

The Baptist Examiner

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

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PASSAGES THAT TEACH SOVEREIGN GRACE

SCRIPTURES ON SOVEREIGNTY, ELECTION, PREDESTINATION, TOTAL DEPRIVITY, GOD'S EFFECTUAL CALL, PARTICULAR REDEMPTION AND ETERNAL SECURITY

By BOB L. ROSS

"KNOWING, brethren beloved, YOUR ELECTION OF GOD. For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost: So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia. For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing. For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come."

Here is one of the most marvelous passages in the entire Word of God, which teaches clearly the fruits of God's election. Verse 5 begins Paul's enumeration of

the fruits of these Thessalonians, whereby was known their "election of God" (verse 4). Paul clearly says that these people may know that they are elect of God for certain reasons. Briefly we shall enumerate these reasons as seen in verses 5-10:

The Gospel came to these people not in word only, but in power and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance (verse 5). The effect of the Gospel upon these people proved that they were God's elect, for only the elect of God will receive the Word of God (John 10:26, 27), and they do so by God's making it effective by His power: "Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power" (Psalm 110:3). The non-elect "will not come" to Christ (Continued on page two)

1. Is it right to cremate the human body?

Cremation is a pagan custom, which was never known nor practiced by the early church. In Gen. 3:9, we read, "... and unto dust shalt thou return." In the Old Testament burial was either in the caves of the earth or in the earth itself. Lazarus was buried and so was our Lord Jesus. No Christian should depart from this custom nor follow the practices of the heathen.

2. Should a pastor be called annually or indefinitely?

The "annual call" has no justification in the Scriptures. The pastor is the shepherd of the flock and the shepherd does not change from year to year according to the fancy of the sheep. A church "calls" in the sense that it finds and follows the will of the Lord, who Himself chooses and places His called men where He desires.

A church that changes leadership annually will always be a weak church. It makes a pastor to become a "hired man" rather than a spiritual leader and adviser. It keeps a pastor from projecting any type of program that might last over one year. In view of the fact that he is subject to change it is manifestly unfair for him to make plans

which someone else would be under necessity of carrying out.

The annual call gives occasion for division in the church. Any pastor who preaches and serves faithfully will have his critics. It is often to a pastor's honor that he has certain people against him. If the pastor is called annually then these critics get an opportunity to express their dislikes and perhaps get rid of his ministry, even though it may be a faithful Biblical ministry of the Word.

The annual call has no analogy in the business world. No firm would employ a manager or overseer on a year-by-year basis. What responsible man would be willing to accept the presidency of a business or educational institution on a one-year contract? Why should a church even expect such of a preacher?

Not only is the "annual call" a reflection upon the preacher's integrity, but it is also a reflection on the intelligence and spirituality of the church that it knows its own mind and the will of God so poorly that it only acts for one year at a time.

3. Explain Isaiah 65:20.

In God's plans for the future, the age of folk will be increased just as it was in the O. T. Long (Continued on page eight)

Owen's Argument Is Unanswerable As To Christ's Atonement

by JOHN OWEN
English Puritan of 17th Century

The Father imposed His wrath due unto, and the Son underwent punishment for, either:

1. All the sins of all men.
2. All the sins of some men, or
3. Some of the sins of all men.

In which case it may be said:

a. That if the last be true, all men have some sins to answer for, and so none are saved.

b. That if the second be true, the Christ, in their stead suffered for all the sins of all the elect in the whole world, and this is the truth.

c. But if the first be the case, why are not all men free from the punishment due unto their sins?

You answer, because of unbelief. I ask, is this unbelief a sin, or is it not? If it be, then Christ suffered the punishment due unto it, or did He not. If He did, why must that hinder them more than their other sins for which He died? If He did not, He did not die for all their sins! —As quoted in Toplady's Works.

THE COOK OR THE BOOK?

The early church prayed in the upper room, the Twentieth Century church cooks in the supper room.

Today the supper room has taken the place of the upper room! Play has taken the place of prayer, and feasting the place of fasting. There are more full stomachs in the church than there are bended knees and broken hearts. There is more fire in the kitchen range than there is in the church pulpit. When you build a fire in the church kitchen it often, if not altogether, puts out the fire in the church pulpit; ice cream chills the fervor of spiritual life.

The early Christians were not cooking in the supper room the day when the Holy Ghost came, but they were praying in the upper room! They were not waiting on tables, they were waiting on God. They were not waiting for the fire from the stove, but for the fire from above.

They were detained by the

the fruits of God's election. Verse 5 begins Paul's enumeration of

RELIGION AND PRISONS

By John McReil
Box 900
Jefferson City, Missouri

As an inmate of one of this nation's penal institutions, I am in a good position to observe, first-hand, living testimonies to the power of sin as it infests the character of men. As inmate secretary to the chaplain of this institution, I am privileged to witness the value of Bible religion, in any man's life, since he has received Jesus Christ.

It is truly heartbreaking, to watch men, most of whom are maladjusted, grow complacent about their sorry condition. So much human wreckage content to resign themselves to a state of hopelessness. Men who sincerely feel that this is all there is for them and who, therefore, aspire to nothing, save to exist. Surely man was not created in the likeness and image of God to become imprisoned by his own ignorance and criminal indifference!

They Will Return To Society

It ought to be a sobering realization to every Christian in this wonderful land of ours, when he pauses to consider that the vast majority of the men confined within the nation's many prisons, will, one day, return to society.

In what condition will they return?

After years of separation from normal social relationships, after

years of subjection to an impersonal form of discipline, after years in which have come heartbreaks, the loss of family ties, etc., after years of repression of normal desires and appetites, after years of unholy practices which have been provoked by abnormal conditions, the greatest number of men, now in prisons, will be released, one day, to take their places beside you. They will be employed by you. They will work side by side with you. Some of them will court your daughters, and some will marry into your families. Some will become fast friends with your sons and others will become members in your clubs. Keeping this in mind, it should be the business and interest of every Christian to take steps to insure that everything humanly possible is done to reach

these men with the gospel of Christ, so that Christ may become the Lord of their lives.

The policy of committing men to prison and then forgetting them is a costly one, as statistics will bear out... costly, not only in terms of dollars and cents, but costly in the terrible wastage of human lives!

Rehabilitation Or Regeneration?

In our age, considerable emphasis is laid upon a program of rehabilitation. It is, in fact, the theme of modern penology, and on paper it reads quite effectively. In so far as it goes, this program is good; certainly it is a giant step in the right direction, but it simply does not go deeply enough into the man... it does not deal with the core of a man's lawlessness.

If rehabilitation, which is costing the taxpayers millions annually, is not the answer, then what is? Well, there will be many who will not agree with me, but I believe, with all my heart, that the answer is found in spiritual regeneration.

When we receive Christ, we become new creatures; forsaking old ways and surrendering our will to that of God's. Now, rehabilitation helps a man to adjust himself but it does not remove the blight within him, which has made of his life a disgrace. Spiritual regeneration, on the (Continued on page three)

Yes, Doctrine Is Most Important But So Is Life And Living



By Roy Mason
Tampa, Florida

There are two wrong attitudes manifested on the part of some. First is the attitude that HOW WE LIVE is the all important thing—that doctrine is of trifling significance. The second wrong attitude is the one that we wish to deal with here—the attitude that DOCTRINE IS ALL IMPORTANT, and that it doesn't matter much as to how we live.

It is possible for a person to come to love doctrine just for the sake of doctrine. We have seen people like that. They loved nothing better than to argue their doctrine. We think just here of a man we once knew who was greatly enamored of the doctrine of SALVATION BY GRACE. He loved to get a "Campbellite" into (Continued on page eight)

GILL'S "CAUSE OF GOD AND TRUTH"

Sometime ago, I wrote to Kregel's Book Store of Grand Rapids, and asked them to consider reprinting the great work of John Gill entitled, "Cause of God and Truth." I have their reply that they may do so in 1957.

This book by Gill is about the worst thing that has happened to Arminianism since Paul wrote the Book of Romans. And I want to urge you to write to Kregel's and tell them that you should like to see the book in print again. It is a knockout answer to Arminianism. It deals with every passage in God's Word that Arminians have tried to use to deny election, depravity, particular redemption, security, predestination, irresistible grace, perseverance, and all other Calvinistic tenets.

The address of Kregel Book Store is 525 Eastern Avenue, S. E., Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Especially would I urge you preacher brethren to write and urge the republication of this work.—Bob L. Ross

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

"THE BOOK OF REVELATION"

(Read Revelation 17 and 18)

The Devil has two favorite methods of carrying on his work: the first is by opposition, as was true in the Garden of Eden; the second is by imitation, as was true in the Parable of the Tares, as seen in Matthew 13. Whenever the Devil can't destroy by opposition, he always attempts to destroy by imitation. Mark it down, beloved, if the Devil can't destroy by opposition, he will then ape or imitate or counterfeit the very thing that he wants to destroy.

The Devil tried to destroy the church that Jesus built. There

isn't a doubt in my mind but what he thought he was going to destroy it. He had our Lord put to death and later he destroyed the disciples. Simon Peter was arrested after James had been beheaded. One by one those early apostles suffered even unto martyrdom for the truth. That first church was scattered all over the world, and all those early churches suffered and had hardships and heartaches and martyrdom as a result of the opposition of the Devil. Like the hydra-headed monster of the Marshes of Lerna that we read of in Mythology, of whom it was said that every time a gladiator

would cut off one head, two would grow in its place, so it was with the churches of our Lord. Every time that one was destroyed, another would spring up, so that the Devil soon found that he was getting no where fast by opposing and by destroying the church that our Lord Jesus Christ had built. So, beloved, when the Devil found that he wasn't accomplishing his purpose in destroying the church, he changed his tactics and then decided he would build a church in imitation to the church that our Lord Jesus had built — namely Roman Catholicism. I am (Continued on page two)

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Passages That Teach

(Continued from page one)
(John 5:40).

The Word of God was received by these folk "in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit" (verse 6). The "affliction" was the Spirit's breaking of the stony heart, working "Godly sorrow" (II Corinthians 7:10). It is the Spirit's office work to make the Word effective in the hearts of the elect, producing the "broken and contrite heart" (Psalm 51:17) and giving new life to the spiritually dead sinner (John 6:63; Ephesians 2:1). This is a bitter experience. It is the withering work of the Spirit. It is indeed a time of "much affliction" within the heart and soul. But thanks be unto God! it is followed by the "joy of the Holy Spirit." The "affliction" and "joy" of these people are evidence of their election; for none but the elect of God receive the work of the Spirit.

The same verse (six) also states that these folk became imitators ("followers") of the Lord. This is another fruit by which they "knew their election." Only the sheep (elect) become the followers of the Lord (see John 10:3-5, 27, 28).

These folk were also examples unto others that believed (verse 7). Examples of what? Examples of the elective grace of God in action - - examples of how the gospel produces fruit when heard by the elect of God (Acts 13:48).

These folk were missionary, which is evidence of their election. Mark it down, election does not produce Hardshells, but Missionary Baptists. We read in verse 8, "For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad." The people "sounded out" God's Word everywhere. By this fruit, Paul said that these folk "knew their election." Brother, don't talk about believing in election, if you don't believe and practice missions.

