

The Baptist Examiner

PAID CIRCULATION IN ALL STATES AND MANY FOREIGN COUNTRIES

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

Mailing Address: Box 910, Ashland, Kentucky

VOL. 29, NO. 31 RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1960 WHOLE NO. 1156

"Wonderful" Conference

One brother stated that "wonderful" was the word for our recent Bible Conference held from Friday night, Sept. 2 through Monday morning, Sept. 5. The Conference featured just about everything that could be expected at a Bible Conference. There was preaching—plenty of it—praying, fellowship, singing, baptisms, an ordination, reports on mission work, in addition to the food and other spiritual and physical blessings.

Guests came from 19 states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, with states as far away as California and Washington represented. Mr. and Mrs. John Schmidt of California drove the 2,397. (Brother Glen Tweet of Washington came by air, as did George Starling of the Virgin

Islands and Angel Alejandro of Puerto Rico).

Messages were brought (in the following order) by Bob L. Ross, Austin Fields, Henry Hall, Bob Nelson, William Crider, Ray Schwart, Arthur J. Corcoran, Wayne Cox, Scott Richardson, Gerald B. Price, John Reynolds, Neal Brillhart, Frank McCrum and John R. Gilpin. In addition to these speakers, missionary reports were given by George Starling, Angel Alejandro, and Lloyd Wyrick. Bro. Starling and Bro. Alejandro told about the work in the Caribbean area, and Bro. Wyrick—pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church in Chicago—gave the history and present state of the missionary work of Bro. Fred T. Halliman in New Guinea. A letter from Bro. Halliman to the Conference was also read,

giving his own account of the past year's experiences in getting on the field, settled, etc.

The services at the Conference were very well attended from beginning to end. There was quite an increase in number at this year's Conference over the one of 1959. However, several who had made reservations were hindered at the last moment from being able to attend.

Helping to make this Conference a success—in addition to those of our own church—were all of our guests, the speakers, Mrs. Ray Schwart (organist), Bro. Joel Caves (songleader), Bro. James Hobbs (songleader), young Johnny Hall (soloist), Bro. George Hipshire (pianist), and Bro. Joe Wilson (book salesman).

The preaching, the singing, the fellowship, the accommodations and the food were about as good as Calvary Baptist Church is (Continued on page 2, column 4)

INFORMATION PLEASE

I am endeavoring to obtain as much information as possible on the subject of wine and its use in the Lord's Supper. If any of our readers have books, pamphlets, tracts or articles on this subject, I would appreciate knowing if you would either sell or lend this material to me until I can read it. If you lend me anything, it will be carefully protected and returned when I am through with it.—B.L.R.

IN FAVOR OF A SUNDAY SCHOOL

Several months ago one of the brethren who does not believe in having a Sunday School asked me to write an article, simply stating my positive convictions as to a Sunday School. I thought the brother's suggestion was practical and I have since intended to write such an article, but am just now getting around to doing so.

First, let it be understood that this article is not an endorsement of many of the doctrines, practices, methods, etc., characteristic of many of today's Sunday Schools. I would no more defend the unscriptural things in a Sunday School than I would defend

them in a "Baptist" Church.

The simple purpose in this article will be to point out the practical value of a Bible teaching program, often and commonly called "Sunday School."

Also, let it be understood that I will not endeavor to establish a standard order or method for a Sunday School as being THE scriptural pattern. I have continually called upon anti-Sunday School brethren to show me the scriptural pattern or method for teaching the Word of God. I have asked where the Bible standardizes a particular way of performing evangelism and teaching, yet no one has yet been able to give such from the Scriptures. These brethren have rightly contended that the expression of one thing in God's Word would exclude any varying method, yet they have not revealed what is the expressed procedure in God's Word for evangelism and teaching. Of course, I here have reference to method and arrangement of audience, not to other more basic matters.

What is a "Sunday School"?

