beloved, you see that Christmas instead of being the anniversary of the birthday of our Lord, has been handed down to us through Roman Catholicism, having been adopted by the Catholics from the heathen and pagan peoples who lived before the days of Catholicism.

Shortly after Noah's flood lived Nimrod, who was a great grandson of Noah. He was a wicked and licentious man. He married his own mother, whose name was Semiramis. These two together engaged in hunting and drunken debauchery. They were the founders of the country of Babylon. Finally Nimrod was slain and the Devil used his wicked and cunning mother to foist the false Messiah on the world. Semiramis said that her son and husband had been resurrected and was now a god, an invisible spirit god, and succeeded in making the people believe this lie. She was a wicked, shrewd, and unscrupulous woman and wanted some glory for herself, so she boldly put forth the claim that she was the woman whose prophesied seed of Gen. 3:15 was to bruise the head of the serpent, and that her resurrected son was the seed of the woman. This was the beginning of the mother and son idea which we have now in the Christmas celebration. Urged on by Satan, this wicked woman designed a symbol of all this deception. The dead Nimrod was pictured by the dead stump of a tree. Semiramis claimed that an evergreen tree grew up out of this stump in one night, and this evergreen tree pictured Nimrod risen and glorified. Semiramis also gave her son the title "The Father of Gods," and "The Branch," and attached the titles, "Mother of God," and "The Queen of Heaven," upon herself. Please notice that one of the titles applied to Jesus in the Bible is "The Branch." Nimrod, before his death, founded the Babylonian Empire and built the Tower of Babel. On the stone tablets dug up in the vicinity of ancient Babylon, Nimrod is pictured with a mace crushing the serpent's head; in other words, he is represented as doing just what Jesus is soon to do, namely, destroy the Devil. Thus Nimrod became a false Messiah and Satan succeeded in getting the Babylonian Empire to accept this fraudulent and counterfeit Messiah.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1956

THE SEVEN VIALS OF GOD'S WRATH

REV. 15, 16

Memory Verse: "And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of Saints."—Rev. 15:3.

INTRODUCTION: In our last message, we studied something of the Battle of Armageddon (Rev. 14:16-20). However, this does not adequately set forth all we need to know of these closing scenes. Here particulars are given in the remaining chapters. So chapters 15 and 16, which are to be considered together, give the particulars of the seven LAST plagues which fall on the earth. (V. 1).

I. The Remnant. Rev. 15:2-4.

Have seen them before. Rev. 7:4, 9, 13-15; Rev. 14:1. These are the ones who refuse to worship the Beast. Now in repose (standing on sea of glass). They sing (V. 3). Cf. Ex. 15:1-11. Moses and the Lamb were both great deliverers. Since these are delivered from the Beast, they sing thus. They praise God for HIS works. (V. 3). Do not mention their works. Cf. Mt. 7:21, 23; Eph. 2:8, 9; Jno. 6:28, 29. When these last plagues fall on those who worship the Anti-Christ, the worshippers of the true God will be beyond this world on the sea of glass, singing the adoration of their Deliverer.

II. Heaven Preparing for Judgment. Rev. 15:5-8.

III. The First Vial, Rev. 16:2. Cf. Lu. 16:19-21; Ex. 9:8-11; Deut. 28:15, 27, 35.

IV. The Second Vial, Rev. 16:3; Cf. Ps. 105:29; Rev. 8:8.

V. The Third Vial, Rev. 16:4-7. Cf. Ex. 7:19-21.

The hosts of Anti-Christ can find nothing to drink but blood. Cf. Gen. 9:4. The angels say "Amen" to this judgment.

VI. The Fourth Vial, Rev. 16:8, 9. Cf. Rev. 8:12; Mal. 4:1.

What a plague when men will be overcome

with sunstroke and suffocate with solar heat. Still the Anti-Christ's followers continue unrepentant and blasphemous.

VII. The Fifth Vial, Rev. 16:10, 11. Cf. Ex. 10:21, 22; Joel 2:1, 2, 31; Mk. 13:24, 25.

This darkness brings terrible distress to the beast's kingdom. Earth will be nothing short of Hell. Darkness usually corrects most incorrigible prisoners. But not these.

