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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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"CONFESSING CHRIST"

FRED T. HALLIMAN
Chicago, Illinois

Many people confuse publicly going forward to confess Christ with salvation. It is a fatal mistake to think that merely to go forward, shake the preacher's hand, and sit down on the front bench can change one's spiritual condition. Christ ALONE saves, and He saves only those who really stake the eternal welfare of their souls on His power to save.

While some assume there is

something of a saving nature in making a public profession, others go to the opposite extreme and think that there is no reason for a profession at all. Every saved person should make a public acknowledgement of his trust in Christ and then ceremonially profess faith in Christ by baptism.

Why Should One Confess Christ?

1. Because Christ said to confess Him. Christ said He would be ashamed of those who were

ashamed of Him... that He would confess those who confessed Him (Matt. 10:32-33). For one to claim to be a Christian, and decline to confess Christ is inconsistent. The word "Christian" means "a follower of Christ." How can men follow Him when they refuse to do the very first thing He asks them to do?

2. Because the Bible tells us to confess Christ. "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine

(Continued on page 2, column 2)

By JAMES CRACE
Piketon, Ohio

In Galatians 5:19-20 we learn that one of the works of the flesh is heresy, and this sermon will deal with a subject that can without a doubt be termed heresy. It is my intention in this sermon to bring to light some of the evils of mission boards. Since the Holy Scriptures speak nothing concerning mission boards we can only show that the work of sending out missionaries belongs to Christ's Church. Since mission boards, conventions, associations, societies and the like are foreign to the Word of God, I am sure that those of you who really love God and His Word will see the sin in supporting or approving the action of those who support these flesh-inspired organizations, when I set forth the evils produced by the unscriptural boards, etc.

The Commission Given to the Church

First of all, let us refresh our memory concerning the commission to Christ's Church. In Mat-

thew 28:19-20 our Lord said to Christ's Church, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Again in Mark 16:14-15, "Afterward he appeared unto the eleven 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, and he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

Now to prove that Christ was speaking to His church, a local, visible body of baptized (immersed) believers, is not my intention in this message, but rest assured that there is but one meaning of "ekklesia" (i.e., assembly) in the Holy Scriptures and I have just stated the true meaning when used of Christ's (Continued on page 8, column 1)

Calvary Baptist Church Invites All Who Can Possibly Attend, To Be With Us For Our Thanksgiving Services. U All Are Welcome!

TIME: THURSDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 26 — 8:30 A. M.

PLACE: MAIN DINING ROOM, VENTURA HOTEL

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"All my life, up until I read differently in TBE last year, in my ignorance, I believed that the world had been observing December 25th as the birthday of Christ ever since He was born. I know differently and thank you for the truth you gave me through the paper." Curtis H. Cox, Ohio.

"I am able to send this gift because God has made it possible. We remember you at a throne of grace always, asking that all your needs be met and that you might be encouraged in your labor of love. Sincerely, F. H. Cotton, N. Y.

"I am enclosing \$2.00 to subscribe for a friend. I hope this friend enjoys TBE as much as I do." Fred J. Wigley, Okla.

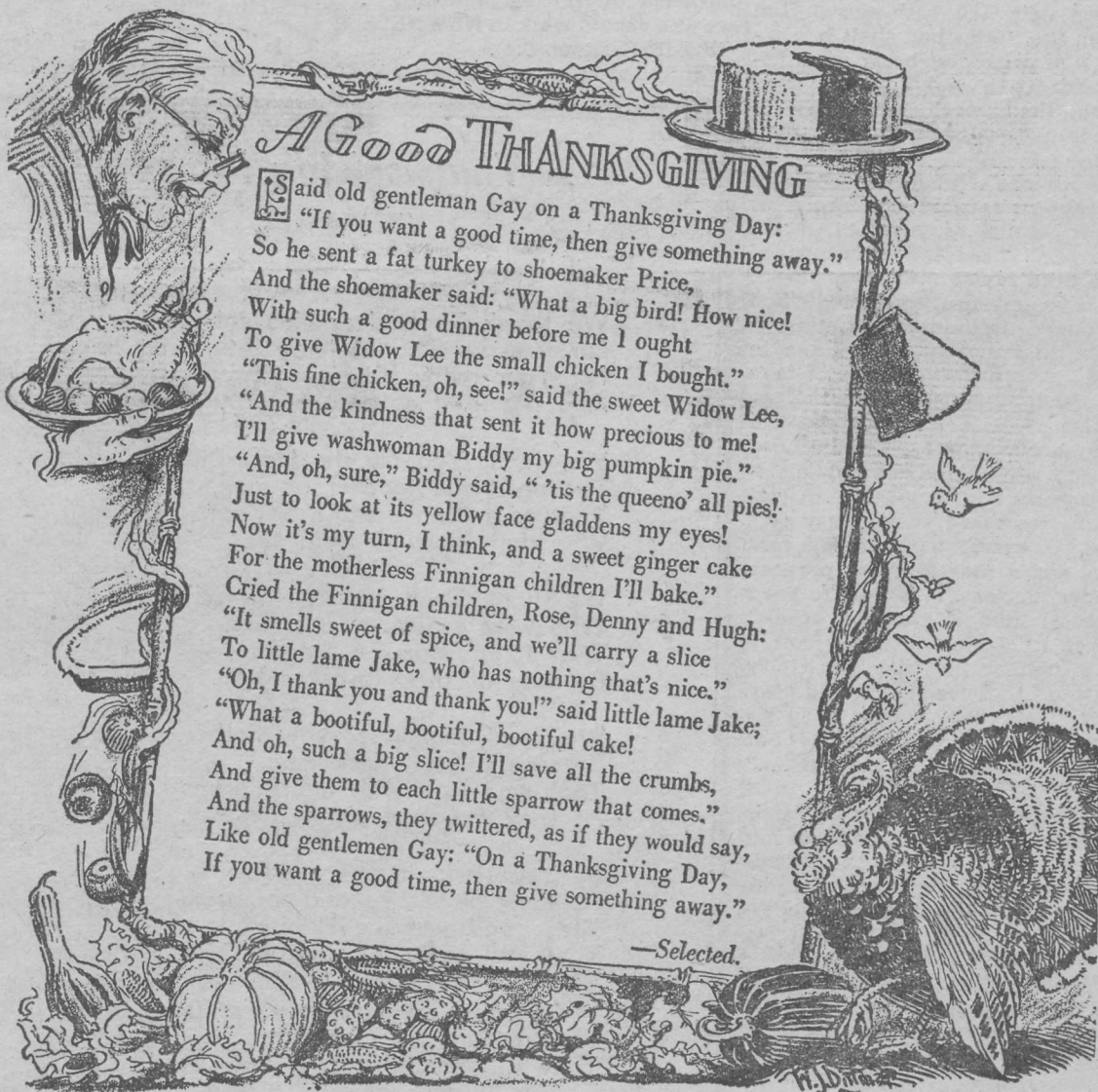
"You can not know what TBE has meant to me. I look forward to each issue of the paper. In the last three or four years, I have learned more about His blessed truths through the articles of TBE than I ever knew in all the rest of my life."

L. B. Ruth, Tenn.

Will write a few lines to let you know how I enjoyed TBE this time. I believe it was the best issue I've ever read.

When Jesus comes and frees me from this daily toil, I'll praise Him and thank Him for the edification that I receive from the Examiner.

Bro. Roy Mason's article on (Continued on page 8, column 5)



BRO. HALLIMAN TELLS HOW FUND IS PROGRESSING

October 31, 1959.

Dear Brother Gilpin:

I am just now beginning to get caught up with some of my correspondence, etc., from being gone on the trip. This week has been extremely busy for me. Apart from my regular duties at the church, I have spent much time downtown at the Passport Office.

Very soon I intend to write the first of three articles, for TBE, calculated to shed some light on the island of New Guinea, for the benefit of all who are interested to know something about the place where my family and I shall shortly be making our home and serving our Master.

The offerings for the work, for this week, are as follows:

Macedonia Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill.	\$ 60.00
Tabernacle Baptist, Tulsa, Okla.	200.00
TOTAL OFFERINGS as of 10-31-59	\$2854.31
Expenses incurred thus far in making preparations	278.55
On deposit at present	\$2575.76

Yours most sincerely,
FRED T. HALLIMAN,

Editor's Note—

It is only a short time until Brother Fred and family will leave for New Guinea. We would urge every reader to make December a month in which to send an offering for their expense in going, and their support on the mission field.

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

"THE GREAT COMMISSION"

Sermon Preached by Pastor John R. Gilpin

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Ge ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." — Mt. 28:18-20.