The Thessalonians turned from their idols to serve the living God (verse 9). This is another evidence of their election of God. Jesus said that His people, the elect of God, "hear my voice and follow me" (John 10:27). He said that those who did not believe on Him believed not because they were not His sheep. If the brethren at Thessalonica had not been the sheep of Christ, the elect of God, they would not have turned from idols to serve the living and true God.

Belief in the second coming of Christ evidenced the Thessalonians' election (verse 10). They not only turned from their idols to serve God, but to also "wait for His Son from Heaven." People who believe in election believe in the second coming of Christ. Brother Reynolds of Texas told me at the Little Rock Conference about his coming to see the truth of election. He said that he first saw the teaching of the pre-millennial return of Christ; then he asked me: "A fellow who sees that truth is not far away

from election, is he?" No, for the two doctrines walk hand-in-hand together, as this passage clearly teaches.

Remember, all these fruits were because of God's having elected these people; election is not the result of the fruits. The fruits are the result of election.



"The Book Of Revelation"

(Continued from page one)
confident that Roman Catholicism is the Devil's counterfeit church and I will prove it to you as we read further in these two chapters of the book of Revelation. The Bible tells us about the church which the Devil built. Listen:

"Another parable spake he unto them; the kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened." —Mt. 13:33.

The leaven is false doctrine, the meal is the Gospel teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the woman represents a apostate Christianity headed up in Roman Catholicism. From the time that Roman Catholicism came into existence, Rome has been doing the same thing that this verse says that the woman did. Rome has been subtly and secretly and silently hiding the leaven of false doctrine in the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

May I remind you beloved, that the whole religious world is leavened with Catholicism. If you don't believe it, pick up your paper along about Easter and read all about the Easter program of the various churches, which is nothing short of Catholicism. It came from the Catholics entirely, and every so-called church that has any kind of an Easter program, is to that extent leavened by Catholicism. There is some kind of Catholicism in practically every church today, which tells us just how far Rome has gone in the matter of leavening and corrupting the true teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Maybe, it would be well before I come to the Scripture itself, to remind you that there are three classes of churches in this world — Baptist Churches, which are God-made; Catholic Churches which are Devil-made; and Protestant churches, which grew out of the Protestant reformation against Catholicism, and thus are man-made. I haven't a thing in this world against any individual Catholic or individual Protestant. I have some very good friends who are Protestants and Catholics. While I love those who are Catholics or Protestants, I have absolutely no use for any Protestant or Catholic Church. Rather, my love is for the kind of church that Jesus started two thousand years ago — namely Missionary Baptists.

Ere somebody might be here who might misunderstand, may I say that I am not discussing any man's salvation nor any man's relation to the Lord Jesus Christ. I am discussing churches. Any man who has believed on Jesus Christ as his Saviour is going to Heaven when he dies, for there is nothing for him to go to Hell for, since Jesus has already suffered his Hell at Calvary. Regardless of what church he is a member of, or whether or not he is a member of any church, regardless of whether he has been baptized, or perhaps he has not been baptized at all, any man who has seen the truth that Jesus Christ has died for all of his sins — past, present, and future — is saved, and is going to Heaven when he dies.

I

THE OLD WHORE REPRESENTS ROME.

A pure woman in the Bible is symbolic of a pure church. In II Cor. 11:2, Paul in writing to the church at Corinth, says that he desires to present that church as a chaste virgin to Jesus Christ. Listen:

"For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have

espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a CHASTE VIRGIN to Christ." — II Corinthians 11:2.

Likewise, beloved, an impure woman would be symbolic of an impure church. When we read about this old whore — this impure woman — we are reading of one who symbolized some kind of an impure church.

I think we have a key as to whom this woman is. Listen:

"And the woman which thou sawest is THAT GREAT CITY, which REIGNETH over the kings of the earth." —Rev. 17:18.

There wasn't but one city in John's day that reigned over the kings of the earth, and that was Rome. Any student of history knows this to be true. The church within the city of Rome is the Roman Catholic Church. Therefore, I contend that this woman is nothing more or less than a symbol of the impure, heterodoxical, heretical church of Rome that we choose to speak of and identify today as the Roman Catholic Church.

II

THE OLD WHORE HAS SENT OUT HER REPRESENTATIVES INTO MANY NATIONS.

"And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, come hither; I will show unto thee the judgment of the great whore that SITTETH UPON MANY WATERS." — Rev. 17:1.

Rome has sent her ambassadors to every spot of the earth so that her claim of being an universal church is a true claim. She has representatives in all parts of the world.

III

ROME HAS SPONSORED THE UNION OF CHURCH AND STATE.

"With whom the kings of the earth have COMMITTED FORNICATION, and the inhabitants of the earth have been MADE DRUNK with the wine of her fornication." —Rev. 17:2.

This means the union of church and state, and certainly Rome has been guilty of the union of church and state. She has done all within her power to unite church and state in Mexico and Spain and in South America. Listen to any of our missionaries when they are home and hear them tell of the grip that Rome has on the inhabitants of South America.

This verse tells us that the inhabitants have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication, which means that there has been a union of church and state, and that the individuals where such has taken place are in the same condition spiritually as a man who is drunk. That is to say, they are confused and don't know the truth. That is certainly true wherever Roman Catholicism has sway today.

IV

THE OLD WHORE HAS AN ABLE CONFEDERATE IN THE BEAST.

"So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a SCARLET-COLORED BEAST, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns." Revelation 17:3.

That beast refers to the anti-Christ. When the Anti-Christ reigns, he is going to make some kind of religion—a state church. I think that it is only logical that he will make Catholicism his state church and that is what seemingly is taking place today. Catholicism is growing by leaps and bounds while Protestantism is dying faster than Catholicism is growing. It looks to me as if when the beast takes over, he will be in position to make Catholicism his state religion.

V

THIS WOMAN — THE OLD WHORE — IS DECKED IN SCARLET.

"And the woman was arrayed in purple and SCARLET COLOR." —Rev. 17:4.

Every body knows that scarlet

DOES THE NEW TESTAMENT TEACH TITHING?

By The Late A. M. Overton

It is sadly surprising that some of the Lord's people have the idea that the New Testament does not teach tithing. This failure to see and understand God's Word concerning this important truth has seriously hindered many in their growth in the grace of liberality and has grievously handicapped the Lord's churches in their work of carrying out His commission to preach the gospel to all the world.

A common argument against the Scriptural plan of "tithes and offerings" is that it is "of the law." But, we see Abraham (Gen. 14:17-20) paying a tithe more than 400 years before the law was given, and Jacob (Gen. 28:20-22) vowed to pay the tithe more than 200 years before Moses received the law on Sinai. Thus we see that such an argument is without foundation or fact.

The principle of tithing was incorporated into the Mosaic law (Lev. 27:20-33), as was also the "good news" of the coming Messiah (Deut. 18:15-19, John 1:45), and was given to the tribe of Levi as their inheritance (Numbers 18:21-32). There was a "storehouse" in the tabernacle (and later in the temple) into which the tithes of the other eleven tribes were brought, and out of which the Levites lived. In addition to the tithes they were also given certain portions of the offerings (Deut. 18:1-5).

No where does the New Testament condemn this principle and in no place is anything offered as a substitute for it. Jesus (Matt. 5:17-44, etc.) taught His disciples that there were certain things in the law which were to be supplanted by higher teachings, but He did not mention "tithes and offerings." He condemned the scribes and Pharisees (Matt. 23:23; Luke 12:42) for some of their practices, but He commended them for tithing. This would have been a fine place for the Lord to have taught His disciples another plan if He had not willed

the continuation of "tithes and offerings." In the teachings of the "better" things of the new covenant nothing is mentioned as being better than "tithes and offerings" for support of the Lord's New Testament program of gospel preaching.

This principle of "tithes and offerings" is given to the church at Corinth as the Lord's ordained plan for His people in this age. Although no believer in Jesus Christ is "under the law," the Holy Spirit uses the law to teach these Corinthian saints a new lesson in the support of the Lord's servants (I Cor. 9:7-12). Thus we read:

"Do you not know that they which minister about holy things (the common priests) live of things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar (the priests) are partakers with altar? Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." Nothing could be plainer than that it is the "ordained plan of God that the preaching of the gospel are to be supported exactly as the priests were supported "out of the temple," "tithes and offerings."

The vast majority of liberal Christian stewards began as tithers, and as they have received accompanying spiritual and material blessings they have delighted to invest more and more of their substance in the Lord's work. Noticeable among the results of following God's plan of "tithes and offerings" are joy, giving, liberal giving, and untentious giving.

The Lord openly invites the doubter to "prove me now he with" (Mal. 3:10). Of the millions who have thus proved Him, one has found the Lord by living His promise. Happy is the child of God who adopts God's plan of "tithes and offerings," follows it faithfully out of love and gratitude to Jesus Christ, and His wonderful salvation.

is the royal color of Catholicism.

I remember the first time that the pope ever broadcast over a radio, which took place in February 1931, the daily papers told how the pope sat on a red damask throne, that all of his attendants were dressed in red, that he himself was likewise attired, and that when he drove to the radio station to deliver his broadcast, he arrived there in a red automobile. Scarlet is

the color of Catholicism. I think this is just one more identifying link showing that this word represents the Roman Catholic Church.

All of you who read LIFE magazine, or at least look at pictures, will recall that when a number of new cardinals were made a few years ago, pictures were carried in several issues of that magazine, and

(Continued on page three)

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PAGE TWO

FEBRUARY 9, 1957

"The Book Of Revelation"

(Continued from page two)

will remember the scarlet colored robes which those individuals wore, were pictured in full color. I say then, the very fact that this whore was arrayed in scarlet is another proof in the links of identification, showing us that the woman represents the Roman Catholic Church.

VI

ROME IS RICH.

"And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with GOLD AND PRECIOUS STONES AND PEARLS." Rev. 17:4.

Rome is rich. Mark it down, beloved, that Roman Catholicism holds the balance of financial power in this world, either directly or indirectly. You can talk about the Jews having the wealth of the world. I don't believe that all the Jews in the world control the balance of financial power like the Roman Catholic Church.

Often do I think of that incident whereby two of the prelates of Rome were observing the great wealth hidden away in the Vatican. It was said that one of them remarked to the other, "We have come a long way since the time our first pope, Simon Peter said to the lame man, 'Silver and gold have I none.'" The other agreed with him that they had come a long way for whereas Simon Peter had no silver nor gold, they had plenty of gold and precious stones. "However," said he, "We've also come a long way in another direction, since we don't have Peter's power to say, 'In the name of Jesus, rise up.'" Beloved, Rome has the gold. Rome has the precious stones. Rome holds the balance of financial power in this world.

VII

THIS WOMAN HAS A CUP OF ABOMINATIONS IN HER HAND.

"... having a GOLDEN CUP in her hand FULL OF ABOMINATIONS and filthiness of her fornication." —Rev. 17:4

Let us take a look and see what is inside that cup. You will find that it is filled with false doctrine. Take the supposed doctrine of the immaculate conception of Mary—that Mary was formed without sin. It is a false doctrine. There is not one word of truth in it. There never was but one that was born without sin, and that is our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

There is also the false doctrine promulgated less than 100 years ago as to the infallibility of the pope—that when he wears his robe it is impossible for him to make an error or a mistake. It is strange that it took Rome almost 1900 years to learn that the pope couldn't make a mistake. Inside that cup of abominations, you will find this false doctrine of the infallibility of the pope.