VIII. The Sixth Vial, Rev. 16:12-16.

Euphrates River extends 1800 miles. Scarcely fordable anywhere at any time. From 3 to 1200 yards wide. From 10 to 30 feet in depth. Yet it is prophesied that it will be dried up. Cf. Jer. 51:36; Zech. 10:11. Remember how God opened a passage through the Red Sea and Jordan for Israel. This proves a trap for the kings of the East just as the Red Sea became to Egypt. Then the unclean spirits go forth to gather world together against the Lamb. Cf. I Kings 22:19-38. Are frog-like. Frogs came forth to croak at close of day. When the world's evening shadows fall, these come forth to croak and defile.

IX. The Seventh Vial, Rev. 16:17-21.

These spirits succeed (V. 17). The whole world is in a furor to conquer and dethrone the Lamb.

Bethoven was dying, thunder disturbed him; rose and shook his first in blasphemy to die thus.

They gather at Megiddo (V. 16). The word "Megiddo" means to "cut off" or "slay." Has always been a place of slaughter. Cf. Judges 5:19; II Cor. 35:22-24. Great Storm (V. 18). Cf. Is. 2:19-21; Hag. 2:6, 7. Jerusalem to be two-thirds destroyed (V. 19). Cf. Zech. 14:4. The cities of the nations are universally ruined (V. 19). Dreadful Hail Storm (V. 21). Cf. Ex. 9:19. Hail stones as large as blocks of ice.

CONCLUSION: In spite of this men go on unrepentant. Catholics teach Purgatory. If Hell torments can cure men of their wickedness, why are not these people subdued to penitence?

Dear unsaved child of Adam, judgment is surely coming.

When the Visigoths and the Austrogoths, the Huns, and the Teutonic people of northern Europe swept down over Rome in the fourth century, they had no respect for churches and for the religion which was preached in that day. In order to overawe the superstitious minds of this barbaric people, Roman Catholicism turned to ancient Babylon and brought in candles, beads, the observance of Christmas, and dozens of pagan and heathen customs in order to impress the superstitious minds of this barbaric horde. Cardinal Newman, of the Roman Catholic Church, in a book entitled *Development* says concerning the adoption of these heathen customs in the Catholic Church:

"These are the very instruments and appendages of demon worship, but they are sanctified by the adoption into the church."

Thus, you see, beloved, from this brief history of Christmas which we have taken time to recount to you that Christmas has gotten to us not through the Bible, and not as a command of God, but through Rome, which in turn adopted it from Babylon who received it directly from Satan. Hence, beloved, we make no apologies when we declare that Christmas is worldly, Romanish, heathen, and Devilish.

In closing, beloved, may I remind you that Jesus Christ is coming back some day.

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."—John 14:3.

"And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."—Acts 1:10, 11.

When He comes, I am going to answer to Him and not to you.

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; That every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."—II Cor. 5:10.

I want to be sure that at that

time I can stand before Him with confidence, and not in fear and trembling. My responsibility is unto Christ. To Him I must give an answer for my life. I repeat again, that I realize that the message I have preached tonight will not in the least add to my popularity with men; yet, beloved, my God knows that I am not seeking to please men, but to honor Him.

Yes, beloved, that is exactly our purpose in this ministry. We want to teach you about the Lord, His way, His Word, and we want to help you to learn more of Him that you might do His will better. May God grant that this message shall bring you to that place of submission in your life that you shall seek more than ever to walk more closely and more strictly before our God and Saviour.

I am sure that many of you may be offended at what I have said. I do not say that I do not care, for I do care. I'd rather have your friendship than to have your enmity. Yet when it comes to a decision to please you or Christ, I must please Him, if it costs me every friend in the world—even then I shall still have the Friend of friends—Jesus, who sticketh closer than a brother.

God bless you all!

Is The Gospel Designed?

(Continued from page three)
or all men without distinction—all manner or all classes of men? Look at the context. At the opening of this chapter Paul the Apostle exhorts that prayers and intercessions be made for all men. This would be impossible for us to obey. I do not know all men in the world, let alone to pray for them. Certainly Timothy was not in any better state to do it. Nor is Paul asking for that. He is talking about all kinds of men, "for kings, and all that are in authority." Certainly we can pray that way. It is in this sense that Paul says that God would have all men to be saved, in verse 4. And I shall prove this. In I John 5:14-15 we are promised that "if we ask anything according to (God's) will He heareth us," which is equal to saying that our prayers will be answered.