In the Old Testament there is a passage of Scripture which says that all of our goings are estab-

lished of the Lord. We read:

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way." — Psa. 37:23.

I am sure there isn't a one of us but what believes this passage of Scripture. I don't believe that there is any saved person who makes a step that isn't according to a well defined, well organized program on the part of Almighty God.

I would remind you also that not only does God order our steps, but He also orders our stops. Now I can't read you a verse of Scrip-

ture that says that in so many words, but I believe with all my heart that not only our steps, but our stops, are ordered of the Lord. I know of nothing that is more important to us than to keep this thought in mind as we come to study a passage of Scripture, such as my text. When I think of the fact that our Lord Jesus Christ, when He was here in the days of His flesh, launched a missionary program that would carry his own churches through to the end of the age, and when I recall that (Continued on page 3, column 1)

THE BROTHER OF HUDSON TAYLOR

There were two boys in the Taylor family. The older said he must make a name for the family, and so turned his face toward Parliament and fame. The younger decided to give his life to the service of Christ and so turned his face toward China and duty. Hudson Taylor, the missionary, died, beloved and known on every continent. "But when I looked in the Encyclopedia to see (Continued on page 8, column 1)

GOOD MOTTO FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

J. Wilbur Chapman formulated a motto which he called "My rule for Christian living." "The rule that governs my life is this: Anything that dims my vision of Christ, or takes away my taste for Bible study, or cramps my prayer life, or makes Christian work difficult, is wrong for me, and I must, as a Christian, turn away from it." Following this simple rule will help us to journey safely along life's road.

The Baptist Examiner

BOB L. ROSS

Editor-in-Chief

JOHN R. GILPIN

Editor

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All subscriptions are stopped at expiration date, unless renewed or special arrangements are made for their continuation.

We Appeal to Our Friends at This Thanksgiving Season

Another Thanksgiving season is with us, and again your editor calls upon his friends for their support for the continuance of this paper.

I need not remind our friends that this has been a most crucial year for us. This is a steel town, and for three months prior to the beginning of the steel strike, there was virtually no business, and of course, since then business has been stagnated and paralyzed.

In spite of the hardships we have had, we are happy for God's merciful goodness to us, and we look forward to a brighter tomorrow.

Just now, though, we need the help of everyone who loves the Truth. To pay our accumulated indebtedness, re-stock our shop sufficiently with paper, and do some necessary machinery repairs will require a tremendous sum.

This we have prayed for, for many months. Surely, somewhere there is someone with much of this world's goods, who loves the Truths for which we stand, who might alone be used of God to bless THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Night and day, for many months, this has been our prayer. Even if you can't answer our prayer personally, please pray with us to this end.

Even though you are unable to contribute a large sum, might it please the Lord to enable you to send us an offering. Even a small offering from many of our readers will be a tremendous blessing to us. Many times we have said, "What none of us can do alone, all of us together can accomplish." May you remember this as you give this Thanksgiving.

Heretofore the Thanksgiving offering has usually been sufficient to wipe out our accumulated indebtedness of the year. This year, only as God moves heavily upon the hearts of His people will this be possible, for our needs are far greater than ever before.

We beg that you be extraordinarily generous this year. We've done our best. We ask you to do your best. It is up to God to do the rest.

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"Confessing Christ"

(Continued from page one)

heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. 10:9-10).

With one's mouth he declares openly and speaks out freely his faith because of salvation. Again we read, "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so..." (Psa. 107:2). This verse is usually quoted when a mixed testimonial meeting is held, in order to "whip those in line" who have no desire to take in such unscripural practices. The idea is to make people feel they are sinning against the Lord if they refuse to give a public testimony in such a meeting. All of God's redeemed should "say so," but "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven... a time to keep silence, and a time to speak" (Eccl. 3:1, 7). In a mixed assembly it is neither the time nor God's purpose that women should "say so." "Let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted unto them to speak..." (I Cor. 14:34).

3. Because to confess Christ is to honor Him. Would you consider it an honor if one of your friends was ashamed to admit that he knew you? Obviously not. Perhaps you may be dishonoring Christ today by: (1) Remaining silent when you have opportunity to witness. Again I believe, there should be keen discernment as to when and where and to whom to witness. (2) By cursing and using profanity, such as Peter did. (3) By loose-living and being a slave to worldly habits.

4. Because the heart demands expression. When one is saved, there is a spiritual impulse that will cause him to speak out and tell others about it. To fail to do this is to "quench the Spirit," and there is stern warning against this (I Thess. 5:19).

How Can One Confess Christ?

1. By a public statement. That is why an invitation should be given. People should be allowed an opportunity to publicly confess Christ as Saviour and when afforded this opportunity, if they

are saved they should not be ashamed to openly align themselves with Christ and His people.

2. By water baptism. When Christ gave the Commission to His church He made it very plain that people were to be baptized when they became Christians. I would not say that a refusal to be baptized proves that one is not saved, but I do say that it does prove that if one is saved and refuses to be baptized, that one is rebellious (is not "abiding in Christ's love," and is no friend of Christ (John 15:10, 14). Again when one refuses to be baptized it shows that he has little or no desire for the gospel to be preached.

When we speak of being baptized, most naturally, we do not mean sprinkling, for that is no baptism at all. Baptism is a picture of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (Rom. 6:3-5), and no one can picture a burial and resurrection by sprinkling. In fact, it is worse to be sprinkled than to never submit to any so-called "mode" of baptism at all, for to submit to be sprinkled is to admit that Christ commanded one to be baptized, while at the same time it infers that man's authority is equal to Christ's as to the "mode" he chooses to use.

3. By a consistent Christian walk each day. For one to profess faith in Christ by baptism and then continue on in the same old sinful way is to declare a falsehood. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (II Cor. 5:17). And if "... we are buried with Him by baptism... we also should walk in NEWNESS OF LIFE" (Rom. 6:4).

(Continued on page 5, column 1)

"I Should Like to Know"

1. Are Southern Baptists—that is, the Southern Baptist Convention—in the National Council of Churches?

No, the Southern Baptist Convention is not affiliated with the NCC in the sense that the American Baptist Convention is. However, there are many agencies of the NCC which thrive among Southern Baptists. Also, many of the "border" churches belong to both Southern and American Conventions and are thus in the NCC. This is a big issue among Southern Baptist people and the liberals would like very much to get the Convention into the NCC.

2. Is it true that Roman Catholics approve of bingo and beer in their churches?

Certainly, not all Roman Catholics approve of these practices, but many of their "churches" participate in such. I was traveling through Cincinnati sometime ago, and as I looked over at a Roman Catholic building which I was passing, I saw a large billboard advertising some kind of festivities. One of the statements read: "Refreshments—Beer."

Also, several other examples could be cited to show the attitude of many Roman Catholic leaders on these things, such as the priest who blessed the brewery in Wisconsin and the church in Wichita, Kan., which was granted beer license.

3. Is the expression "simple faith" a Bible expression? I hear

it so often.

No, it is not and it often leaves a false impression. Faith is, and is not simple: it is simple after God has blessed the truth to our hearts; it is not simple in that it cannot exist without divine blessing. Jesus indicated its difficulty for man when He said that if we had faith as a grain of mustard seed we could move mountains. How few mountains have been moved!

4. Is it true that sinners resist God's Spirit?

Yes, every sinner resists God's Spirit, if He in any wise influences them. However, the elect of God do not effectually resist the Spirit, for He conquers them. And He could conquer all, if it were God's will. He is omnipotent and cannot be defeated by the puny worm, man.

5. Can a man be saved who does not really believe in his heart that Jesus is God?

On the basis of God's Word, we answer NO! Jesus Christ is the second person of the Triune Godhead, and in all attributes and characteristics is divine. When in the flesh, of course, He was also perfectly man. Therefore, we see both Man and God in Him who was the God-Man.

The Pharisees were condemned—among other things—because they believed not the divinity of Jesus Christ.

6. Will sinners want to be saved when they get to Hell?

No. They would like to get out of that place of torment, yes, but they do not desire salvation from sin. Read Revelation 9:20, 21; 16:9, 11. Men do not repent without God's working repentance in them. Hell will never work repentance.

7. Was the name "Christian" given of God?

There is no indication that it was. The term was first used in Antioch, according to the book of Acts, and most commentators agree that it was given as a term of reproach by the people of Antioch. This seems to be in Peter's mind when he said, "If any man suffer as a Christian," etc.

8. Do you think a Roman Cath-

(Continued on page 8, column 1)

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A Thanksgiving Prayer

(IN VERSE)

F. P. WOODSON, Coahoma, Texas

We thank Thee, dear Heavenly Father,
For this our Thanksgiving Day,
For Your many blessings toward us
And the light of another day.