How can a man get rid of demons or get rid of the Devil out of his life? The Catholics say that if you take the liver or the heart or the entrails of a fish and burn a little piece of it over the coals of your fire that it will drive the Devil completely away. The Word of God tells us that the only way a person can get a victory over the Devil is by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is but another of the false doctrines that the Catholics have inside that cup of abominations. Also inside that cup of abominations is image worship whereby that men worship images.

At a hospital not far away is a statue of our Lord Jesus Christ with the toe practically worn off, where the faithful, coming in and going out of the hospital, kiss the toe of that statue.

Look inside that cup and you will find the worship of Mary as one of those abominations. Beloved, no man nor woman can come between my soul and God—none but Jesus Christ. He is the only one that can act as mediator between God and man, yet

the Catholics say that Mary is to be worshipped, that as we worship her, she intercedes for us with God. There isn't one word in the Bible to support it. It is a lie from beginning to end. It is one of Rome's abominations.

Look again and you will see in it, the abomination of salvation by works and salvation by baptism. If it had not been for the Roman Catholics these false doctrines would have never been heard of.

I tell you, beloved, inside that cup this woman holds in her hands are abominations, one on top of the other—false doctrines which Rome holds today.

VIII

THIS WOMAN IS NOT ONLY A WOMAN OF ILL REPUTE HERSELF, BUT SHE IS ALSO THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS.

"And upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon The Great, The MOTHER OF HARLOTS And Abominations Of The Earth." —Rev. 17:5.

This verse tells me that every church that has sprung out of Catholicism is a harlot daughter of Rome. Some people talk about the Methodists, the Campbellites, the Episcopalians, the Lutherans, and all the Protestants as our "sister denominations." Beloved, they are not sister denominations—they are the harlot daughters of the old whore of Rome herself. Though it makes us unpopular with the world, we might as well face facts as they are laid down in God's Word—the old whore and her harlot daughters represent Roman Catholicism and the false churches that have come out of Rome.

IX

THIS WOMAN IS DRUNK WITH BLOOD.

"And I saw the woman DRUNK with the BLOOD of the saints, and with the BLOOD of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration." —Rev. 17:6.

J. M. Carroll, who first developed the lectures on "The Trail Of Blood," estimated that better than 50,000,000 Baptists died in defense of the faith and shed their blood as martyrs during the Dark Ages rather than give up their religion. Beloved, Rome is drunk with the blood of martyrs. The only reason that Rome doesn't persecute Baptists in America is because Rome doesn't have the power to do so. If they had the power, they would persecute Baptists here just like they have always persecuted them elsewhere.

Let us notice some of the methods of torture that they have used.

One method was the thumb-screw whereby they would put the thumb-screw over a man's thumb and tighten it until it got tighter and tighter upon the flesh in an effort to force that individual to give up his religious faith. If he would refuse to recant, then they would tighten the screw until eventually the flesh would burst and the blood would gush from it.

Beloved, Rome is truly drunk with the blood of martyrs.

Think of the iron-maid into which many Baptist forefathers were put to die. It was an iron casket-like affair into which the individual was placed. The door itself had in it dozens and dozens of sharp spikes so that when one was placed inside it, and the door was closed, that individual's body was pierced through and through with sharp spikes. If I had the time to tell you of Baptists who in the early centuries, died by way of the iron-maid because they didn't observe Easter, I don't think that you would ever feel kindly toward Easter again, knowing its origin and knowing what some Baptists have gone through trying to stand against it in the past.

Another method of torture was that whereby they would draw and quarter an individual. Let me tell you of a Baptist preacher who, in the fourth century, was laid on the ground, and a horse was hooked to each of his arms and to each of his feet, and at

a given signal those horses were started and that individual was drawn into four parts. Why? Only because he believed it was wrong to baptize babies. That was not an isolated case. Many Baptists have died in the same manner.

Let me tell you of those individuals who had their tongues pulled out with hot pincers. I tell you, beloved, if Baptists had to suffer a little today, like they did in the days gone by when Rome was drunk with the blood of the martyrs, Baptists would be more true to the faith than they are now. There would be a lot of brethren who would also thin out. There are some folk who say, "I will stand with you through thick and thin," but when the fight gets thick, I find that a lot of them "thin out." That is what would happen today. A lot of folk would thin out when the fight got thick, but those that stood would really stand for the faith.

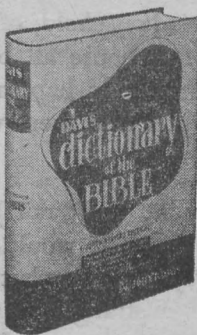
Think again of those Baptists who had hot lead poured down into their open boots. Think of those Baptists who had boiling oil poured into their ears. Can you imagine anything as terrible and horrible as for a pregnant woman to have her body ripped open and her offspring cast to the wild dogs while her husband was compelled to witness what was taking place? Beloved, this actually happened to the wife of a Baptist preacher who dared to stand against alien immersion.

Can you imagine what it would be like for a man to be taken from his pulpit and have his body cut open and have grain stuffed inside his body, and then to have hungry hogs that hadn't been fed for days turned loose to devour the grain that was placed within his body? I could tell you of Baptist preachers who were treated thus. Why? Just because they said that there was no saving merit in the taking of the Lord's Supper.

Beloved, Rome is drunk with the blood of the martyrs. We need to remember this every time we see a Roman Catholic Church building. In it we see that which is symbolized by this old whore. It ought to remind us that our Baptist heritage is one that has been bought dearly with the price of blood.

Go back to St. Bartholomew's Day in France when the Pope and the Catholic queen of France enticed hundreds of people into the city of Paris on August 4, 1572. 70,000 were slaughtered in one day's time. When the pope heard of it, he ordered a service of thanksgiving in the church at Rome and ordered "Te Deums," the Catholic hymn of praise, to be sung in all the churches. Why? Because 70,000 individuals in the city of Paris had died at the hands of the old whore who was drunk with the blood of martyrs.

Can you imagine a road thirty



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miles in length with stakes set up along the highway about as close as telephone poles, and can you imagine the head of a Baptist on those stakes on each side of the road? Beloved, history tells us that a group of Baptists were thus beheaded, and their heads placed upon stakes along that highway for thirty miles. Surely they must have been guilty of some terrible offense against society to be thus treated. No, beloved, their crime was that they refused to bow to the heresies of Catholicism.

I wonder how many Baptist preachers today would rather have their heads cut off than to take part in an Easter service, or who would be willing to have their heads cut off rather than have their babies baptized. You know as well as I that there will be a lot of Baptists within the next few weeks that will participate in this heathen holiday of Easter. There will be dozens of Baptist preachers who will go to "good Friday" services—so-called. Beloved, we have come a long way from the time when Baptists refused to participate in such services, with the result that Rome—drunk with the blood of martyrs, beheaded them for their refusal.

X

GOD HAS NOT FORGOTTEN.

"For her sins have reached unto heaven, and GOD HATH REMEMBERED HER INIQUITIES. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled to her double." —Rev. 18:5, 6.

You may say that it seems strange that things have gone on through the years as they have, and God has allowed Rome seemingly to prosper. Listen, beloved, it is a long road that doesn't have a turning. It is a long road that doesn't have an end. Rome's day is coming. I am ready to grant that it doesn't look like Rome is being destroyed today. Rome is surely riding now on the crest of popularity by way of radio and newspapers and periodicals. By every conceivable means Rome is prospering today but some of these days God is going to turn the tables, for God says He is going to reward her doubly. Listen:

"And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall HATE THE WHORE, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and BURN HER with fire." —Rev. 17:16

The Anti-Christ, who will use Rome as his state religion until he gets power during the tribulation period, will turn on Rome and will completely destroy and annihilate her. Re-read that 16th verse and see how complete will be her destruction.

A few years ago during the war, the city of Rome was spared and she was called, "the eternal city," but when God rights the wrongs of Rome, Rome is not going to be spared. God is going to use the beast and the world system of falsehood in order to destroy her, who has destroyed the truth.

Listen to me, tonight, beloved, God isn't going to forget. When you and I and all the redeemed of the Lord have a ring-side seat in the sky watching the carnage that will take place upon the earth and see the destruction that will come upon a world that has forever left God out of consideration, we will see then the destruction of Rome. It makes me rejoice to know what the future holds in store as far as Rome and these false churches are concerned. Notice again:

"Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be ROOTED UP." —Matthew 15:13.

CONCLUSION

In view of the fact that God is going to root up all these false churches, I want to make one appeal to the saved who may be in these churches—the same appeal that our Lord made in writing this book of Revelation. Listen:

"COME OUT OF HER, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." —Rev. 18:4.

There are some saved Catholics but they are in the wrong church. They are saved in spite of it. Some Protestants are saved. They are not saved by what they have been taught. They are saved in spite of it.

You tell me, beloved, that a man is saved who believes in salvation by works or in salvation by baptism. Beloved, a thousand times, NO! In spite of what they have been taught, there are some Catholics and some Protestants who have seen the truth and have come to trust Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

Our Lord says to that man who is saved but who is in a false church, "Come out." There is a day of destruction coming and before that hour comes when Rome is completely annihilated, and before the time arrives when these harlot daughters are destroyed along with the old whore, Jesus calls upon His own to get out of such false apostate church organizations.

This is my appeal to any man who is saved, regardless of where he is, to come out of these false churches, and get into a New Testament Missionary Baptist Church that loves the Lord Jesus Christ and preaches the Word of God.

Those of you who are members of this church who have stood so nobly for the truth and who have stood for the Word of God in spite of all opposition—I urge you to get your breath a little deeper and to square your shoulders a little more, and to roll your sleeves a little higher, and to stand firm for the things of God a little longer. Some of these days we are going to be with Him and when that time comes, Rome is going to be destroyed. May God help you to be faithful in these trying days until He comes.



Religion And Prisons

(Continued from page one)

other hand, loosens a man from his sinful bonds and gives unto him a new life in which God, instead of Satan, is the recognized Head... a life in which, by following the will of the Almighty, we come to find that it is now as difficult to fail, as it once was to succeed.

Christ Is "The Key"

Spiritual regeneration is the door which opens to reveal the way to useful living, and the knowledge of Jesus Christ, by faith, is the key that unlocks the door, opening upon new vistas in the full light of salvation. And so I suggest that, if you, as an individual, want to feel secure about the return to society of thousands upon thousands of once imprisoned men, then take constructive measures now, to impress upon their minds their individual need for Christ.

Prisons—A Needy Mission Field

Believe me, the fields are white with harvest, but the labourers are pitifully few. Prisons are a needy mission field, and working them is a golden opportunity... a blessing to you and a blessing to those won to Christ as well as being a glory unto the Father. The Lord's work in prisons is shamefully neglected. There is little interest generated by Christians, in the spiritual welfare of the nation's tremendous prison population.

What Do They Do?

Men, in prison, have an abundance of time on their hands. There is nothing they have more of than time. What do they do with it? Well, they do a lot of thinking, for one thing. What they think about would shock you, (Continued on page six)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

PAGE THREE

FEBRUARY 9, 1957

Baptist Youth Witness

P. O. BOX 7

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY

BOB L. ROSS, Editor

RUTH GILPIN, Associate Editor

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

GADGETS...OR GOD?