Now if it is God's will to save all men to the last soul, let us now pray in the will of God and beseech God to save all men. And God will do it. For He can give everlasting life to "whom He will" (John 5:21). Do not hedge now. That is what God says. However, we know this will not be done. On the other hand I can pray God to save His elect, all of them. God hears and answers. All whom He has given to the Son of God shall come to Christ and be in no wise cast out (John 6:37). All whom He has ordained to eternal life shall believe (Acts 13:48).

The next reference is in 2 Pet. 3:9. Usually this part is quoted, "The Lord... is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." It is made to apply to every individual in the world. Now read the whole verse, "The Lord is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish." Who is Peter addressing? The elect (1 Pet. 1:2), believers (2 Pet. 1:13). God is not willing that any of us should perish, but that all of the elect come to the knowledge of the truth. And they will not perish (John 10:27-30), and they shall come to the knowledge of the truth (John 18:37). In all of these references God is talking about His own, the world of the elect, all of the elect.

In I John 2:1-2 we are informed that Jesus Christ is "the propitiation for our sins, and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world." If this applies to the whole world to every individual it is teaching universalism. Again I call your attention as to what the text really says. It says that Jesus Christ is the propitiation for the sins of the whole world, not that He would like to be, not potentially, but He is. If so the whole world is saved! But in Rom. 3:25 it is written that God hath set forth Jesus Christ to be our propitiation "through faith in His blood." Christ is only the propitiation to those who have faith in His blood. The unbelieving (Continued on page eight)

The Book That Every Christian Should Own

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

By ARTHUR W. PINK

320 Pages — \$3.00



Chapter Titles

The Sovereignty of God Defined
The Sovereignty of God in Creation
The Sovereignty of God in Administration
The Sovereignty of God in Salvation
The Sovereignty of God in Reprobation
The Sovereignty of God in Operation
God's Sovereignty and the Human Will
God's Sovereignty and Human Responsibility
God's Sovereignty and Prayer
Our Attitude Toward God's Sovereignty
Difficulties and Objections
The Value of This Doctrine
Conclusion
Appendix I—The Will of God
Appendix II—The Case of Adam
Appendix III—The Meaning of "Kosmos" in John 3:16
Appendix IV—I John 2:2

If you are looking for a book that really gives you the "meat" of God's Word on the doctrines of election, predestination, particular redemption, etc., then here it is. There is no other book on the theme of God's Sovereignty that THE BAPTIST EXAMINER can recommend any more highly than this work by Pink.

One brother who recently ordered a copy of this book, writes to say: "I have finished reading about one-third of the book, 'Sovereignty of God,' by A. W. Pink, and I believe it is one of the best books that I have ever read. If a lot of our Baptist preachers would only read this book and stand firm on the Sovereignty of God!"

Order From:

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
Ashland, Kentucky

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE SEVEN

DECEMBER 1, 1956

You can't steal quietly to Heaven in the company of Christ without a cross to bear.

No Bible Ground

(Continued from page one)
Lord of the praise and gifts that belong to Him alone.

Christmas — Foreign To The Bible

Frankly, I do not know of a single thing connected with Christmas that is Biblical. One must go outside the Bible if he is to learn of the Christmas tree, Santa Claus, the holly - wreath, mistletoe, yulelog, the giving of gifts, and all the other things that go along with the Christmas celebration. However, I do think that certain passages in the Bible may be direct references to the heathen celebration that is now called Christmas. (See Jeremiah 10:1-6). Certainly the precept applies.

Note these facts about Christmas:

(1) Christ was not born on December 25, even Catholics admit. No one knows the date of His birth.

(2) We are not commanded in the Bible to celebrate the Lord's birth. (Baptists seek to follow the Bible; Catholics follow tradition).

(3) The Scriptures plainly warn against inventing such observance of days.

"In vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."—Matt. 15:9.

God commands us not to "add unto these things" (the things of the Bible—Rev. 22:18).

He commands us to neither "add unto the Word" nor "diminish ought from it." (Deuteronomy 4:2).

But the observance of Christmas transgresses this clear commandment of God.

"Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?"—Matt. 15:2.