We thank You for the Holy Bible
The only true teacher of men,
That tells of a coming Saviour
Who doth save us from sin.

We thank Thee for our forefathers
Who were so brave and true,
That fought for our freedom,
Because of their love for You.

We thank You, Heavenly Father,
Because in that dark day,
That you were with our Pilgrims
As they marched along the way.

By Your help it was possible
By their bloodshed and might
They preserved the Holy Bible
That still guides us in the right.

We thank You, Heavenly Father
For our Pilgrims of today
That still proclaim Your holy word
That guides us along our way.

We thank You, Heavenly Father
For the gift of Your dear Son
Who died on the cross of Calvary
For our sins the victory won.

We thank Thee, dear Heavenly Father
For our Children and their love,
For their hope of You and Heaven
Your eternal home above.

Oh, we thank Thee, Heavenly Father
For your grace along life's way
When we all get to Heaven
'Twill be a real Thanksgiving Day.

The Best Way To Tell Us You Are Thankful For TBE Is To Shout
So We Hear You. Money Really Talks. Your Support Is Needed Now.

Many Do Not Know About TBE. If You Love It, Others Too Might Like It. Show Your Thankfulness—Send It To Someone Else Today.

"The Great Commission"

(Continued from page one)
He took a little handful of men and pitted them against the world, it is a blessing to me to know that the Lord not only orders our steps, but our stops as well.

IT IS A CHURCH PROGRAM.

The Lord Jesus Christ said, "Go ye therefore." There are those who believe that the Lord Jesus Christ was speaking to the disciples as individuals. If He were speaking to the disciples as individuals, then this commission is not binding upon us today, for this commission automatically died when the disciples died. The very fact that the commission is still a binding commission upon us down to this very hour, is abundant and sufficient proof that this commission was given to the disciples in the corporate capacity of a church. I say then, beloved friends, that this is a church program. When Jesus

I talked to one of these persons sometime ago. He had held a revival meeting, and after the revival was over he took some twenty individuals to the river and ducked them in the water, and afterwards told them that they were free to join the church of their choice. I asked him to explain his actions, which to me were reprehensible. I asked him to give me some little explanation as to why he would do thus and so, and he said that the Lord Jesus Christ gave a commission, and he took for granted that that commission was a commission to him as an individual, and accordingly he baptized those who had professed to be saved. He acted thus just because he falsely interpreted the passage of Scripture as referring to him as an individual.

I say to you, beloved, no man has any right to go out preaching and baptizing unless he does it in the name of, and under the authority of, a local Baptist church. There is a reason for that. Listen: "Unto him be glory in the

has any authority to carry it out, to execute it, and to put it into practice.

There are some individuals who shirk their duty in this capacity as a church. They hand their duties over to an extrascriptural organization — namely, they put the work into the hands of a mission board, and that mission board attempts to carry out the mission program that Jesus Christ laid down in this great commission. Well, beloved, it is just as unscriptural for a mission board to attempt to carry out the program of world-wide evangelism and missions, as it is for an individual to attempt to carry it out apart from a church. In other words, if one individual attempts to do so it is wrong, or if a thousand or a million individuals attempt to pool their efforts together under the capacity of a mission board whereby the churches lose their identity, then it is just as wrong in that instance.

The fact of the matter is, it would be well for us always to

Misinterpreting To Justify Baptism For The Dead

ELDER ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

The Scripture Misinterpreted to Justify Baptism for Dead People (I Cor. 15:29).

The Mormons baptize living people for people who have died without baptism. I once baptized a woman following her conversion, who said that she had been baptized (?) sixty times. She had been reared in a Mormon country out west, and she was asked to be baptized in the place of persons who had died without baptism. She said, "I was strong and able to stand it, and I thought if it would do anybody any good that I would give my services."

When she was saved, baptism came to mean something to her, and she was then REALLY baptized. Baptism doesn't mean anything to an unconverted person. In fact baptism tells a lie when a person is unsaved. Baptism says symbolically, "I have died and been buried to the old life that I used to live, and now I am risen to walk with Christ in newness of life" (See Rom. 6:4).

I have baptized dozens of persons who, years before, got into the church without knowing the meaning of salvation. Later they were saved, and came to feel that they ought to have believer's baptism, so they confessed their error and asked to be received for baptism. This should always be done where a person has been saved after he was baptized.

The Mormons attach a lot of importance to baptism. They believe that it is necessary to salvation, so when someone dies without baptism they are greatly perturbed, and feel that something must be done. The way they handle it is through a proxy baptism. Some living person simply takes the place of the dead person and is baptized for him. They need Scripture justification for this, and they find in I Cor. 15:29 the passage which they use to justify their practice.

Does the passage just mentioned really teach the baptism of a living person on behalf of the dead? Of course not. If one could be baptized for somebody else, it would certainly be taught elsewhere in the Bible, but it isn't. The Mormons build their doctrine on one passage, and that passage does not teach what they force it to teach.

What Does I Cor. 14:29 Mean?

To ascertain what a Scripture means one needs first to find out what the writer is writing about. Here is the background of this verse. Some had started the false teaching at Corinth that there was to be no resurrection of the dead at all (v. 12). Paul tells them that such a doctrine does away with the doctrine of Christ's resurrection (v. 13). He shows them that if Christ has not been raised, Christianity is a fake religion. In that case they are yet in their sins; their Christian dead have perished; and their plight is most miserable (see verses 14-19). Then he affirms that Christ HAS RISEN (v. 20). That Christ has risen guarantees the resurrection of believers, for He was but the "first fruits" of the dead.

Baptism is declarative of the resurrection of Christ. It symbolizes His resurrection as well as the resurrection of the believer to

walk in the newness of life. But baptism would be a lie if Christ came not out of the grave. Paul is saying "If Christ didn't rise, then why are you baptized in the name of a dead man?" Their baptism declared the very thing that they are now denying. "Why are they baptized for the dead?" The "dead" in this case is the "dead man," Jesus, who is really dead if He failed to come out of the grave. The whole passage is designed to teach:

1. That Christ arose.
2. That baptism is a declaration of His resurrection.
3. That so surely as He arose, believers in Him will likewise arise from the dead.

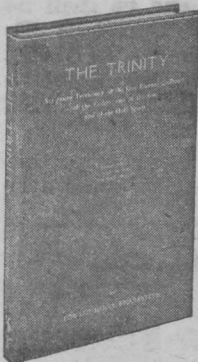
There is no thought whatsoever of such a thing as one person being baptized to take the place of someone else who has neglected it.

No Proxies in the Service of God

If a living person could perform the act of obedience in baptism, neglected by someone who has died, that would open the way for us to render all kinds of service on behalf of neglectful and unfruitful Christians who have passed on. In that case no-account Christians would receive reward in the end for things that others did for them. This is specifically denied in the Scriptures. "Every man shall receive reward for his own labor" is the teaching. "So then," we read, "everyone of us must give account of himself to God."

The Roman Catholics reverse the Mormon doctrine and teach that the "saints" have such a superabundance of merit that that merit of the dead "saints" can be applied to the living. This, too, is "phoney." All the saved are saved by grace, apart from all works, but we shall be rewarded strictly for our own labors. Works have nothing to do with salvation, but works have everything to do with rewards. It is a good thing to remember this simple statement of truth.

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said, "Go ye." He was speaking to them in the capacity of the church. It is a church program.

I do not believe that any individual has any authority to go out in the service of the Lord, and do anything, other than that for which he is directly responsible to some local Baptist church. I know individuals who preach, and when they have finished a revival meeting will induct their professors through a form of baptism, and then they will turn the individuals loose after they have thus "ducked" them, with the thought in mind, that they may join whatever church they may choose.

CHURCH by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end." — Eph. 3:21.

This verse would tell us that the Lord Jesus Christ is to get His glory through His church. It does not say that our Lord is to get His glory through us as individuals, but the organization that He has chosen to work through in this world is His church, and He is to get His glory through the workings of His church.

I say then, beloved, no individual has the authority to carry out this commission. Rather, this commission was given to the church, and nobody but a local church

remember that no church has any authority to ever re-delegate its work, yet that is exactly what happens when a mission board takes over and attempts to carry out a missionary program in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. When such takes place, it is nothing else in the world but a re-delegation of the authority that the Lord Jesus Christ delegated to His church. It is well to remember that He did not give that church authority to pass its work on to someone else.

There never was a mission board in existence until 1649, and it was at that time that the Eng- (Continued on page 4, column 1)

Only As God's People Support Us Will We Be Able To Continue Our Written Ministry. An Offering From You Will Bless Us Today.