There has never been a time perhaps in world history, when people were so wedded to temporal things as today. Perhaps one cause for this is the fact that there are more attractive temporal things than ever before. Show windows display attractive and colorful cars, television sets, electric refrigerators and a whole host of electric gadgets and devices.

The average young couple get married, and go to paying credit installments on "gadgets," which won't be paid for fully until they are about worn out. They stick their heads in the noose of debt. Often they don't have time for spiritual things, they are so busy buying and paying for material things which they are supposed to have in order to get along.

To many television has become a thing that fascinates and keeps them home, and away from church on Sunday nights. They don't need a God—they have television!

Some individuals are car crazy. A nice car becomes a god, and when Sunday comes they ramble far and wide. If God and religion are mentioned, they chant that old Devil inspired bromide about Sunday being "all the day I've got." On Sunday the beaches are full of people like that. Picnic places are full of people like that. Sunday nights the drive-in theatres are full of people like that.

Our whole nation is in a welter of materialism. Multitudes are letting material things occupy their whole time and thought. But the trouble is, material things are TEMPORAL, and the time comes when temporal things must all be left behind. What then? Where then?

A good question to ask yourself is this—are you living for the temporal and passing, or for the abiding and eternal?

Which holds the big place in your life—GADGETS...OR GOD?—Faith and Life

PREACH THE GOSPEL

A young minister in a college town was embarrassed by the thought of criticism that he was likely to receive from such a cultivated congregation.

He sought out his father, an old and wise minister, saying, "Father, I find it hard to outline a sermon I can preach to these people. If I cite anything from geology, there is Professor A—, the geology professor before me. If I use an illustration from ancient history, there is Professor B— ready to trip me up. If I choose English literature for some reference, I am afraid the whole English department will rise up and challenge me. What shall I do?"

The sagacious and Godly man replied: "Preach the gospel, Son! They probably know very little about that."

Boy's Fully Dressed Body Found Inside A Shark

Japanese newspapers reported on November 1, 1955, that the body of a boy 13 years of age, still clad in a shirt and white linen pants, was found in a 2,000 pound shark caught near Nagasaki.

This incident satisfactorily disposes of the false statement often made by Bible-haters that there is no fish with a throat large enough to swallow a person.

Even apart from this, and similar incidents, it is stupid on the part of an otherwise intelligent person to assert that Almighty God could not create a fish capable of swallowing a man.

Translators of the Scriptures have used the word "whale" in connection with Jonah's experience (Matthew 12:40); but what the Word actually says is: "The Lord had prepared a great fish" to swallow Jonah (Jonah 1:17).

It is interesting to observe that

some of the more recent translations do not have the word "whale" in the passage in Matthew. Such expressions as "sea beast," "sea-monster," and "the great fish" are being used instead. For example, J. B. Phillips renders the verse thus: "For just as Jonah was in that great fish's belly for three days and nights, so will the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth for three days and nights."

The one and only sign which our Lord gave the sign-seekers has been literally fulfilled; for He was crucified for our sins, buried out of sight for three days and nights, and rose again in fulfillment of the sign.

Let us not be like the many who after asking for a sign, and being given it, and having it fulfilled in detail, disbelieved it!

—Now

The Little Baptist

Somewhat at a loss for words leading him in the right direction, the Doctor said: "Well, Mellie, you are reported to have some very strange ideas for a Presbyterian, especially on the subject of baptism. And I wish to have a candid talk with you for the purpose of trying to correct your errors. I, as your pastor, have felt it my duty to seek this interview with you, which liberty I hope you will not construe into an offense."

"By no means," replied Mellie; "I thank you for the interest manifested, and will gladly hear all that you may wish to say. I assure you that I only desire to know the truth. I would rather be a Presbyterian than not if I could feel sure that the Bible sustained their views. I want the Bible to be my guide, and intend to try to go where it leads me."

"Well, the truth, Mellie, is that you were baptized in your infancy, and you should be satisfied with that, and give the subject no further attention," said the Doctor, in a rather impatient manner.

"But, Doctor," said Mellie, "my baptism in infancy was no act of mine, and Christ commands me to be baptized. I have recently become a believer in Christ, and I find that He has laid down my duty in plain language, and requires of me obedience. I, as you know, was wholly unconscious of what my parents did for me in my infancy, and now I cannot make it my act of obedience. For, if I understand the Bible, it teaches that all obedience must be personal and voluntary, else it is not acceptable."

The Doctor very gravely replied: "Have you never reflected on what a solemn thing it is for you to call in question what your parents did for you in placing you within the covenant of grace, whereby you were received among God's elect children and accepted a member of His church?"

"Dr. Farnsworth," said Mellie, "please take the Bible and show me where my parents are commanded to have their children baptized. That will settle the controversy, and reclaim me at once from my errors, if I am in error."

The Doctor was sensible of his situation, but to make a fair appearance, he must do something, so he said: "Some things are not expressed, but merely implied; and there are some things that must be drawn from inference."

"Is the duty to baptize believers a command or an inference?" asked Mellie.

"Clearly a command—that is, provided they have not been baptized in infancy," answered the Doctor.

"But where is this exception found, Doctor?" said Mellie. "What I want to see is a command to baptize infants."

Contrary to his expectations, the Doctor was trapped, and his

courage faltered. To be asked to show a command for the baptism of infants, when he well knew that the Bible did not contain one word on the subject, was placing him in a position that sorely puzzled him. Yet he looked as wise as he could while turning the Bible and finally read that noted text. "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

To this Mellie replied: "Yes, I have read that many times, and can't see even an inference that He baptized them. Now, they brought the children to Christ; we will accept this as a fact. Then the question is, what did Christ do? The Bible tells plainly what He did: He took them in His arms; He laid His hands on them; then, He blessed them. That is all, and we have no right to infer anything more. If He baptized them, why does not the Bible say so? Christ said to His disciples: 'Except ye repent and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.' In this text, Christ was endeavoring to teach a lesson of humility—that they should be innocent, humble, and dependent. There is no baptism in this; but, Doctor, if there is anywhere in the Bible a command to baptize infants, surely you can find it."

Dr. Farnsworth then remarked: "I suppose you have read of the jailer and his household, of Lydia and her household, and of Stephanas and his house all being baptized. And, of course, among so many household baptisms, there must have been children. We should infer that there were children in some of them, at least."

"But," said Mellie, "is it not just as easy to infer that there were not any children? It would be as reasonable, and I think much safer, to only believe what the Bible says, and no more. Suppose you were a stranger in town, and someone should tell you that Esquire Thompson and his household were baptized, or that Mr. Morris and his household were baptized, you might infer that some infants were baptized, as a matter of fact. But you see this would be a mistake, because in one, the children are all grown, and in the other, there never were any children. And if you will look into the different households in town, you will find that about one-half contain no infants."

"As regards the jailer's house, whoever may have been the members of it, it is certain that they were not infants, for they all believed and rejoiced together. And as to Lydia, it is stretching the inference rather far, it seems to me, to say that she had infant children. But the Bible settles this, leaving no room for inference. For when Paul and Silas returned again to the house of Lydia, they comforted the brethren. So whatever they were, they were called 'brethren,' and therefore were not infants."

(Continued Next Week, D. V.)

"What Saith The Scripture"

Abraham rose early to stand before the Lord, Gen. 19:27.

Abraham rose early to sacrifice Isaac, Gen. 22:3.

Jacob rose early to worship the Lord, Gen. 28:18.

Moses rose early to give God's message to Pharaoh, Ex. 8:20.

Moses rose early to build an altar to God, Ex. 24:4.

Moses rose early to meet with God at Sinai, Ex. 34:4.

Joshua rose early to lead Israel over Jordan, Joshua 3:1.

Joshua rose early to capture Jericho, Joshua 6:12.

Joshua rose early to take Ai, Joshua 8:10.

Gideon rose early to examine the fleece, Judges 6:38.

Hannah and Elkanah rose early to worship God, I Sam. 1:19.

Samuel rose early to meet Saul, I Sam. 15:12.

David rose early to do as his father bid him, I Sam. 17:20.

Israel rose early and found their enemies dead, II Kings 19:35.

Job rose early to offer sacrifices for his children, Job 1:5.

The Son of God rose early to go to a solitary place to pray, Mark 1:35.

Jesus Christ rose early to go to the temple to teach, John 8:2.

The people rose early to go to hear him, Luke 21:38.

The women rose early to go to the sepulchre, Mark 16:2.

"The morning is the gate of the day, and should be well guarded with prayer. It is one end of the thread on which the day's actions are strung, and should be knotted with devotion. If we feel more the majesty of life we should be more careful of its mornings. He who rushes from his bed to his business and waiteth not to worship is as foolish as though he had not put on his clothes, or cleansed his face, and as unwisely as though he dashed into battle without arms or armor. Be it ours to bathe in the softly flowing river of communion with God before the heat of the wilderness and the burden of the way begin to oppress us."—Selected

HELL!

HELL! the prison house of despair,
Here are some things that won't be there:
No flowers will bloom on the banks of Hell,
No beauties of nature we love so well;
No comforts of home, music and song,
No friendship of joy will be found in that throng;
No children to brighten the long, weary night;
No love nor peace, nor one ray of light;
No blood-washed soul with face beaming bright,
No loving smile in that region of night;
No mercy, no pity, pardon nor grace,
No water; O God, what a terrible place!
The pangs of the lost no human can tell,
No one moment's peace—there is no rest in HELL.

HELL! the prison house of despair,
Here are some things that will be there:
Fire and brimstone are there, we know,
For God in His Word hath told us so;
Memory, remorse, suffering and pain,
Weeping and wailing, but all in vain;
Blasphemers, swearers, haters of God,
Christ-rejectors while here on earth trod;
Murderers, gamblers, drunkards and liars,
Will have their part in the lake of fire;
The filthy, the vile, the cruel and mean,
What a horrible mob in Hell will be seen!
Yes, more than humans on earth can tell,
Are torments and woes of Eternal HELL!

—Catherine Dangell

NOT PEACE BUT A SWORD

It should always be kept in mind that the church is a divine family and that its loyalties sometimes cut sharply across the ties that bind earthly families together.

The cross is a sword and often separates friends and divides households. The idea that Christ always brings peace and patches up differences is found nowhere in His own teachings. Quite the contrary is true. For a man to cast in his lot with Christ often means that he will be opposed by his blood relatives and will find his true family ties only in the community of regenerated souls.

Surely it is a most desirable thing to be reared in a Christian home. When a young man or woman is thus happily situated, conversion to Christ brings no rift in the family circle but rather seals and cements the earthly ties. We see sometimes whole families from the aged grandparents to the youngest child all joyously serving the Lord, and hardly anything under the sun

could be more delightful. But it is not often so. More often the presence of a true Christian in the home, if it does not actually divide, does at least bring a serious divergence of interest and puts a real strain upon the solidarity of the household.

The weakness of much that passes for the Christian faith these days is seen in the readiness of many professed followers of Christ to make any concessions in order to "get along with people," especially with relatives and in-laws. The philosophy of mid-twentieth century Christianity is a philosophy of appeasement. Peace and unity have become the Castor and Pollux of the majority of religious leaders, and truth is regularly sacrificed on their altars. The notion that "peace on earth," as the New Testament uses the words, means concord between light and darkness is foreign to the whole traditional Christian position. Our Lord cared nothing for the good will of bad men,

nor would He alter one word of His message to stay in favor with anyone, be he Jew or pagan or even a member of His own earthly family. "For neither did his brethren believe in him" (John 7:5).