The term "Sunday School" means different things to different people. I'll not touch upon (Continued on page 2, column 1)

"My Impressions" of the 1960 Bible Conference

ARKANSAS:

"There may be as good fellowship elsewhere but am sure there is none better. Bible doctrines, therefore Baptist doctrines, are presented as our all-sufficient guide for this life and the future one. Jesus is presented as our all in all and ourselves as nothing at all. In other words, as totally depraved sinners unworthy of any favor that God in His grace bestows upon us. May the Lord make it possible for us to attend next year, if He delays His return." —Elmo and Mattie Woodson, Arkansas.

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CALIFORNIA:

"I enjoyed the Conference very much and the word 'grace' means more to me. All the good sermons mean so much to me, and we plan to share the tapes with friends on the way home who could not be here." —Mrs. Lena Schmidt, California.

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"It has been a great time of fellowship with God's people. We serve a great Saviour and it is all through His grace that we can enjoy all these blessings. Romans 8 means more to me than ever, and I will long remember all the wonderful sermons that it was my privilege to record on tape. No one will ever know this side of eternity how much good God's Word has and will continue to accomplish as the tapes are played over and over again. God bless you, Bro. Gilpin and Calvary Baptist Church, for the wonderful way that you folks administered to our physical needs." —Bro. John Schmidt, California.

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ILLINOIS:

"The first impression I received is the great truths of God's Word as presented by preachers, and the complete accord of the brethren even though they are from all sections of country. (Of course, as long as the Bible is preached, it could be no other way.) I shall never forget the hospitality of you and your gracious church. The fellowship with all people that has been mine to enjoy is beyond any words of expression that I might utter." —Herbert Etheridge, Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

"The food and fellowship were tops at the Conference. The singing touched the heart, the messages were uplifting. Never before have we been in a Conference where so much Bible was preached—so much fellowship in doctrine!" —Pastor and Mrs. A. J. Corcoran, Illinois.

★ ★ ★

"This has been a wonderful Bible Conference to me. My soul has been fed with the Word of God, so full sometimes it overflows. It taught me many things, to hear the great and true Word of God. This conference impresses me so much, that I plan to come back next year, if it is God's will. The people I have fellowshiped with are wonderful." —Harry Sanders, Illinois.

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"I enjoyed the Conference very much and plan to come and bring my family next year. I enjoyed every message and enjoyed meeting all the brothers and sisters in Christ and hope to meet them and others next year. I pray that the Lord will enable

this church, Calvary Baptist Church of Ashland, Kentucky, to have this again next year." —Harold Chapman, Illinois.

★ ★ ★

INDIANA:

"Exaltation of God as Sovereign. Adding lustre to Christ's office of Redeemer. Genuine Christian fellowship. Emphasis on the church." —G. F. Hall, Indiana.

★ ★ ★

"We were very much impressed at the Bible Conference and were fed as well on spiritual food as physical food. We enjoyed it very much and hope to come back next year." —Carroll Hunter, Indiana.

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"Our hearts were blessed and the fellowship was swell." —Ed Naegle, Indiana.

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KANSAS:

"Very favorably impressed. Wonderful Calvinistic preaching. Have received immeasurable

blessings, and feel my church will benefit thereby. My library shall have been enriched by the book bargains. Wonderful fellowship, despite human weaknesses we all have. The Lord has wonderfully blessed in all, and now at almost the close of this conference, it gets better as we go along. I hesitated about coming, but the Lord opened up the way for my family and me to come. I can truthfully say I do not regret it. We have been blessed by having been here. I trust that through our having been here, our church will support another mission field, that of the Virgin Islands. So glad we have come." —C. W. Bronson, Kansas.

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KENTUCKY:

"Accommodations the best. The air conditioned YMCA so refreshing after a sultry day. Food—very good, lots of it. John Jr. an excellent cook. The Conference—emphasis on missions, noteworthy, scriptural. Speakers—good preachers, speaking with

genuine inspiration. Fine knowledge of the Word. I liked the place given young preachers, a fine spirit of friendship and love throughout the conference. I feel I have met men who will be lifelong friends. Effect on me—desire to 'search the Scriptures to see if these things be true.' MAY I RETURN IN 1961?" —George Hipshire, Kentucky.

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"Wonderful—soul inspiring, great preaching, good singing, and wonderfully good fellowship." —Lewis C. Hall, Kentucky.