"The Great Commission"

(Continued from page three)

lish Parliament, not a church, nor any group of churches, but the English Parliament that organized the first foreign society. I say, beloved, if the Lord Jesus Christ never organized a mission board—if He left the work of evangelism and missions in the hands of His churches, and if He got along without a mission board for 1,649 years after the birth of Jesus Christ, then it certainly is wrong for us to turn to a man-made organization to do that which the Lord Jesus Christ has delegated to His church.

I say, then, beloved, it behooves us as we turn to this passage of Scripture to remember that it was spoken not to the disciples as individuals, but it was spoken to the disciples in the capacity of a church, and no organization smaller than a church, and no organization bigger than



a church, has any right to attempt to carry out this commission, which our Lord gave unto His church.

II.

IT IS A WORLD-WIDE PROGRAM.

Our Lord said we are to go and teach all nations. We read:

"Go ye therefore, and teach ALL NATIONS, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."—Matt. 28:19.

"And he said unto them, Go ye into ALL THE WORLD, and preach the gospel to every creature."—Mark 16:15.

"And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among ALL NATIONS, beginning at Jerusalem."—Luke 24:47.

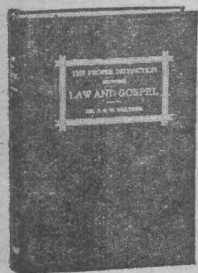
"As my Father hath sent me even so send I you. . . . Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained."—John 20:21, 23.

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost has 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."—Acts 1:8.

Here are the four Gospel accounts. (Continued on page 5, column 1)

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WE WISH YOU

A Most Blessed Thanksgiving!



"But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children." (Psalm 103:17).

"Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!" (Psalm 107:21).

On the eve of another Thanksgiving, and as I pen this letter, it is not hard for me to recall the many things that the Lord has done this year for us of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER family. I have been especially impressed by the number of blessings which I have for which to thank God.

I AM THANKFUL, above all, for my salvation. The farther I go, the more it means to me just to remember that when I was a lad in my teens, God reached down and saved my soul. From that day, I have said with David, "My mouth shall shew forth thy righteousness and thy salvation all the day." (Psalm 71:15). I realize that I could never have saved myself. I have learned along with Isaiah that "his arm brought salvation." (Isaiah 59:16). As I rejoice over my experience in Christ, and of the salvation which He has brought to me, I am more and more impressed with the words of Jonah as he said, "Salvation is of the Lord." (Jonah 2:9).

I AM THANKFUL for freedom we have in worshipping God, and editing this paper. The more I read of the nations of the world, the more I thank God for the religious liberty that He has granted. In spite of all the moral and spiritual faults which our country has, when I think of the satellite nations of the world, I thank God again and again that I am an American.

I AM THANKFUL for the measure of health that God has given me. I am ready to grant that my age (fifty-four years) is beginning to tell on me, and accordingly this past year I have had to discontinue many of my activities of the past. It appears that I have physical disabilities that I will carry with me to the end of the day—disabilities that cause me suffering every day without exception: yet with all this I thank God for the health that He has granted me. I never call on the sick and the afflicted, and never go to a hospital, without saying upon leaving, "Thank you, Lord, that I am able to walk out unassisted."

I AM THANKFUL for the material blessings God has given us. They have been so many it would be impossible to even begin to enumerate them. Whenever I recall all of God's goodness to us materially I stand amazed with the Psalmist to say, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?" (Psalms 116:12).

I AM THANKFUL for our printing shop. It means lots of work every day, and it often becomes a grief to me. Sometimes I feel that if someone wanted to steal it, I would be only too happy to help him load it. Then when I recall the multiplied pages of Christian literature that we send out each year that have been printed under our supervision, I am truly grateful for our shop. In addition to THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, among other things we have printed, within the last few months is Spurgeon's SERMONS ON SOVEREIGNTY and MARRED VESSELS by Wayne Cox. An average of nearly a million tracts a year are sent out freely for prayerful and careful distribution from our shop.

I AM THANKFUL for our written ministry. There is never a day goes by that some of our readers don't write to express their appreciation for THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Bro. Bob, who does most of the work concerning it, has truly done a magnificent job during the past year, and I bow my unworthy head to render thanks for the written ministry which God has given us as we serve our readers scattered through all 50 states and in about 25 foreign countries.

I AM THANKFUL for enemies, who mainly, have raised up in opposition to our written ministry. Years ago some philosopher said that you can judge the caliber of a man by the quantity of the folk that hate him, and the quality of the folk that love him. Since ours is a positive ministry, we do have many who oppose us, and I presume that there are many who would shout if they were to hear that THE BAPTIST EXAMINER had been published for the last time. It is amazing how God again and again rebukes these, and blesses us. That which the Psalmist said of Israel is equally true of us. "He suffered no man to do them wrong." (Psalms 105:14). On another occasion the Psalmist said, "If it had not been the Lord was on our side, when men rose up against us: Then they had swallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled against us" (Psalm 124:2, 3). Surely, this is true of us, and I rejoice to feel that within the past year God has definitely been on our side.

I AM THANKFUL for Calvary Baptist Church, tho it isn't big in the eyes of the world. It is an exceedingly little flock. Yet we are grateful to God for His goodness to us. Many are the doors that have been opened to us, and many are the seasons of rich fellowship which we have enjoyed within the past year. I have never enjoyed fellowship with any group of God's people as I have with the little group of saints of Calvary Baptist Church, and I truly thank Him for it.

I AM THANKFUL for the readers of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Truly, ours is a national and an international circulation. Day by day we hear from these readers, and their letters truly lift us by the encouraging, inspiring, and stimulating words which they contain. How good it is to know that God has allowed our little church to send out the Word through the printed page to thousands of readers scattered over the world. While we have a very small church attendance on Sunday, there is no church in America that comparatively has as great and widespread ministry as ours. Approximately 40,000 people every week have access to our paper, and that in itself is no small ministry.

I AM THANKFUL for our friends, both old and new, God has given us. I just don't know how we would get along without these friends to encourage us. Some of our friends have written us, and contributed to the on-going of our paper for many years, yet we have never seen them. In the providence of God, we doubtless will not see many of them in this life, but it will be a blessed time of meeting in the air, on that day, when we go "up" to be with Him. What a blessed privilege it is that God has given us these friends, who love the Truth, even though they are scattered far and wide over the globe!

I AM THANKFUL for the seasons of spirituality and the times of answered prayer that God has given us this year. I don't believe that I have had as many answered prayers as in some previous years, but I can say that I have had far more seasons of deep spirituality than ever before. As I think of these, with the Psalmist I rejoice, "For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness." (Psalm 107:9).

I AM THANKFUL for Brother Halliman, whom God has called as a missionary to New Guinea, and for the privilege we have to tell our friends of him and his work. It is good that we can be a link between the missionary on the foreign field and the churches at home. How thankful I am for Brother Fred and his family. They need the prayers of God's people, as they are going to go thousands of miles from home to spend—well, no one knows how long; maybe a lifetime. We do hope it is the Lord's will that we see Brother Fred again on these shores, however, and if not here, we know we shall meet in Glory. Both churches and individuals should get behind Fred and keep him in good shape as to his work's support. Are you one of those privileged ones whom God has burdened for this work?

I AM THANKFUL for my family. Mrs. Gilpin and I rejoice together over God's goodness to us. We have three children—of course, they are all married and have families of their own—and we truly thank God for all of them. John Jr., and his wife and four children live just two doors from us, while Bob and Ruth and their two children live next door. My oldest daughter Rhoda, and her husband, John Smith, and their two children live not far from us. Often our family meets together for a season of fellowship—especially during the summer months. Most everyone is thankful for the family that God gives him. Yet I feel that I have just a little more for which to thank God for, in this respect, than the average individual. What a blessing it is to me, when Sunday morning, Sunday night, and Wednesday night comes, to look about and see my family united with me, serving the Lord in God's house. God has given us three fine children and the two finest son-in-laws and daughter-in-law that we could ask for. Truly, we thank God for a united family in Christ.

I AM THANKFUL for the blessings which God has given us as a church during the past year. Five preacher brethren have been ordained and sent forth into the ministry of our Lord, namely: Eddie Garrett, Hamilton, Ohio; Jerry Locher, Springfield, Ohio; Jim Blair, Ferndale, Washington; James Thorne, Richmond, Michigan; and Wayne Crow, Anchorage, Alaska. Who could ask for a greater blessing than this—five fine Baptist preachers sent forth in His service. Likewise, two churches have been organized out of our church; Grace Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo., now pastored by Richard Smith, and the New Testament Baptist Church, Hamilton, Ohio, pastored by Eddie Garrett. I just don't know how to find words sufficient to thank God for the honour that He has granted us, relative to these whom we have ordained and for the churches that we have organized.