No one has understood the meaning of the cross who puts blood ties alongside the ties of the Spirit. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" (John 3:6). All fleshly relationships will be dissolved in the glory of the resurrection, including the relationship between husband and wife. For this reason our Lord said plainly that for some people it would be necessary to break family ties if they would follow Him. "Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division: for from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother in law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother in law" (Luke 12:51-53). "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:26, 27).

What Christ is saying here is that faith in Him immediately introduces another and a higher loyalty into the life. He demands and must have first place. For the true disciple it is Christ before family, Christ before country, Christ before life itself. The flesh must always be sacrificed to the spirit and the heavenly placed ahead of the earthly, and that at any cost. When we take up the cross we become expendable, along with all natural friendships and all previous loyalties, and Christ becomes all in all.

In these days of sweet and easy Christianity it requires inward illumination to see this truth and real faith to accept it. We had better pray for both before time runs out on us.—Alliance Weekly

TWO QUESTIONS

A sceptic once derided a Christian by asking him, "Say, George, what would you say if, when you died, you found there wasn't a place as Heaven after all?"

With a smile the believer replied, "I should say—well, I've had a fine time getting there anyway."

Then the Christian sent a boomerang back to the sceptic not quite so easy to answer.

"I say, Fred," he said, "what would you say if, when you died, you found there was such a place as Hell after all?"

A ROYAL GESTURE

There is a little-known story of the days when King George VI was in the Royal Navy. His personal messenger was instructed to visit his cabin at certain times every day. He was to knock and enter and, if he found the young Prince engaged, stand at attention and wait.

One day the messenger carried out his instructions and found the Prince on his knees, praying. A little embarrassed, the man stood and waited. After a few minutes the king-to-be rose to his feet, put an arm around the messenger's shoulders, and said: "If you ever find me on my knees, remember there is room for you at my side."

—Dewey Morgan

"Live as if Christ died yesterday, rose this morning, and is coming back tomorrow."



For Little Children

Nicodemus Talks With Jesus

(Read John 3:1-21).

Memory Verse: "Ye must be born again."—(John 3:7).

Nicodemus was a Jew. And he was a very important Jew, too. For Nicodemus was a Rabbi, a teacher of the Jewish religion. Nicodemus was one of the most important of all the Jewish teachers.

Nicodemus was also a very good man. He was very religious, and he lived the very best that he could. But was Nicodemus a saved man? Did religion and doing good save Nicodemus? Well, let us see what Jesus said to Nicodemus.

One night Nicodemus came to visit Jesus. And Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Verily, verily I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."—(John 3:3).

Nicodemus did not know what Jesus was talking about. He thought that Jesus was speaking of physical birth, as when a per-

son is born into this world as a little baby. But Jesus was speaking of the **spiritual** birth. Jesus said that a person must be born again.

Now, you see that Nicodemus was a good man. And you know that he was very, very religious. In fact, he was a teacher of religion, just like a preacher. But Jesus said that Nicodemus must be born again. The reason was that Nicodemus was a sinner. Sure, he was good and religious; but he was still a sinner.

You know, boys and girls, God says that everyone is a sinner. Listen:

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."—(Romans 3:23).

We may think that we are good, but God says:

"There is none that doeth good, no, not one."—(Romans 3:12).

Now, are you saved? Have you been born again by trusting the sacrifice of Jesus?

Next week we will read how Jesus told Nicodemus that a person is born again.

HUMAN EFFORT SPELLS FAILURE

The world's longest stairway leads to the summit of Taishan, a sacred mountain in China. The stairway is fourteen miles long, consists of some over 6,500 steps, and towers 5,000 feet into the air. Nearly ten hours are required by some to climb it. Some days as many as 10,000 pilgrims journey up this stairway, to pay allegiance to the supreme deity of Taoism in the temple of the Jade Emperor. Perhaps those Oriental pilgrims have the right idea, but they have the wrong method. Man does need a way up, but he cannot build it himself. Just as the tower of Babel failed, so will any other human effort fail which would lead man higher than his own righteousness. That's where the Lord Jesus Christ comes in. "I am the way, the Truth, and the Life," He said, "no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." He alone provides a way up from the murky depths of a world of sin!

—Ken Anderson

QUIET, LORD, MY FROWARD HEART

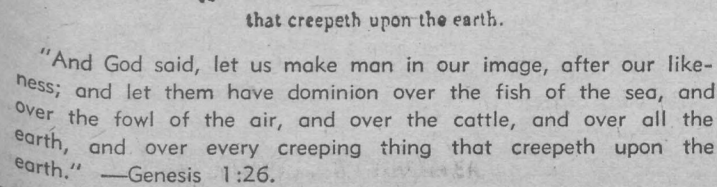
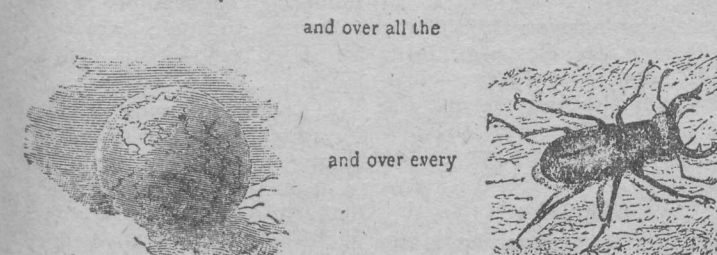
Quiet, Lord, my froward heart:
Make me teachable and mild,
Upright, simple, free from art—
Make me as a weaned child:
From distrust and envy free,
Pleased with all that pleases
Thee.

—John Newton

READ THE BIBLE BY SYMBOLS



after our likeness, and let them have dominion



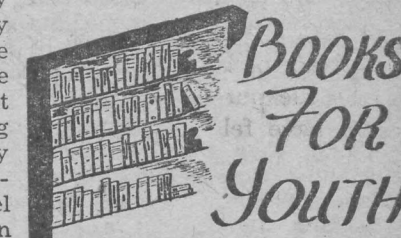
And God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." —Genesis 1:26.



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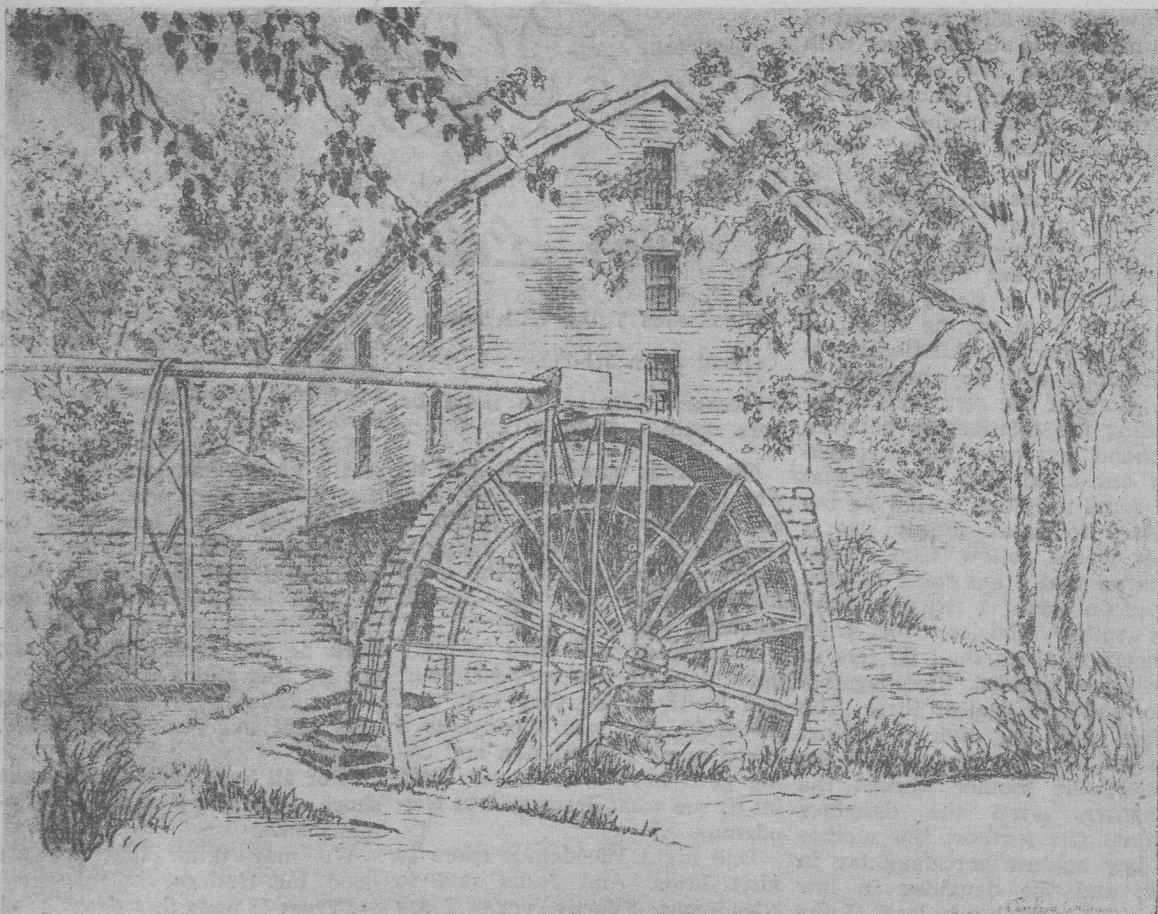
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THE OLD MILL



Old mills, similar to this one located at Mill Springs (Wayne County), Kentucky, combined the picturesque with the essential, as utilizing flowing waters, they ground grain for man and beast.

Usually the mill wheel was placed directly in the water course, but when need required, as here at Mill Springs, the water was piped to the wheel.

Just as it required power to grind grain, so it requires the power of God to carry on the work of our Lord. Listen:

Zech. 4:6: "Not by might, nor by power, but in my spirit, saith the Lord."

Luke 24:49: "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high."

Acts 1:8: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Religion And Prisons

(Continued from page three)

and, for the most part, is **unprintable**. They dwell mostly in the past because their immediate future holds nothing to inspire any particular hope. The distant future is too remote for serious consideration, while the present is something they wish to escape from, and so they re-live the past.

Men, in prison, do a great deal of **reading**. It provides a good way for passing away the lonely hours. It also provides another means for escape from the present. What do they read? Well, the greatest number of men limit their reading to that of western novels and those novels which are highly seasoned with sex.

Men, living under conditions which exist even in the most modern of the country's penal institutions, are **tense**. Their nerves are drawn taut. It is no feat for them to work up a sizable amount of **self-pity**. . . . no great task to store up bitterness. Prisons have a way of bringing the worst in men to the surface and a barrier is set up which closes in defeatism and closes out objectivism.

They Will Respond

This is not to suggest that criminals are incorrigible; praise God, this is far from being the case. No matter how deeply into sin a man may descend, he is lifted that moment he receives Jesus Christ.