But Isn't The Giving Of Gifts Scriptural?

Many people have been deluded by Satan into believing that there is Bible ground for exchanging and giving gifts at Christmas. It needs to be pointed out to these wrong, but honest and sincere people, that the giving of gifts in connection with the Christmas celebration is wrong for two reasons: First, because of the fact that Christmas is wrong, as I have shown in the foregoing; and secondly, because of the misinterpretation of the giving of gifts by the Magi to the Lord Jesus. The perverted idea as to this act is that, because the Magi gave gifts to Christ, we should in turn give gifts to one another. That interpretation is as stupid as saying that because Christ walked on the water, we ought to go jump into the lake!

The godly men of the East gave their gifts to the Lord Jesus Himself, not to one another. They did so as an act of worship, for they knew who Christ was—King of the Jews (Matthew 2:2). Do those who give gifts to one another today think that they are thereby worshipping Christ. If so, they are worshipping in vain (Matthew 15:9), for a friend or relative is not Christ, the King of the Jews! Oh, how wide the gulf that separates the modern gift-swapping that people practice at Christmas and the giving of gifts by the Magi to Christ!

No Christian Is Under Obligation To Observe Christmas!

I emphasize this matter of giving presents for an important, Biblical, God-honoring reason. I am interested in the glory of the Saviour and the honest, sincere efforts of saved people to do all that they can to glorify His name. Many people think that they are under obligation to God to observe Christmas, to spend much money on friends and relatives in buying gifts, and to put forth 100 per cent effort to be in the "Christmas spirit."

Oh, Christians, hear me! On the basis of God's Word, I boldly affirm that you are under no obligation to God, to friends, or to relatives! You are, however, under ob-

ligation to God to renounce this heathen, worldly, commercialized holiday, and to not waste your time, money and energy upon it. Take your stand for the Lord and His Word! Do not be brought under the yoke of this slavery any longer. Headaches, heartaches, nightmares, a burdened mind are produced by the expense, time, and energy that go into the "spirit of Christmas." Such financial, physical, and mental burdens in no wise promote spiritual growth in the Lord. Instead, they rob the Lord of that which is due to Him—YOUR ALL!

"For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, WHICH ARE GOD'S."—(I Corinthians 6:20).

No Christmas "Gift Subscriptions" Solicited By TBE

I am disappointed with many Christians who try to take advantage of this "gift-swapping" spirit that prevails at Christmas time in order to "promote the cause of Christ," as they put it. Christians can never "put Christ back into Christmas" for the simple reason that Christ was never in Christmas.

Some religious periodicals put on subscription campaigns at Christmas-time, urging people to send "Gift Subscriptions" to others. But you will find no such appeal in this paper. Although our subscription campaign is now in progress, we have not, we do not, and we will not make any such appeal to our readers. Our appeal is that you send subscriptions for the glory of God and for the salvation and edification of His people. I believe that the Lord looks upon the efforts of Christians to use Christmas—the Catholic and heathen holiday—for the glory of God with shame and disgust.

We are asking you to send in gift subscriptions for others for our Lord's glory. We want to get God's glorious Word into the hands of all His people. Oh, think how widely His Word could be spread with all the time, money, and effort that will be wasted, given to lust, gluttony, and idolatry at the Christmas season!

May you be one who will have no part nor lot with the devilish spirit of Christmas. May you be one who will stand for the Word of God, and who will send in subscriptions for those who need the Word!

False Orders

(Continued from page one)
ceive of, since the Bible makes plain that the Kingdom will NOT COME during this age. To the contrary the age will end with Anti-Christ in control of things. Read Daniel 2:44 for the truth about the coming of the Kingdom.

2.—Modernistic churches and ministers are seeking to "change the social order." They call their false gospel, the "social gospel." But Jesus never ordered or anticipated that churches could change the world order. To the contrary he foretold that the social order would be rotten at the time of His return, with conditions comparable to those of the days of Noah in existence. Socialistic ministers, and men tintured with Communism is the result of "social gospel" teaching.