I AM THANKFUL for the many miles which we have travelled in His service. In my own ministry, although I do not travel as much as I used to, God has given me over a million safe miles in the air, on the rails, and on the

(Continued on next page)

In Trying To Show Your Thankfulness To God This Year, Why Not Remember Our Publishing Work With A Most Worthy Offering?

"Confessing Christ"

(Continued from page two)
Many Church Members Deny Christ and Undermine His Cause

1. By neglect of public worship. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together . . . (Heb. 10:25). The church member who is lazy to get up and go to church on Sunday, or is "cumbered about many things," and stays away from church is a witness for the Devil, not God.

2. By neglect of financial support to the cause of Christ. The church member who is stingy with God has no influence over the folks. How can one fail to comply with the Bible teaching of giving and still be able to tell sinners about a Sovereign Lord. To deny the doctrine of tithing, either by word or by practice, is to deny the sovereignty of God. For one to be sovereign means that one must be sovereign over all things that pertain to the kingdom, etc., otherwise one is not sovereign. The Lord said, "All the tithe of the land is mine" (Lev. 27:30). I believe in the sovereignty of God, therefore, I believe in tithing. When I tithe I am confessing that Christ is my Sovereign Lord.

The Great Commission

(Continued from page four)
The great commission is here is a further account as recorded in the book of Acts, and of them show us that this is only a church program, but a world-wide program. We have no business in this world to stop teaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ as long as there is one man within this world who hasn't heard the story of the Son of God. It is a world-wide program that the Lord has given.

Now I am ready to grant you that there are some fields that are inaccessible. There are some fields that will accept seemingly the Word of God more readily than others. I am ready to grant

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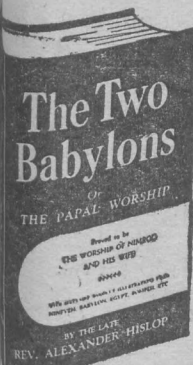
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you that some fields might be spoken of as more fertile fields than others. I am ready to grant you that that is true, and yet our Lord said that we are to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.

As the old song says: "In Christ there is no east or west, In him no north nor south; But one grand fellowship of love, Around the whole wide earth."

I am contending that it is our business to carry the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the best of our ability unto all the world so that every man shall know the truth as it is laid down within the Word of God.

I look upon our little church as having an unusual opportunity of carrying the Gospel into all the world. I look upon our church as having a tremendous opportunity of carrying out a world-wide program. We have a paper that goes into every state in the Union, and also into a number of foreign countries. The last time I counted I think it was twenty-five countries that we were reaching. As a church we have an opportunity to carry out the spirit of this great commission in a marvelous way through our paper, because we can witness to people not only in all fifty states, but in about twenty-five foreign countries as well. How we ought to thank God because of it!

It is our business to keep on preaching the Word of God to every creature in every opportune way that God gives to us, and we are to keep at the task everlastingly, until the last man in the farthest part of the earth has heard the Gospel of Christ.

Some of these days the saved of America and the saved of Europe and Asia and the saved of the islands of the sea shall join together in singing "One Lord, one faith, and one baptism," but it will never come to pass until we as a church, and all the balance of the churches of the Lord Jesus Christ, shall be faithful in the executing of this world-wide missionary program.

III.

IT IS A PREACHING PROGRAM.

The word for "teach" is the word for "disciple" or the word for "preach," so, beloved, our program is a preaching program. The Lord Jesus Christ never did send a church out to establish schools merely to train the mind. Our Lord never did send a church out to establish schools for the training of the mind in algebra and geometry and geography and in physiology and in engineering and in science. I am not saying that those things are not worthwhile, but I am saying that they have no part in the great commission. I am not saying that it

WE WISH YOU A MOST BLESSED THANKSGIVING!

(Continued from preceding page)
highway. Truly we are grateful for the safe journeys that God has given Brother Bob this year — journeys that have carried him into many states. Many are the trips that he has made, and in it all God has safely cared for him, so that he can say, "Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home."

I AM THANKFUL for the Bible Conference which God gave us in September. From seventeen states and one foreign country came our guests. Those of you who read recent issues of our paper must realize something of the blessings God poured out upon us. Those of you who were privileged to attend, know indeed the blessings God gave us. It was the greatest season of spirituality and blessing from God that the majority of those present had ever experienced. Naturally, we are planning for a similar season in 1960, and we are looking forward with a great deal of expectancy, praying that God will bless us then as in '59.

I AM THANKFUL in it all for a sovereign God. I recognize that everything that I have mentioned is a reality because God sovereignly looks down upon us and leads His dear children along. As I think how He sovereignly controls, I am reminded of the words of the Psalmist when he declares, "Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep" (Psalm 121:4).

I AM THANKFUL to be able to pen this letter, and to tell our friends of God's goodness on the one hand, and of our needs on the other. Financially I have lost most heavily this year. Only about one week out of each month have I made enough to pay expenses. The balance of the time, we have had to live on borrowed money. Of course, you know this can't go on. I am appealing today to our friends as I have never appealed before, that God would grant to us the biggest Thanksgiving offering we have ever received. I have been praying and asking God for a tremendous sum, because I know we need it, and I would urge every reader to do his utmost in our behalf with a worthy financial offering within the next few days. We have always depended on our Thanksgiving offering each year to lift our financial burdens at the close of the year. Only God knows how much we need your help at this Thanksgiving season of 1959.

I AM THANKFUL for every gift and for every giver of this past year, and in Jesus' name, I pray that you may have a most thankful Thanksgiving, and that you will enable us to do likewise as a result of the gifts you send us this year. Together, "we will bless the Lord from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the Lord" (Psalm 115:18).

Very Sincerely Yours,

John R. Gilpin

P. S. Please use the postage-free envelope enclosed in this issue, and send us an offering for our printed ministry, that will express your appreciation for the blessings you have received from THE BAPTIST EXAMINER.

Bro. Bill Stewart Recently Called Into The Ministry

We are happy to announce to our readers that God has called a man of our acquaintance into the Gospel ministry. We refer to Brother Bill Stewart of Hutchinson, Kan. Brother Bill is a member of the Temple Baptist Church of which Brother Ray Schwartz, who was with us as a speaker for our Bible Conference, is pastor. For quite a while Brother Bill has been working with the church at Hutchinson as song leader and choir director, in addition to being a deacon and church worker. Brother Schwartz has a very high regard for Brother Bill

and speaks of him in terms of high praise, as does everyone who has been acquainted with him and his efforts in the Lord's work.



ELDER BILL STEWART

isn't wonderful to have schools whereby that people can be trained in the arts and sciences and literatures of life and the languages of this world, but I am saying they are to be supported by the state, and by us as individuals, and are not in any wise at all to be considered as a part of the great commission.

At the same time, I'd like to say the same thing relative to the matter of hospitals. I know that there are individuals who say that the hospital program is a marvelous program and a marvelous opportunity to reach people for the Lord Jesus Christ. All I have to say is this, that statistics do not bear out, or back up such a statement.

Some few years ago I wrote to all of the hospitals of the Southern Baptist Convention and it was amazing to learn that the majority of them didn't even have a full time chaplain and the only one at the time that did have a full time chaplain reported only two individuals as having professed faith in the Lord Jesus Christ in the year preceding. In spite of this fact, people talk about the hospital program of Baptist people as being a missionary work.

Now I am not saying that it isn't good to have hospitals. I am not saying that we ought not support them as individuals, but I am saying that hospitals have no part in the mission program as laid down in Matthew 28. This is a preaching program, beloved. It is not a program for hospitals.

There are also individuals who believe in the orphanage program. I believe that we ought to be supporting widows and orphans, and I think we ought to support all the orphan children that we can. The Word of God says much about the supporting of widows and orphans. Listen:

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, TO VISIT THE FATHERLESS (Continued on page 6, column 1)

Brother Gilpin first met Brother Bill over a year ago when he went west for a visit with various churches. Brother Bill attended the Conference at Emporia and there Brother Gilpin made his acquaintance and friendship. Brother Bob met Bill on his recent trip to Kansas, during the 4 days he was with the Temple Baptist Church at Hutchinson. Then again at the Conference in Chicago, Brother Bob had the privilege of being with Brother Stewart. When in Chicago, Bob asked Bill to come back with him to Ashland and preach for the church here. Brother Stewart did so and was a great blessing to us, despite the fact he contracted a bad case of hives as a result of some food he ate down here. Brother Bill was one itchy fellow when he left us and was confined to a hospital for a few days for treatment after he got home.