If there is any man alive, who will not respond favorably, when outside interest is shown in him, I have yet to meet him, and I have met many men who would tax the patience of the strongest, but, without exception, I have seen these men mellowed by the interest and understanding shown them.

People very often suffer from a feeling that they are not understood. Allowed to grow, unchecked, such a feeling develops into a persecution complex, as is the

case with men whose twisted logic and undisciplined lives have led them to the shame of imprisonment.

Due to the fact that the average inmate harbors within himself a practiced resentment and feels himself to be objectionable, he is, very often, wary of friendly overtures and cannot therefore respond normally to kindness and interest at first. It requires time and infinite patience to reach him. Many times he will purposefully thwart your attempts to help him, **not because he does not want to be helped but because he feels it necessary to determine, for himself, whether the interest being shown is genuine aid and if the person befriending him is stronger than himself.**

When setting forth to help men in confinement with their many problems . . . men who have, by their actions, damned themselves to years of compulsory isolation from society, it should be remembered that these are not ordinary men and do not, except in rare cases, respond to a nominal dosage of interest; they require that extra encouragement even before they **want to think and act** differently than they already do. Winning the confidence and respect of this type of man is an accomplishment difficult to come by.

What You Can Do

Just about now, you may be asking yourself, what you as an individual can do that will help promote a keener consciousness of Christ in the hearts and minds of men in prison. You may pass off your individual responsibility by reasoning that we have chaplains whose duty it is to look after the spiritual welfare of prisoners and you ask, "What are they doing about the situation?"

You are quite right, every prison has a chaplain, either on full-time or part-time basis. Some of the larger institutions have more than one chaplain but, even so, in order for them to even scratch the surface in the individual needs of the men, spiritually speaking, a chaplain would require another pair of ears; six more hands; eyes in the back of his head and two more hours

would have to be added to the twenty-four hour day. He would also require a shadow that could work time and one-half.

Prison chaplains labor under the most trying of conditions. They are faced with the tremendous task of leading hundreds of men to Christ, who, for the most part, regard their efforts in their behalf with a mild tolerance.

You Can Send The Gospel

Jesus was the very begotten of the Father and endowed with all power from God, but even He called unto Himself disciples, that the Gospel might be farspread into all the nations. "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white with harvest," Jesus said.

"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few" (Matt. 9:38). This was never more aptly put than when applied to our prisons, and there are many of us, in confinement, who now count ourselves among the number in Christ's army, who, as Jesus said, "Pray unto the Lord of harvest that He will send forth labourers into the harvest."

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). Go into the dense jungles of darkest Africa; invade the pagan lands of India, China, Japan, Mexico, and Russia, and wherever they may be without Christ. Preach the Gospel message to the rich and the poor, to the wise and the backward, to the brown-skinned and the yellow, to the Jew and the Gentile, to beggar-man and thief. Here is the commission to be missionary as given to us by our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

When we send out missionaries we are doing what is pleasing to God, but while we are about the business of leading the lost to Christ let not those be forgotten who are behind prison walls . . . let it be recognized that every prison and jail throughout this country is a mission field, waiting for labourers to reap souls for Christ and in His precious Name.

We cannot all preach in the strictest sense of the word, but we can all be preachers, after a fashion. We can preach by our

FROM
SPURGEON'S
PULPIT

Preachers Are Only
"Earthen Vessels"

By Charles H. Spurgeon

On the occasion when our Lord sent forth the eleven to preach the gospel to every creature, He "appeared unto them as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen;" from which we may surely gather that, to preach the Word, the Lord was pleased to choose imperfect men; men, too, who of themselves were very weak in the grace of faith in which it was most important that they should excel.

Faith is the conquering grace, and is of all things the main requisite in the preacher of the Word; and yet the honored men who were chosen to be the leaders of the divine crusade needed a rebuke concerning their unbelief. Why was this? Why, my brethren, because the Lord has ordained evermore that we should have this treasure in **earthen vessels**, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. If you should find a perfect minister, then might the praise and honor of his usefulness accrue to man; but God is frequently pleased to select for eminent usefulness men evidently honest and sincere, but who



have manifest infirmity by which all the glory is cast off from them and laid upon Himself, and upon Himself alone.

Let it never be supposed that we who are God's ministers either excuse our faults or pretend to perfection. We labor to walk in holiness, but we cannot claim to be all that we wish to be. We do not base the claims of God's truth upon the spotlessness of our characters, but upon the fact that it comes from Him. You have believed in spite of our infirmities, and not because of our virtues. If, indeed, you had believed our word because of our supposed perfection, your faith would stand in the excellency of man and not in the power of God.

We come unto you often with much trembling, sorrowing over our follies and weaknesses; but we deliver to you God's Word, and we beseech you to receive it, not as coming from us, poor sinful mortals, but as proceeding from the eternal and thrice-holy God; and if you so receive it, and by its own vital force are moved and stirred up towards God and His way, then is the work of the Word sure work, which it could not and would not be if it rested in any way upon man.

example. We can preach by the distribution of tracts. We can preach by a program of visitation and we can preach by helping the down-trodden that they may be lifted to God and their souls won to Christ.

Daily I have occasion to speak to men about Jesus. I encourage their attendance at chapel services. Some of these men listen to whatever I have to say, but it does not make very much of an impression because I am an inmate in the same predicament as they. This is but half true for though I am an inmate, I am not quite in their predicament for I am Christ's and He is mine. There are others with whom I speak that quickly resent my approach; men do not want to face reality. To them religion is a matter of ritual, just as it is to many Christians, and concerning their souls, well most of them are not convinced that they have one. They do not believe in the eternal. They believe that there is a God but they do not believe in His power. They cannot see Him and are wont to give themselves over to anything which they are unable to see with their eyes or touch with their hands. All of this is heartbreaking, but it is true, and ignoring the facts does not improve them but only works a greater hardship.

There is an answer. God! There is a message. The Gospel of Jesus Christ! There is a Power working to bring the message into the heart of the sinner and the sinner to God. That Power is the Holy Spirit!

Chaplains

The chaplains throughout the penal systems are, for the most part, unselfishly dedicated to bringing the lost to face the issue of their spiritual condition. The task confronting them is a tremendous one; their work, unsung. They are consecrated men, with a love for souls and driven to the point of exhaustion in their

desire to see men saved and become as new creatures in Christ that they might have life and have it more abundantly, to bring them from the wages of sin into the reward of the saved. They labour under terrific handicaps but the fruit of their labour tells in the lives of those who have found Christ with the help of their prayerful guidance. But Abraham and Isaac and Daniel they are not Samsons and Goliaths to whip the enemies of Christ singlehanded, nor are they Davids to halt the flow of Satan with slingshot. They are aware of their limitations and welcome labourers to help in the harvest.

It is too easy to say that you can do nothing to help, and let it go at that. There is a mighty army of "do-nothings" who do as much to hinder the cause of Christianity, by their inactivity and indifference, as do the antagonists of Christ.

We, as individuals, may not be aware of what we can accomplish. As a church body, concentrated on the winning of souls, the possibilities are increased many times over. They are, in fact, limited only by the faith and energies employed therein.

Suggestions

By way of assistance I offer the following suggestions which, followed through, would serve the Lord wonderfully in prison work:

1. There is a constant demand for **religious literature**, which, includes daily devotionals, books with inspirational messages and magazines with Christ and Bible doctrine for their themes. Few prisons have a fund set up for such purposes as these. **Whatever is made available to the inmates comes through the interest of you Christians out there.**

2. **Bibles**, especially those with **center references**, are needed. The demand for Bibles usually exceeds the supply.

(Continued on page seven)

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ETERNAL JEWISH NATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1957

JOHN 4:1-54

JESUS AND THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

Memory Verse: "Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did; is not this the Christ?"

I. Why Jesus Left Judea. John 4:1-3.

1. The Pharisees had begun to manifest their opposition against Jesus. He, the supposed son of a carpenter, had eclipsed the fame of John the Baptist, the son of a temple priest. The Pharisees would not allow that. Their spirit of jealousy drove Him away. To cherish that spirit today will drive away our Lord.

2. Who is eligible for baptism? Note the two verbs of verse one: "made and baptized." The baptizing came after the making of disciples. First they were made disciples, while later they were baptized. This is another great verse, proving that only a believer in Christ is qualified for baptism.

3. Jesus baptized no one (V. 2). He frequently preached and prayed, but not once did He baptize. This was to show us that baptism has nothing to do with salvation. If baptism is essential to salvation, then Jesus never saved anyone.

II. The Origin of The Samaritans.

When the ten tribes of Israel were carried captive, the king of Assyria transplanted other captive people into Palestine. Cf. II Kings 17:24. These mingled with the poorer of the Jews that had been left in the land, producing this race. They combined Judaism and their oriental idolatry for religion. Cf. II King 17:32, 33, 41.

The remnant of Israel which returned from Babylonian captivity, refused to enter into an alliance with the Samaritans. Cf. Ezra 4:3. This brought about bitter hostility between the two races. Cf. Neh. 4 and 6. Eventually, through political intrigue, a rival temple was built on Mt. Gerezim, where these Samaritans worshipped.

III. The Heartless Indifference Of Israel Toward Their Semi-Heathen Neighbors.

Israel was highly privileged before God, while the Samaritans were semi-heathen, but Israel was heartlessly indifferent toward the moral needs of Samaria. Cf. vs. 9, 27. They had no concern for the spiritual welfare of this sin-blighted people. We see this same attitude expressed often by God's people who are indifferent to the cause of missions.

IV. Why Christ Went Through Samaria. John 4:4.

There were two routes from Judea to Galilee. The more direct was through Samaria, but the stricter Jews refused to take this route in order to avoid having anything to do with the Samaritans. Jesus went through Samaria because it was ordained from all eternity that He should do so. Some of God's elect were there, and they must be found. Christ was working according to the elective purposes of God. Cf. Jn. 15:16; Eph. 1:3-5; II Tim. 2:10.

V. The Humanity Of Christ. John 4:5, 6.

How truly human was the Lord Jesus. He knew what it was to be weary. Thus, He can fully sympathize with the worker today, who is worn with toil. Since He was weary in well-doing, He is able to succor us. Cf. Heb. 4:15, 16.

VI. Our Lord's Request Shows His Prudence. John 4:7.

He did not at once force religion upon her attention, nor rebuke her for her sins. What marvelous wisdom He manifested! Here is the finest example of tact in personal work that can be found.

VII. How God Times All Events.

It was no accident that Jesus passed through Samaria. It was no accident that the woman came to the well at that hour. Rather, God's hour had struck when she should meet the Saviour! Thus, God times all events for His glory. Cf. Gen. 37:27, 28; Acts 8:26-29. These are no accidents in a world governed by God.

VIII. Christ's Condescension.

Nicodemus came under cover of night in order to guard his reputation. Christ thought not of His reputation, but condescended to speak to this harlot in full light of day (V. 6—noon). Cf. Phil. 2:5-8.

IX. The Condition Of The Woman.

1. She was an immoral sinner. She had had five husbands and was then living in adultery with another man. No one is too depraved for the grace of God to save. Cf. Mt. 9:11-13; Luke 19:10; I Tim. 1:15.

2. She came to the well at the sixth hour—noon—a time when under the oriental sun, folk would be most weary and thirsty. This corresponded with her spiritual condition—she was weary and parched in soul.