3.—Many churches have added social life and amusement and entertainment to the duties of churches. But Jesus gave no slightest hint that his church should provide recreation, entertainment and social life. To add this to the orders given the church, is to "add to" the Scriptures. Moreover it is to pervert the Great Commission. Among Southern Baptists the number of missionaries could be doubled, if all recreation buildings and equipment among them were sold and the proceeds placed in the mission treasury. Some churches have spent as much as a million dollars on recreation equipment. Churches have "hostesses" and these are deemed necessary as pastors or deacons. Where do the Scriptures teach that a church should have a "hostess?" Scripture doesn't even hint of such. Besides, does a social and recre-

ational program promote spirituality among church people? It DOES NOT. It promotes worldliness as few things that can be mentioned. Young people are given the idea that a church is just another club. One Tampa church that goes in for a social program has bathing beauty reviews, bingo, and things like that. Another church advertised a dance in the church parlors. The Lord's Day is desecrated in others by means of "fellowship hours" which are in reality Sunday evening parties.

Read the church bulletin of the average church, and you will read of a weekly round of banquets, covered dish luncheons, and things of that sort. Stomach appeal is at the bottom of most of the gatherings. Churches even have "smokers" where the smoke gets so thick that it can almost be sliced. One church in New Hampshire recently turned their basement into a night club, patterned after the world, only banning liquor drinking.

While churches are led through the false orders of men, off into fields that Christ never even mentioned, the orders which HE GAVE ARE NEGLECTED. This accounts for a world unevangelized after 19 centuries. It accounts for the worldliness of churches that know little of the "all things which Christ commanded."

Every church needs to frequently re-read Christ's orders, and to make sure that those orders are adhered to, with every effort to carry them out.

"I Should Like To Know"

(Continued from page one)
dc, and having this knowledge, then it would be very easy for me to place only twelve dishes on the table, then invite all twenty boys to come, and lo and behold, only twelve of them did come. That was because somehow I foreknew which ones would respond.

"Now may I ask you, if I invited all twenty, have the eight which do not come any excuse at all? Can they blame me? Oh, but they say, 'We saw there were only twelve plates, not enough to go around, so we thought it was not for us.' But that's no excuse. You did not know who they were for. But I knew they were only for those who would come, and who would respond."

"Now I realize that this parable falls short of fully illustrating the situation, but it goes as far as our finite, human understanding can go. God's invitation is to all. Yet, God knows that all will not come, and He knew who would come and who would not come. It would be very simple then for the Almighty to choose and prepare a place at His table for only the elect, and make no provision for others. There is plenty for all, but no use putting it on the table and wasting it for those who will not partake of it."

This is Arminianism in toto. De Haan goes further into this subject than the average Arminian, and for that reason his teaching is all the more subtle.

2. What is an Arminian?

An Arminian, basically, is one who believes that salvation is

THE MODERN TONGUES AND HEALING MOVEMENT

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

By Carroll Stegal, Jr., and Carl C. Harwood

Price: 50c

Order this book from:

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
Ashland, Kentucky

somewhat dependant upon the sinner, and not wholly of the Lord (Jonah 2:9).

He conditions election upon the will of the sinner, not the will of God from all eternity (Eph. 1:4).

He conditions the success of the Spirit on the sinner's yielding to the Spirit (John 6:63).

He conditions the success of the atonement on the sinner's acceptance of the atonement (Rom. 8:32).

The Arminian teaches that God and man are partners in the salvation of man. God does His part, but man must do his part. (And then the Arminian has the audacity to say that man is saved by grace!) (Romans 11:6).

Those who believe the Bible, believe in Sovereign grace, not Arminian "grace." Sovereign grace administers to God's elect the salvation that Christ purchased for them. The irresistible power of the effectual call of the Holy Spirit makes the Word of God effective to all whom the Father has given to the Son (John 6:37, Psalm 110:3).

3. What books does THE BAPTIST EXAMINER publish?

Mabel Clement by J. M. Sallee, \$2.00.

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

Ecclesia—The Church by B. H. Carroll, 35c.

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

These are only four publications which we publish at the present time. We have printed many books for others who published them, such as Alien Baptism And The Baptists by William Nevins, Definitions Of Doctrines by C. D. Cole, the four-volume set of A. W. Pink's Exposition of The Gospel of John, The Sovereignty Of God by A. W. Pink, When God Comes To Earth by A. D. Muse, Mythical Book of The Southern Baptist Seminary by Raymond Waugh, No Uncertain Sound by Forrest Pack, It Happened In China by Cyril W. Bousfield, and many other well-known books.