Brother Stewart is now endeavoring to get everything out of the way so he can go wherever the Lord leads. He intends to clear away all obligations at home and cut every string loose to do the work of God. He says he is available for supply work at present, but only at a reasonable distance, as he is at the present holding down a job which cannot be left for more than a day at a time. If any church or group wants to contact him and ask him questions or have him to preach, his address is Brother Bill Stewart, care of Temple Baptist Church, Hutchinson, Kan.

Remember Bill in prayer and use him if possible.

THE ORIGIN AND PERPETUITY OF THE BAPTISTS

By Bob L. Ross

- When did the church begin?
- Was there a church before Pentecost?
- What is meant by "church perpetuity"?
- Has Christ's church always existed?
- Who started the various churches?
- Who started the Baptists?
- Did John Smyth found the first Baptist church?
- Did Roger Williams found the first Baptist church in America?
- What do leading historians say about Baptists?
- What do non-Baptists say about Baptists?

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Show Your Thankfulness This Year By An Offering Equal To The Blessings You Have Received From The Reading Of This Paper.

"The Great Commission"

(Continued from page 5)
AND WIDOWS in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.—James 1:27.

I tell you, beloved, we ought to support orphans. We ought to do everything we can to take care of every orphan that we can and keep them out of the Catholic Fondling Homes, in order that they might be brought up some way to hear the Word of the Lord Jesus Christ. However, while we are to do it as individuals, there is not one thought about missions in the orphanage program. Taking care of a widow or an orphan is a benevolent work. I say, beloved, we ought to be interested in benevolences. We ought to try our best to help everybody we can in a benevolent way, but it has nothing whatsoever to do with missions. Missions is a preaching program.

I say then that this passage of

Scripture should not in any wise at all be applied to an educational program, nor to a hospital program, nor to an orphanage program. This passage of Scripture of the great commission definitely and specifically presents to us a



preaching program of the Word of God.

IV.

IT IS A BAPTIST PROGRAM.

Jesus told this church to baptize

all those who were saved. He said, "Baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

The Lord Jesus Christ gave this commission and there was no one to give it to but Baptists. The Son of God Himself had been baptized by John the Baptist. That made a Baptist out of the Lord Jesus Christ. All the balance of the first disciples had been baptized by John the Baptist, and that made Baptists out of every one of them. So, beloved, when the Son of God as a Baptist gave this program, He gave it unto a group of Baptists who were organized in a corporate capacity as a church. Beloved, this is a Baptist program.

Please note the words of historians that you might see there were none but Baptists to whom Jesus could have given this commission.

Alexander Campbell said:

"The sentiments of Baptists and their practice of baptism from the apostolic age to the present have had a continued chain of advocates and public monuments of their existence in every century can be produced."

John Clark Ridpath said:

"I should not readily admit that there was a Baptist church as far back as A. D. 100, although without doubt there were Baptist churches then, as all Christians were then Baptists."

Furthermore, it is a Baptist program from this standpoint, that nobody but Baptists can carry it out. You couldn't in any wise at all get a Pedo-Baptist to carry out this program because they don't believe in baptism by immersion, and that is the only kind of baptism there is within this world. The majority of Pedo-Baptists believe in sprinkling. They think it is perfectly all right to sprinkle or pour upon an individual a little water, and call it baptism. I would remind you that the only group of people in this world that can carry out this program as it is laid down within the Word of God is Baptist people. It is a Baptist program.

The fact of the matter is, our Lord says that we are to baptize, and He tells who it is that we are

to baptize — none but saved people. Beloved, nobody but Baptist people carry that out. Call the roll of all the so-called churches in the world. The Campbellites believe in baptizing people in order to save them. The Congregationalists believe in baptizing people in order to save them. If you will notice the teachings of the Lutherans and the Presbyterians and the Episcopalians, they say that baptism puts the baby in the realm of the government of the church. So you will notice that every one of these organizations believe in baptismal regeneration, either on the part of infants, or on the part of adults, yet our Lord said that we are to baptize only those who believe on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

EDITOR TO PREACH FOR BAPTISTS OF CLAY, W. VA.

On the week-end of Sunday, November 22nd, your editor will preach for Calvary Baptist Church of Clay, W. Va., and he takes pleasure in inviting his friends in that area to be in the services at that time.

The saints of Calvary Baptist Church, Clay, W. Va. are wonderful folk. Many of them have been personal friends of the editor for many years, and it has been a joy, from time to time, to have fellowship with them.

I say then, beloved, this is a church program, it is a worldwide program, it is a preaching program, and it is a Baptist program that nobody but Baptists would ever be able to carry out.

V.

IT IS A DOCTRINAL PROGRAM.

Notice, the Lord Jesus Christ said, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Not only are we to preach the Word of God that folk might be saved, and not only are we to baptize and carry out the program as a group of Baptists,

but we need to remember that this is a doctrinal program that is laid down here in Matthew 28.

I haven't any right to fail to teach you the Word of God. Everything that is taught in the Bible I am to teach you. I haven't any business at any time to ignore, or leave out, any portion of the Word of God. My business is to teach you all the teachings of the Bible. I am ready to grant you that there are some things that aren't too pleasant. Our old carnal nature just naturally rebels at some of the teachings of the Word of God. Our old flesh just naturally is in rebellion against some of the things of God's Book. But, beloved, we are to teach it.

Take the place of women in a New Testament church. There isn't a doubt in my mind that a woman's place is that of absolute silence and subjection in the service of God's house. Listen:

"Let your women KEEP SILENCE in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak, but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law."—I Cor. 14:34.

"But I suffer not a woman to TEACH, nor to USURP AUTHORITY over the man, but to be in SILENCE."—I Tim. 2:12.

I grant you that that certainly goes contrary to the grain of the old flesh of the majority of Baptists. The fact of the matter is, it is just contrary to sentimentality and most people in this world would rather be sentimental than Scriptural. It just goes contrary to the old nature to talk about a woman being silent in a New Testament church, yet the Word of God said it, and I'm to teach it just because God said it within His Word.

The same thing is true concerning the Lord's Supper. I am positively convinced that the Lord's Supper is a local church ordinance. I do not believe in any wise at all that the Lord's Supper is to be taken of by any larger group than a local church.

The first Sunday after I went away to college they observed the Lord's Supper at the First Baptist Church of Williamsburg, Ky. (Continued on page 7, column 1)

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TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH THIRD AT CLEVELAND HUTCHINSON, KANS.

We of the Temple Baptist Church are grateful to our Brother Fred Phelps, who just two years ago introduced us to THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. To our knowledge, a paper of such quality did not exist.

For 20 years in my ministry, I have searched for a group of men, who not only believed but understood with an intellectual perception the doctrines of Grace, and then were loyal enough to our Christ and His Father to preach them openly as the inspired Word of God, which these doctrines surely are. I am glad to have found such in TBE's editors.

This paper controlled by a local Baptist Church, is the nerve center for many churches and pastors who wish to declare the whole counsel of God that was once for all delivered to the saints. Therefore, we the Temple Baptist Church of Hutchinson, Kansas, are declaring ourselves as supporters of this paper, which we deem one of the most important missionary efforts we have ever undertaken.



R. E. SCHWART
Pastor

SCHEDULE of SERVICES

SUNDAY SCHOOL - - - - - 9:45 A. M.
MORNING WORSHIP - - - - - 10:45 A. M.
EVENING WORSHIP - - - - - 7:45 P. M.
WEDNESDAY (Bible Study - Prayer) 7:45 P. M.

A NURSERY FOR ALL SERVICES

A CLASS FOR EVERY AGE

We would like to suggest that other churches who may have found this paper a blessing in their local work, join us in monthly support of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Is it fair for us to reap such blessings, as this paper carries, and yet let just a few carry the heavy financial burden? We believe that you will agree with us that this is a burden that we should all seek to carry together.

NOTE: This was submitted to TBE as a paid advertisement. Although we do not generally take advertising in this manner, this is of such a nature that we accepted it. In fact, a few more like it would be accepted and would help our work in a most tremendously wonderful way.

The We Are Grateful To Be Able To Edit TBE. Are You Thankful For It? Your Offering Will Be Most Deeply Appreciated At This Time.

The Great Commission

(Continued from page six)

suppose 99 per cent of the people in the service partook of the Lord's Supper that morning. I knew a lot of boys and girls who were in school, who had just gotten to school that week, who had partaken in Baptist churches elsewhere who partook of the Lord's Supper. I didn't do so. That was before I was a preacher, but I had a definite conviction before I ever called me into the ministry that a local church was to partake of the Lord's Supper and only a local congregation. After the services were over that day, I think at least twenty-five teachers and perhaps twice that many students wanted to know why I didn't partake of the Lord's Supper, and I had to explain to them why it was that I felt that individual is to take the Lord's Supper in his own church.