3. Notice the blindness of her heart (V. 9-12). She saw nothing more in Jesus than a Jew who had nothing with which to draw water. She was ignorant that He was the Christ of God. The unsaved see Jesus only as a man—they are blinded by sin so they cannot recognize Christ as God.

4. She was as near the kingdom of God though as any other sinner. She lacked only one thing, just as all others—she needed to be born again. You could hardly find anything lower than a Samaritan adultery, nor higher than Nicodemus as a "Master in Israel," yet, before God they were both on a common level.

In 170 B. C. was the Maccabean revolt—the only time between Solomon's time and now that the Jews have had their independence as a nation.

In 63 B. C., Pompey the Great captured the city and it passed under Roman rule. God had prepared it for the coming of the Saviour — universal language, government and good roads. All had their part.

37 B. C. to 4 A. D. Herod the Great ruled and built the temple.

70 A. D. Titus the Roman conqueror destroyed the city and temple.

In 130 A. D. Hadrian rebuilt the city.

In 330 A. D. Constantine became a convert to Christianity and built the church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Invading armies have never molested that church.

In 637 A. D. Caliph Omar captured Palestine and built the Dome of the Rock where the temple stood.

It is one of the four great Mosques in the world, and 300,000, 000 Mohammedans would spill the last drop of blood they have in their veins for these Mosques. No woman is allowed in them.

In 1099 A. D. the Crusaders at the cost of ten million lives gained the Holy Land and held it until 1187 when Saladin cut to pieces their armies in the valley of Megiddo—the battle ground of the nations—and the place where the last great battle will be fought. That country remained under Moslem rule until Dec. 1917 when Gen. Allenby with his British forces took it. Then the Balfour Declaration, making possible Palestine as a place for the Jews.—D. B. Estep

dren into your hearts and God will bless you for it.

If you still insist that there is nothing you can do . . . have you tried praying? More things are wrought by prayer than this old world will ever know. Pray for the chaplains; that wisdom and patience might ever be theirs. Pray for the lost in prisons, there is almost one in every cell. Pray that Jesus Christ might come into their hearts. Pray for the saved in prisons that they may stand fast in the faith and that peace and hope may be with them.

A Question

Let me ask you this question: When, dear Christian friend, was the last time you remembered a chaplain in prayer? And still another: When was the last time you prayed for the lost in prisons? Make the next time this very moment and continue to remember them in all your prayers henceforth. Pray for them and you will have a new feeling about prisons as missions fields.

REMEMBER! Today, tomorrow and every day of the year, men are stepping out of the front doors of the prisons in this nation . . . their minds must be on something. Will it be drink? Will it be the gratification of a physical urge tormented by years of frustration? Will they be bent upon taking up the life of crime where they left it off? Will they be men with whom you need have no fear to associate? Or, will they continue to represent a threat to your peace and dignity? The answer to these questions is found in the answer to this next one. Will they be leaving the prisons with Jesus Christ in their hearts, or without Him?

If they depart from prisons, new men in Christ; the sons of God and consecrated to Him, it may be because of some little interest you have shown, some little kindness you gave to their families, or it may be because of some prayer you uttered to God in their behalf, humanly speaking.

The Jewish nation really began with the call of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3). Abraham begat Isaac, Isaac begat Jacob and Jacob begat Joseph. Joseph was sold by his brethren to Midianite merchants who sold him as a slave in Egypt. Joseph and his seed became a great nation in about four hundred years. To deliver Joseph's seed from Egyptian bondage God raised up a deliverer—Moses. He led the children of Israel for forty years in the wilderness. After his death this nation, with Joshua as its leader crossed the Jordan River into the Promised Land. For several hundred years they were ruled by judges. Then they wanted a king and God permitted them to have Saul. He reigned for forty years, and was succeeded by David who also reigned for forty years. Next was Solomon who reigned for a similar period. Then after Solomon the nation was divided into the Northern and Southern Kingdom. Each of these was captured—one by Assyria and the other by Babylon. It was Judah the Southern Kingdom that was carried into Babylonian captivity. The nation continued under Judah.

In 607 B. C., Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Jerusalem and took the Jews captive. They hung their harps on the willow bushes beside the rivers of Babylon and wept.

In 536 B. C. Cyrus issued a decree for the Jews to return to Jerusalem.

In 445 B. C., the walls of Jerusalem were rebuilt by Nehemiah and for 100 years it enjoyed prosperity.

One hundred years later it passed under Egyptian rule.

In 197 B. C., it passed under the Syrian yoke.

Religion And Prisons

(Continued from Page Six)
ceeds the supply. The same is true of New Testaments.

3. There are a number of excellent tracts that help in reaching the lost.

4. A letter of encouragement to the chaplains in the penal institutions of your state, with an offer to help in some small way, would be a source of encouragement to the heart of any chaplain.

5. Many men who come to prison, leave their families behind. Their wife and children are left to face the consequences for an inmate's felonious behavior. These women usually become cases for the welfare departments. They are allotted so much by these agencies, if they qualify, to manage a home and their children. It is almost never enough to handle the job. They must scrimp and cut out everything but the barest necessities, and in many cases even some of these must be omitted. I do not know why it is, but it seems that the married men who come to prison usually have several children and usually they are little more than tots. These children are made to suffer for something which they cannot even understand.

Many such families live near the church which you attend. Many of these women who struggle to be mother and father to their children and to keep body and soul together, are members of your churches. Do you know who they are? Have you asked them lately if they are getting along alright? Have you encouraged them to bring their youngsters to Sunday School? If they have not been attending church lately, have you bothered to ask them why. They need your fellowship. Do not discriminate because their husbands are in prison. Jesus did not discriminate, why should you? Can you, and still claim to be a Christian? Take these poor women and their children

X. Christ's Patience.

Christ bore patiently with her slowness of heart to believe. He did not reproach her for her stupidity nor deal with her roughly; rather, He manifested infinite patience.

XI. Christ Spoke Of Water As Figurative Of Salvation.

1. Water is a gift from God. So is salvation. Cf. Rom. 6:23.

2. Water is indispensable. It is not a luxury, but a necessity. So is salvation. Cf. John 3:7.

3. Water is a universal need. All are in need of salvation. Cf. Rom 3:23.

4. Water is something of which we never tire. So with salvation. It grows sweeter day by day.

5. Water is strangely and unevenly distributed over the earth. In some places, an abundance; in others, a little; in still others, much less. So with salvation.

XII. How The Devil Works. John 4:11.

The Devil tried to employ her mind with wells and buckets. He wanted to keep her mind on material things. It is thus the Devil works to keep a soul from the Saviour.

XIII. Material Things Cannot Satisfy Man's Soul. John 4:13.

You may drain earth's deepest well of comfort, luxury, pleasure, philosophy, and even religion; but still the thirst of man's soul remains unslaked. A splendid illustration of this is found in Luke 16:24.

XIV. Security Of The Saved. John 4:14.

Every soul will thirst in Hell. Cf. Luke 16:23, 24. Christ says that the one who accepts the Water of Life, shall never thirst. Thus, each believer is eternally saved. Cf. John 10:28, 29.

XV. Christ's Omniscience. John 4:17, 18.

This exhibits the Deity of Christ. None but God can know all things.

XVI. Where To Worship? John 4:19-22.

This was perhaps her greatest difficulty. Many sinners want to talk about denominations, creeds, and churches when what they need is to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ witnessed to her as to worship. He told her plainly that she was wrong, and that His worship was correct (V. 22). He was a Master in the art of proselyting.

XVII. How To Worship. John 4:23, 24.

This must be in spirit (spiritually), and in Truth (truly). Note the word "must" as used in this Gospel. John 3:7; John 3:14; John 4:24.

XVIII. The Woman's Conversion. John 4:25-29.

Hitherto, she had been interested in material things. Now she left her water-pot to witness for Christ. Spiritual interests now came first, so she left the material for the spiritual. The fact that she bore testimony as to His saving power (V. 29) is the surest evidence of her conviction. She went out to invite other sinners to come to Christ (V. 29). That should be the work of every new-born soul from the hour of conversion.

XIX. Christ Refreshed. John 4:30-34.

The disciples found Christ full of renewed energy when they returned (V. 6). They had yet to learn a great lesson. In giving spiritual blessings to others, one is blessed himself. It wasn't the results that refreshed Christ. It was the knowledge that He had done His Father's will (V. 34).

XX. The Urgency Of The Lord's Work. John 4:35.

Each Christian is to be rewarded for his service. Cf. I Cor. 3:8.

XXII. The Inter-dependence Of Christ's Servants. John 4:37, 38.

Christ's servants are mutually dependent upon each other. No one then should be puffed up by success, but should remember that he is entering into the labors of those gone before him.

XXIII. The Samaritan Revival. John 4:39-42.

A mighty work of grace was started there in Sychar by this converted harlot. God used this sinful woman to carry out His unsearchable plans. His ways are past finding out. Cf. I Cor. 1:27-29.

XXIV. The Nobleman's Son. John 4:43-54.

1. We must move on when God has work for us elsewhere (V. 43).

2. The rich have their troubles as well as the poor (V. 46).

3. This trouble was a blessing in disguise (V. 47).

4. This father was anxious about the welfare of his child. Every parent should be anxious concerning the spiritual welfare of his children.

5. Distance is no hindrance to the Lord in His work. If Christ could heal this boy ten miles away, He can give eternal life today, even though He is in Heaven.

6. This is the only instance of a nobleman coming to the Lord.

7. The father did not return home that day (V. 51, 52). He had Christ's word that the child was helped. This was sufficient.

8. God brought this boy to the point of death that the whole house might have eternal life. Such are God's mysterious ways.

Many So. Baptist Schools Deny Christ's Atonement

By BOB L. ROSS

The colleges, universities, and seminaries owned by Southern Baptists are spreading neo-orthodoxy's infidelity as to Christ's atonement more rapidly as the days go by. What was once primarily confined to the classroom is now being preached from the pulpit, as a result of modernism's hold within these institutions. And, too, many lay people within the Southern Baptist Convention are being led astray by the infidelity of the modernists and neo-orthodoxists.

These facts I know by personal experience with professors, by conversation with students, and by the writings of several Southern Baptist professors. From these sources, I have learned that the atonement of Christ has been, is, and will continue to be under attack within Southern Baptist schools, hardly without exception.

The Scriptures teach that Christ actually bore our sins in his own body; that He suffered the penalty for our sins; that He was made a curse for us; that God dealt with Christ as very sin itself. The Bible teaches, yea, it is emphasized over and over again—that our sins were laid on the Lord Jesus, and that he was punished for them, thus satisfying the justice of God against sin. Christ was our substitute.

This Biblical doctrine, Southern Baptist schools are flatly denying. New meaning is put upon the words of the Bible which refer to this cardinal doctrine. "The Blood" is an empty expression to the infidels of these schools. The "Satisfaction" doctrine of the Bible is cast out as so much nonsense. "Christ crucified" is an out-of-date message, according to these unbelievers.

"I Should Like To Know"

(Continued from page one)
gevity of life will be restored. Anyone that dies prior to 100 years of age will be considered a child. This whole section from verses 18-25 (Isaiah 65) has to do with the Millennium.