The Lord willing, we plan to publish the book that is now being run serially in BAPTIST YOUTH WITNESS. The title of the book of course is "The Little Baptist."

Is The Gospel Designed?

(Continued from page seven)
world has no faith in Christ's blood, therefore Christ is not the propitiation for them, but for the world of believers.

Consider: To whom did John the Apostle write these words in 1 John 2:2? In Gal. 2:9 you will read that Peter and James and John were ministers to the circumcision, that is to the Jews. It is strange therefore to conclude that John in writing to his brethren wrote to Jewish Christians to whom he had long ministered? To them he could write: Jesus Christ is the propitiation for our sins (we Jews), and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world (Gentiles as well). The same truth was taught by our Lord in John 10:16, "And other sheep I have which are not of this fold," this Jewish fold, "them also," elect Gentiles, "I must bring, and they shall hear My voice, and there shall be one fold and one Shepherd."

The final verse is in Rev. 22:17, "... And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Why is that in there if God does not will to save everyone to the final individual? It is there

1. To show what every sinner ought to do. He ought to will to come to Jesus Christ and receive the water of life.

2. To show that the fault lies with the sinner and not with God if he does not come to Jesus Christ to be saved. It is because he did not will to come (John 5:40). "Whosoever will," and he willed not.

3. So that no man can rise up in the judgment and say to God: You did not invite me to come and be saved! He was invited.

Whosoever means anybody. It means you.

4. So that the sheep (the elect) might thereby hear the voice of God and come (John 8:47). An elect hears that word "whosoever" and his ears go up and he says: That means me! and he arises and comes to Christ.

I would like to turn this message around now and say that the Gospel is designed to save the world. God does will to save all men, to save the world. And He will! But it will be the world of the elect. It will be all of the elect.

The Gospel is designed and given to the elect.

What is the Gospel? The answer is in 1 Cor. 15:1-4, that Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again the third day, and if we continue the chapter, that He is also coming again for us, which also includes His present ministry of intercession for us.

The Gospel is that Christ died for us. In this the Gospel is designed not to save the whole world of men, but the world of the elect, for if Christ died for all then are all saved (1 Tim. 2:6). But He himself said that He would lay down His life for the sheep (John 10:15). Since not all men in the world are sheep, then Christ did not die for them in a saving sense because they are not saved. Then Christ died only for the all of the sheep.

The Gospel is that Christ rose again for us. Who did He rise for, all men? Nay, rather was He "delivered for our offenses, and raised again for our justification" (Rom. 4:25), the saints (Rom. 1:7).

And His present ministry in heaven, for whom does He pray? He prays not for the world, but for those given Him by the Father (John 17:9). He appears now in the presence of God to make intercession "for us" (Heb. 9:24). You cannot cut Christ up. If He does not pray for the world of unbelief He did not die for it. If He did not die for it certainly He does not design to save it by His Gospel.

Jesus Christ is coming again, for whom? "... unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation" (Heb. 9:28). Unto the rest He comes in fiery wrath and righteous judgment (2 Thess. 1:7-10).

Thus the Gospel is not designed to save the world to the last man who ever lived in it. It would be most unsuccessful if it were. But it is designed to save all of the world of the elect, and every one of them will be saved and saved with an "everlasting salvation" (Isa. 45:17). Amen.

January 1

(Continued from page one)
January 1 is not far away; will you be one to see to it that we get 10,000 new "subs" by this date?

CONFESSIONS OF A CONVERTED JEHOVAH'S WITNESS!

30 YEARS A WATCHTOWER SLAVE

by W. J. Schnel
former zone servant
for Jehovah's Witnesses

The simple, impelling, and powerful story of a Christian caught in the meshes of this movement, his rise to positions of authority, the hopelessness of his situation, and remarkable conversion in 1954, after an entire night of prayer. Out of that conversion, came a pledge to write this book.

Here, for the first time, is an expose of the Watch Tower society, its brain washing techniques, its genius for organization, and perversion of Scripture. Everyone wants to read this book! Buy it for yourself. Give it as a gift. Buy several to spread its message.

\$2.95

ORDER FROM
THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
Ashland, Kentucky