In I Corinthians Paul speaks of one loaf, one body, and one cup. Read I Corinthians 10:16, 17. Just one loaf of bread. Just one cup of wine, just one body to partake of that bread and wine. Say to you, it is our business to teach this doctrinal program.

Let's think of some of the doctrines that are laid down in the Word of God — the doctrine of predestination, the doctrine of predestination, the doctrine of God's providence. How distasteful these doctrines are to the unsaved. How many unsaved people there are who rebel at these truths and will never come to them as repulsive and abominable, yet God says that we are to teach them.

I think of the truth of security. There is no doctrine in all the Word of God that is more precious than the doctrine of the security of the child of God. I thank God that if you are

saved — if you are God's child, that you will be saved tomorrow and you will be saved always and forever, just because of the fact that you have been saved. In other words, when you were born into this world, you were born into the family of God, you then become a child of God and nothing can alter or change that relationship between you and Almighty God. How wonderful it is to know that when a man is saved once, he is saved eternally and forever.

The average man of the street dislikes the idea of salvation by grace and the safe keeping that comes thereby. Beloved, I say to you, regardless of whether it is liked or not it is true and it is our business to teach this doctrinal program. The Lord Jesus Christ said to get people saved, to baptize them, and to teach them "all things whatsoever I have commanded." We have no choice in the matter. It is not up to me to say, "Now I am going to teach one truth and ignore another." It is not up to me to say that I will be faithful to one truth and faithless concerning another truth. It is not for me to say that I'll preach the truths that I like and ignore the truths that I don't like. It is my business to preach the Book, the entirety and the totality of the Word of God, remembering that this is a church program, a world-wide program, a preaching program, a Baptist program, and a doctrinal program.

VI

IT IS AN AGE-LONG PROGRAM.

He said, "And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Those disciples were going to die. They weren't going to live until the end of the age. He couldn't have spoken to the disciples as individuals, but rather He was speaking to them as a church, because the church will continue until Jesus Christ comes back.

We read: "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT." — Mt. 16:18.

"And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the END OF THE WORLD." — Mt. 28:20.

Notice, He said that He would be with the church that carries out a world-wide program, a preaching program, a Baptist program, and a doctrinal program. He said that He would be with that church until the end of the age.

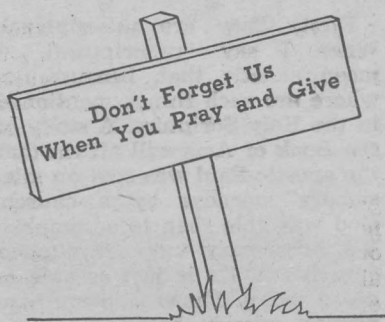
I am glad for the promise that we have here that He will be with us. I'm glad that we have this truth presented to us, that this is an age-long program. Beloved, only God can make a promise like that, that He would be with us to carry out this program unto the end of the age.

Suppose we think that we have done enough. Can we quit? Suppose we think that we have suffered enough. Shall we cease in our activities? Suppose we think that we have worked as much as the Lord wants us to work, and we will just retire and quit our service of the Lord. Can we do so? No, beloved. We need to remember this, that in a very definite way this is an age-long program and we are not to quit as long as the Lord lets us live. The

church is not to quit, but we are to keep at the job as individuals, and as a church in a collective capacity. We are to keep at the job of preaching the Gospel unto the end of the age.

Most people get to the place in life that they retire so far as active duty in their particular field is concerned. It has gotten to the place that the government seems to think that a man should be put on permanent retirement when he gets to be sixty-five, he is not responsible to work any longer. He is on retirement. You know, beloved, I am afraid that there are a lot of God's people that feel somewhat the same way. Some of God's people, I think, retire before they get sixty-five. But here is a program for His church which is an age-long program. We are not to retire, but we are to keep at the job everlastingly and eternally until the Lord Jesus Christ comes at the end of this age to catch His people away to Himself.

In the book of Joshua we read how the children of Israel crossed over the Jordan River. I am sure that you recall that it was at the flood season when the waters were overflowing the banks and



were spreading out into the lowlands roundabout. The Word of God says that when the priests that bare the ark stepped into the water, the waters up above just stopped. It didn't flow any farther, and the water down below just flowed on, with the result that the people passed over dry shod.

We read: "And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord STOOD FIRM on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, UNTIL ALL THE PEOPLE WERE PASSED CLEAN OVER JORDAN." — Joshua 3:17.

Notice, the priests stood there until the last one of those Israel-

ites were safely on the other side of Jordan.

Beloved, you and I ought to remember that this is an age-long program which our Lord has given to us and we are to carry it out until the last one of God Almighty's elect are garnered in, and the last man in this world is saved to the praise and glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I say it is a church program, it is a world-wide program, it is a preaching program, it is a Baptist program, it is a doctrinal program, and it is an age-long program. Only God could have given a program like that. When I think about the fact that only God could back it up, I am reminded of the time when the Lord led the children of Israel for forty years in the wilderness. We read:

"And I have led you forty years in the wilderness: your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and thy shoe is not waxen old upon thy foot. Ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink: that ye might know that I am the Lord your God." — Deut. 29:5, 6.

For forty years God led the children of Israel. With a wall of water on one side and on the other, He led them safely over the Red Sea. He destroyed and drowned their enemies in the Red Sea. He made the waters at Marah that were bitter to become sweet in their behalf. He gave them food from Heaven, and everywhere they went, out of that flinty rock flowed cool, refreshing water. Their clothes never wore out. Their shoes lasted throughout all of that forty years' time. Beloved, only God could have led those Jews through the wilderness.

As I was thinking about it, I made a little calculation. It is often computed that there were about three million Jews that went out of Egypt over into the land of Canaan. Imagine three million people going from Egypt to Canaan. How much food does a person eat at a meal? The average person eats about a pound at a meal. That meant that if a person would eat a pound, they would need three million pounds of food for breakfast, three million pounds of food for dinner, and three million pounds of food in the evening. In other words, these three million people, if they ate one pound of food at a meal would have needed nine million pounds of food daily.

Let's go a little further in our calculations. The average box car on the railroad will hold about 50,000 pounds of food. If it took nine million pounds of food a day for those Jews, and if you can put 50,000 pounds of food in a boxcar, then that would mean that it would take a train of 180 boxcars to haul the food in for the Jews for one day's time only. Or if you were going to bring it in for a year (God brought it day by day), you would have 65,000 boxcars loaded with food. Or if you were going to bring the food for forty years' time, you would have 2,628,000 boxcars filled with food to feed those three million Jews.

Now, beloved, the average box car is between 50 feet and 60 feet in length. How long a distance would 2,628,000 extend over? If you will take the globe and measure the earth at its equator, you will find that it would have taken a train practically around the world to provide the food for those Jews for forty years' time.

Then I got to thinking about it from another standpoint. As I

said, suppose a person ate one pound of food at a meal. How far would it reach up if you would just pile it up? You can take a can of pork and beans and you will find that an average can weighs on the average of one pound, that is, a five inch can. Now suppose you had 9,000,000 cans stacked up one on top of another. That would mean that they would go up in the air for 3,750,000 feet or 750 miles. That is just for one day. For forty years it would take a stack of cans, one on top of the other, 10,950,000 miles in the air.

Then I got to figuring from another standpoint. A carrier pigeon flies at an average rate of 60 miles per hour. Beloved, if a carrier pigeon had started from the bottom to the top of that stack of cans of food for the Jews for forty years and hadn't stopped flying but had gone from the time he started till he got to the top, it would take a carrier pigeon twenty-one years. Beloved, God provided it all.

Then I started to think about the water that they drank. They were passing through that hard flinty rocky country and there was no water except the water that God gave them. They say the human body can't survive healthfully on less than a quart of water a day. To be sure, we can survive, but not healthfully, and these folks were healthy, because when they got over on the other side God reminded them of the fact that there wasn't a sick man among them. They had at least a quart of water a piece a day. That would mean if they drank a quart of water a day it would require 750,000 gallons of water every day. That would mean if you would allow 8,000 gallons to a tank car, which is a large amount to allow for any tank car, it would have taken a train with 94 tank cars every day to bring the water that those Jews drank. I didn't figure up how many cars it would take a year or for forty years, but just imagine all the food and all the water those Jews must, of necessity, have consumed in forty years.

When they got over on the other side, they weren't hungry and they were not thirsty. They had all the food that they needed. They had all the water they needed to drink. Their feet were shod with the original shoes they started out with. Their clothes hadn't worn out. Why? Because it was God's program and God took care of them.