4. Explain Revelation 21:4.

Yes, there will be tears in Heaven. We'll shed tears of sorrow when we realize how little we have done in Jesus' service and tears of joy when we see Him who died for our sins to keep us out of Hell. When we realize how we have failed Him in our prayers, our Bible reading, our church attendance, our witnessing for Him, and how we have sinned so grievously even after being saved, we will have plenty of tears. However, we thank God that He will wipe them once and forever from our eyes. From then on, there shall be no more sorrow nor tears nor crying.

5. Do Isaiah 65:17 and Rev. 21:1 refer to the same event?

Both prophesy of the same event — when God cleanses the world and the heavens above us of sin and gives us then new heavens and a new earth.

6. Did you at one time say that Mr. Pink changed his theology somewhat before he died?

This is definitely true. His last book, being an exposition of the Sermon on the Mount (Mt. 5-7), is radically different from all the rest of his writings. In it he definitely preaches salvation by works. I would never encourage anyone to waste his money in buying this book nor would I give it shelf-room in my library. His exposition of John's Gospel, his "Sovereignty of God," and his book, "The Seven Sayings of the Saviour on the Cross," are invaluable to any preacher. What

And young Southern Baptist students are being puffed up with what they think is something smart and scholarly. I have talked with students who laugh at the Substitution of the Son of God. They have no place in their thinking for the glorious doctrine of the vicarious death of the Saviour. New ideas under old terms are being propagated by those who are lost and blinded by the devil.

I am not a Southern Baptist; I used to be, though. And I plead with my Southern Baptist brethren to emphasize the Blood Atonement of Christ more than ever before. Neo-orthodoxy has captured your schools. Your pulpits are being filled and refilled by young college and seminary graduates who have learned everything that they preach at the feet of a smooth-mouthed, serpentine, beguiling infidel.

If you will get into the fight against this onslaught within your own schools, you will understand why some of us are no longer in your fellowship; why we cannot conscientiously give to the program which pays the salaries of these infidels. If you will boldly stand for the verbal inspiration of the Scriptures and the substitutionary sufferings of the Lord Jesus Christ, you will be awakened to the strong grip that blatant infidelity has upon your educational institutions. But as long as you push "the Program," and keep silent, these infidels will be happy.

You don't have to take my word for it; you can find out very easily for yourself. Possibly you already know of this wickedness within the schools which you support. If so, I pray that God may give you the grace to do what you know you should do.

a shame that his book on Mt. 5-7 ever came from the press!

Yet this was not the only thing wherein he changed. After having championed the cause of Pre-Millennialism with two strong books ("The Redeemer's Return" and "The Anti-Christ") he completely repudiated these and became an A-Millennialist.

The same was true on the church question. He once was a strong Baptist and a contender that the word church never meant anything larger than a local body, yet he died a universal churchite.

7. Is there any Scripture for the church being established at Pentecost?

None whatsoever. The man who thus preaches, is telling for popularity's sake, a lie made out of the whole cloth. There is not one scintilla of evidence of anything being established on the Day of Pentecost that remotely resembled a church.

Instead, we know the church was already in existence, since they had a rule of discipline before Pentecost. Mt. 18:15-17.

They had the great commission before Pentecost. Mt. 28:19, 20.

They had a church roll. Acts 1:15.

They had an election before Pentecost. Acts 1:23-26.

The church was added to on the day of Pentecost. Acts 2:47. One can't add to that which is non-existing.

Christ sang in the church. Heb. 2:12. This took place when He instituted the memorial supper. Cf. Mt. 14:22-26.

8. Does Jer. 10:1-4 refer to Christmas?

It is obviously a reference to the so-called Christmas tree. Any man as pastor who denies this, needs a good thorough course in exegesis and eisegesis of Scripture. He may need to have his head examined also.

9. Why don't the Catholics have Christmas trees in their services?

I do not know. They have all the rest of the trappings of

Christmas, with its many heresies. It looks like they could find room for this error also.

10. Our pastor says that man can accept or reject the Gospel and that the Lord will save if the sinner will let Him do so. What do you think of such preaching?

I think your preacher preaches a big sinner and a little God. Furthermore, I know that he is not a student of the Word of God. A church is better off with no preaching, than with preaching like that. I'd rather stay home and read the funny paper on Sunday than to listen to an Arminian of his type. Read John 6:37, 44, 65.

The Cook Or The Book?

(Continued from page one)
command of God, and not entertained by the cunning of men. They were all filled with the Holy Ghost, not stuffed with stew or roast.

Oh! I would like to see the cooking squad put out, and the praying band put in. Less ham and sham and more Heaven, less pie and more piety. Less cook and more use for the old, old Book. Put out the fire in the church kitchen and build it on the church altar.

More love and more life. Fewer dinners and get after sinners. Let us have a church full of waiters, waiting on God, a church full of servers, serving God and waiting for His dear Son from Heaven.—Selected.

Life Is Important

(Continued from page one)
an argument, and to just "eat him up." He could really do that thing too! But he never sought to win a soul to Christ. In fact he let his own children grow up lost. Instead of witnessing the wonderful grace of God to the lost with the design of winning them to the Saviour—he preferred to argue the grace of God with a view to sending the advocate of falling grace or baptismal salvation away soundly defeated.

The PHARISEES were great on "doctrine." They were willing to plot to murder a man because he violated their Sabbath traditions. Jesus said that they went to the most extreme efforts—to any lengths—to proselyte people with their doctrines, then succeeded in making them "twofold more the children of hell" than they were before. (See Matt. 23:13-16). The prophet Isaiah in speaking of such, said that they drew near with their lips but were far from God so far as their hearts were concerned. (See Isa. 29:13). Their speech and doctrine was alright, but their hearts were not right.

There have been men who in their ministry harped on "doctrine"—they were good doctrinal preachers, but their churches were rotten with worldliness and sin and they never paid any attention to it whatsoever.

The writer of these lines is a thorough-going believer in election and predestination, but he realizes that there can be an overemphasis on these doctrines. A preacher can have a barren ministry and a church can have the same, by centering all thought on election. We have seen preachers who seemed scared that some non-elect was going to get into the kingdom. Hardshellism is the product of carrying election to the extreme. We who preach don't have to make election succeed. We don't have to handle God's part of it—and indeed we will make a mess of it if we try. To this preacher election is not a hindrance to evangelism and personal work—it is a stimulus, for it guarantees the kind of success that the Lord calls success. "I endure all things for the elects sake, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus." (2 Tim. 2:10).

Doctrine Not An End In Itself

A Bible student can obtain mental satisfaction through pur-

POSSUM RIDGE LETTER

dere bro gilpeens—

i got a kopy uf a paper yesterday put out by wun uf the anty sundy skulers. i set down in mi favorite cheer expectin to spend a long evenin at hom reedin. when i red what he sed i wus so dejektipated i kaled mi hound dog and went out on a hi hill to recogitate mi thots. seams like i kin think better when i git up hi. hit reminds me goin to the sity wunc and ridin a kultivater up to the top uf the bildin.

well when i got on the hill top i turned old rock loose and set down to rikolekt what i had red. hit was writ by a smart feler alrite and a good talker. why he kud talk nashuns into er out uf debt. he kud harang armies to sleep on a battlefield. he kud redoose insurrekshuns inflamashuns taxes appropriashuns er surpluses with a few wuds. he kud kall up the dogs uf war er the doves uf peece in like maner, but he didnt fule me.

this here anty sundy skule idioter told how indipendint papers wus a fightin him and atakin him. i no this aint so for u hav jist bin preechin agin his rong posishun on sundy skules.

then this anty sundy skule idioter sed he warnt goin to brake fellowship with enybody over hit. his hole artikle sounded as if he wer thru bein an anty. when i rikolekt how bro bob handled him if i wus him i wuldnt tri hit again ether. gitten run over by a ten tun truk wunc is enuf

fer most peepl.

the thing the prevoked me w this here anty sundy skule idioter wus when he sed foakes that wuz afightin him reely fightin him over the doct uf elekshun. uf korse that aint u hav preeched elekshun in dere old baptist jernel before wuz ne hi to a jun bug.

then i rikolekted that w feler sed this past sumer this anty sundy skule idioter as klen as a hounds tooth. after what he sed about u f him over elekshun frum now when i here sumbody speek im goin to ask fer all the fa about both the hound and feler.

then i thot uf mi pastur. an anty sundy skuler to. su time ago he told uf visitin indian reservashun. well in sundy skule program he is about as primitiv as the red m

out ther on top uf that wuz jist me and old rock uf the Lord. i got to thinkin uf fbi and ther ten most want football has ther ten top teen men. fashun xpurts hav ther most dressed. i guess old rock me will jist hav to git along w the ten kommandments. ef we we wont be a-tellin foakes we were bein fote on the trin uf elekshun when akshun it were sumthin else.

most foakes wud hav bele this anty sundy skule idioter im mity hard tu fule.

yer frend
i s hardtufule

OBEDIENCE BETTER THAN SACRIFICE

I Samuel 15:22

1. Saul Disobeyed—and lost a Kingdom (I Sam. 13:13, 14; 15:23).
2. Moses Disobeyed—and failed to reach the Promised Land (Num. 20:12, 24).
3. David Disobeyed—and lost

suing the study of certain doctrines. He can come to have what might be called a sort of "academic interest" in doctrine, and he can preach doctrines for his own mental satisfaction. Often when he does it, he preaches to a lot of empty benches. Doctrine should be preached with a practical purpose in mind—to reach the lost, and to develop the saved into spiritual Christians. Paul was a great exponent of doctrine, but as in the Book of Romans, he ended by making a practical application to the lives of people.

The doctrine of the Second Coming of Christ can be a thing of "academic interest" or of practical interest. John the apostle who knew more about the Second Coming than anybody else who has ever lived, for he in vision, saw it happen, taught it with a practical interest in mind. He said, "He that hath this hope in himself, purifieth himself even as he is pure." (I Jno. 3:3).

"Great On Doctrine—But—!"

We have had two persons in recent months to tell about their membership in two churches, in different states. Those churches were affiliated with a certain group of Baptists. The two persons told the same story. Both had had pastors who were well informed doctrinally, and who laid great stress on doctrine, but both were worldly men in whose lives the people had little confidence. They were both tobacco smokers, and comment was made that the preachers of that particular Baptist group are in the main tobacco slaves.

Just remember — doctrine was never designed to cause people to live loose, worldly, indulgent lives. The preacher who strongly preaches doctrine should apply it such that his people will be led to live lives of separation from the world.

the joy of his Salvation (Ps. 12).

4. Solomon Disobeyed—and Kingdom was Divided (I Kings 11:11-13).

5. Samson Disobeyed—and lost his supernatural Strength (Judges 16:17-20).

6. Jonah Disobeyed—and swallowed by a Great Fish (Jonah 1:17).

7. If a Christian Disobeys—shall lost his Reward (II Cor. 10; I Cor. 3:12-15).

PREACH TRUTH EARNESTLY

A minister visiting a penitentiary one Saturday was invited by the Christian warden to speak to the inmates the next day. The evening the minister felt impelled to go to the penitentiary to learn the details regarding service. Noting two chairs draped in black in the main assembly room, he inquired as to the reason. Said the warden, "The two chairs are draped for death. Your sermon will be the one that they will ever hear." The minister realized that Browning, Emerson figured very little in his sermon that was delivered on that occasion. There are chairs in many audiences draped for death.

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