Beloved, this same God that led the Jews through the wilderness is the God that gave the commission in Matthew 28. I insist then that we need to remember that this commission is a church program, it is a world-wide program, it is a preaching program, it is a doctrinal program, and it is an age-long program. The same God that took care of the Jews forty years in the wilderness is able to take care of His church, as His church carries out this program as we journey here through this world. God help us to keep busy at the task of this great program that the Lord Jesus Christ has laid down for us.

May God bless you!



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"I Should Like To Know"

(Continued from page two)
olic will be elected president?

No. We still believe there are enough Americans who have sense not to do a thing like that.

9. We hear much talk of peace in our time and many preachers call on their churches to pray for peace. I am wondering if we should pray for world peace, in view of the prophecy relating to last days?

In the sense that we are urged to pray for peace today, no. We are told to pray for the peace of Jerusalem. When Jerusalem has peace, all will have peace, for Christ will be ruling on the throne from that city.

10. What is it to be "worldly?"

It is to live in conformity to the standards of men rather than the standards of the Word of God. You will notice that the world at large denounces "old fashioned ideas" and "Puritanical customs." By this they are usually simply slandering the teachings of the Word of God, not just "ideas" and "customs." When one bows to the philosophies of this world, rather than seek out from the Word of God what is proper, he is worldly. That goes for life and religion, too.



Hudson Taylor

(Continued from page one)
what the other son had done," said one, "I found these words, 'The brother of Hudson Taylor.'"

A holy life will produce the deepest impression. Lighthouses blow no horns; they only shine!



Mission Boards

(Continued from page one)
Church.

So the commission was given by Christ to His church and in no place in God's Word is the church given the right or command to throw off that commission onto a mission board or any other organization. Any missionary work carried on outside Christ's Church is done in disobedience to the Word of God. When a church sends money or any other support to a mission

board or any organization other than under a New Testament Baptist Church that church is guilty of disregarding God's Word and savoring the things of men rather than the things of God. When a church claims to be against mission boards and is willing to overlook the sin of another church that supports mission boards, in order to fellowship with them, they are guilty of disregarding the Word of God and deceiving themselves into thinking they can still have favor in God's eyes even though they savor the things of men rather than the things of God. When Christ gave the commission to His church He meant that His church was to carry out that commission and not turn the business over to a competitor with His church—a mission board.

God Is Sovereign

In the second place, God is sovereign in all things and even those Baptist churches that support mission boards say they believe God is sovereign, yet they say a missionary cannot go to a foreign field unless he goes through a mission board. What kind of a god is it that can't do as he pleases, when he pleases and how he pleases? The only true God, the creator of all things, said for His church to send missionaries and I am persuaded that He needs no unscriptural mission board to "help" Him. Jesus Christ, God's Son, redeemed God's elect by dying as their substitute and God is able to send His preachers to each and every one of the elect to tell them the good news of this redemption by the blood of Christ Jesus. God didn't mention a board or any other organization, other than His church, in His Word and He most certainly would have if He had wanted them to help His church carry out mission work.

In Eph. 3:21 God says through the apostle Paul, "Unto him (God) be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages world without end. Amen." There is no other way revealed in Scripture hereby we are to serve God than in His Church. To attempt to do missionary work through a mission board is nothing short of resorting to worldly, fleshly means to try to do God's work. Just as God was able to send Jeremiah to everyone to go to (Jer. 1:7-8), He is able to send His missionaries to everyone they are to go to, without the aid of boards, conven-

tions, associations or societies. He will use His church.

Evils of Boards

Now let us discuss some of the evils produced by mission boards and all other organizations not under a Baptist church.



ELDER JAMES CRACE

First: They are **unscriptural**. When I say "unscriptural," I mean exactly that, because nowhere are such things mentioned in the Holy Scripture. A study of the Book of Acts will affirm that the apostle Paul was sent on missionary journeys by a church. God was able then to accomplish His missionary work through a church and He is just as able to do so today. Those who are supporting mission boards ought to step such support on the very strength of the fact that they are all unscriptural and therefore ungodly organizations.

Second: Because mission boards are **not under a New Testament Church** they have no right to claim they are doing God's work. When a church sends God's money to any board or convention, the church is guilty of misusing God's money. Those men of God who have God's Word and want things done "according to the Scriptures" will not give one dime to a mission board. As a minister of God's Word, I say it is sin to give to mission boards and conventions, and those who support such are guilty of disregarding and disobeying God's Holy Word. This also ought to cause folk to stop supporting mission boards and all other work that is not under the authority of a New Testament Baptist Church.

Third: Mission boards are **controlled by men**. Contributing churches have no voice except to designate, in some cases, the use of their money to some specific person or work of the board. It is told of a man who requested that a certain mission board send him to a certain mission field to which he had been called, but the board replied that there was no established work in that area so the applying missionary would have to go to another mission field. Such things as this go far to prove that mission boards are not of God and that Baptist churches have no business supporting mission boards. I am thankful that nothing, not even a devil's mission board, can change God's purpose.

Fourth: Mission boards **fight true Scriptural missions**. Recently I observed this from a devil's mission board whose secretary has spent considerable money on long distance phone calls from "head-

quarters" to far-off places for the purpose of speaking evil things trying to keep churches from supporting our beloved brother, Fred Halliman, whom God has called to a foreign mission field. Brother Fred is going to the field under a Baptist church, the way God's Word teaches that a man should go to the mission field. When people that make up a mission board fight Scriptural missions they can be called no less than enemies of God, and God will deal with his enemies.

Fifth: Mission boards **cause otherwise sound churches to err** in regard to mission work. As a rule, when a church supports a mission board the members content themselves that they are doing that which is commanded concerning missionary work. But they are guilty of throwing off their responsibility and privilege to a man-made mission board. Those who support mission board work are erring from the truth concerning God's Word or mission work! Not only are they in error but as long as they support a mission board, they are helping an ungodly organization stay in business and in turn they are continually reducing other churches into the error of supporting them. Those who support mission boards are just as guilty as those who make up the board. Be sure your sin will find you out!

Sixth: Mission boards **cause contention between churches**. There is no better proof of the ungodliness of mission boards than to observe the contention and disfellowship between churches. Those churches that want to serve God according to the Scriptures will not have anything to do with mission boards and conventions and are thus branded as "non-cooperatives" and the like. And those who really love God's way are constrained by conviction to speak out against all evil, including mission boards, though it means "stepping on the toes" of board supporting churches. Eventually those two churches cannot walk together anymore. Though the Scripture teaches separation from erring brethren, the basic blame can be laid to the charge of the existence of mission boards. The existence of the boards wrought this break of fellowship.

Nevertheless, brethren and churches are to be blamed for supporting mission boards. Of a truth, the existence of mission boards is the cause of much evil. They cause confusion between churches and God is not the author of confusion. Everywhere can be found Baptist churches that ought to be strengthening one another, fighting each other because one chooses to support unscriptural mission boards. Will you continue to be an unscriptural cause of division by continuing to support unscriptural mission boards? Or will you turn from this way and renounce mission boards?

Seventh: Not only is contention caused between churches by mission boards but **contention IN CHURCHES** also. In most every church, there are weak brethren who think they do well to continue fellowship with erring brethren or churches, even after many attempts to restore those who are in error. Also found in most churches are stronger brethren who know that to obey is better than sacrifice and also know that when we walk according to God's Word it is bound to be of more

help to all concerned than to overlook error. I fear this to be the case many times when mission boards are involved. Some brethren take the false stand that supporting mission boards is not a serious evil, so they choose to turn on those who would live according to the Word of God, thereby bringing division in a church. But can anything be accounted more evil than that which causes strife and division in Christ's churches?

I say in conclusion that there is no good thing in a mission board or any other ungodly, unscriptural organization that men would devise to take God's word out of His church. If it is not of God, it is not good.



Now if you want to support such unscriptural organizations as mission boards, I can't stop you, but I can warn you and beseech you to turn from the evil way. I have to count you as an enemy of God's Holy Word, as far as missions are concerned. I pray for you, but I can't overlook the fact that you are using God's money in the Devil's Way.

Once again I warn you to stop disregarding God's Word and stop supporting mission boards and those who support mission boards.

The will of our Lord be done.

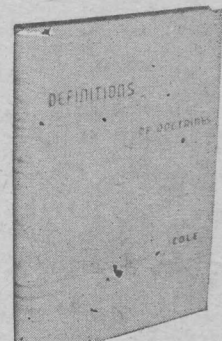
Readers Think Of TBE

(Continued from page one)
"healing" was exceptionally good and Bro. Halliman's on justification.

Since my family and I left Bro. Neal Brilhart's church in Emporia, Kansas, last March we haven't had any good preaching and TBE is oftentimes our only contact with Christian people. May the Lord bless you, Bro. R. W. Bangs, California.

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