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"A fountain of spiritual strength." —Mr. and Mrs. Carl Connelly, Kentucky.

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"Good preaching, good fellowship, good meals, brotherly kindness." —Clyde F. Gooch, Kentucky.

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"My chief impression is the unity of all the people, preachers and all, on the doctrines of the Bible and church. Was the greatest thing I have ever experienced in my life with so many people believing the same thing. The best fellowship ever known." —Pastor James Everman, Kentucky.

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"Having heard the many brethren speak during this 'Bible Conference' with such a oneness of thought on the great truths of the Bible, I am made to remember the words of our former pastor, H. B. Taylor, when he said: The Bible was written by Baptists for Baptists and to Baptists, and when prayerfully studied will always make Baptists of saved people." —Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Harrell, Kentucky.

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"As I sit listening to men from widely separated parts of the U. S. A., East, West, North, and South, I think how amazing it is that they all preach and believe the same doctrines. But then it is not so amazing when I stop to think that these men are led by the same Spirit that inspired the many men who wrote the Bible without a single contradiction. But it is amazing—the amazing grace of God that made this possible." —C. T. Everman, Kentucky.

(Continued on page 3)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

"WHAT JESUS DOES WITH THE SINS OF THE ELECT"

Thirty-first in a series of Messages on Isaiah 53 — By John R. Gilpin

"And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death." —Isa. 53:9.

I need not remind you, beloved, that this is speaking about the Lord Jesus Christ. Of course the entire chapter—the totality of this fifty-third chapter of Isaiah is a pen picture relative to, and concerning, the Lord Jesus, and when it says that "he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death," it is definitely a reference to the experience of the Lord Jesus Christ in His death.

As I come to read this text I am reminded of that which I read years ago of a story in contrast. It was the story of a Russian mother in a sleigh with her six children who were being pursued by hungry wolves. In order to save her life, one at a

time she threw out her children, expecting that to stem the pack of hungry wolves. As I say, it is a story in contrast, but in the same story, the second part has to do with a Russian serf or peasant who driving with his master came face to face, with the same predicament, and in order to save his master's life, he sacrificed himself by throwing himself from the sleigh that the wolves might devour him.

Now these two incidents put together bring to us a tremendous truth. Each of these incidents show man in his desperation. The first shows what man will do for himself, and to what desperate efforts man will go himself in order to save himself. The second shows what God's Son, Jesus Christ, did to save us. I say to you, beloved friends, just

as that Russian mother threw her children one by one to the wolves in order to save her life, an unsaved man will do one thing after another in order to save his soul. He will make sacrifices, he will join the church, he will be baptized, he will turn over a new leaf, he will give to missions, he will attempt to keep the law, he will take the Lord's Supper, and he will do dozens of acts of religious devotion in an effort to save himself. Beloved, may I remind you that the only salvation that I have to offer is the same that I have preached ever since the Lord Jesus called me into the ministry—the same that has been preached by all true Baptist preachers from the days of Jesus Christ down to this present time—namely, that sal-

(Continued on page 3, column 4)

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BOB L. ROSS

Editor-in-Chief

JOHN R. GILPIN

Editor

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Examiner Editorials

(Continued from page 1)

all of these, but will say that it is my conviction that whatever is taught and practiced in a "Sunday School" should definitely be authorized by and within the bounds of Scripture. And to be thus, the following characteristics must be possessed:

1. A qualified teacher. (1 Cor. 12:28; 1 Tim. 2:15).

2. Teaching of the Word (Mat. 28:19).

3. Full respect for church authority (1 Tim. 3:15; Eph. 3:21).

On the latter point, I believe many—if not most—modern Sunday Schools are lacking. The Sunday School in many churches is an organization itself, rather than being evangelism and teaching performed by authorized teachers of the church. And this, I believe, has been one cause for much opposition to divided classes.

A true "Sunday School" then is simply a scriptural Bible school.

The Commission

Included in the commission of Matthew 28 is the "teaching" of disciples. Of course, "discipling" is done by teaching, too. Some may object and say that "preaching" is for the lost, but it seems rather foolish to argue on terminology when you can't preach without teaching. If you don't teach anything when you preach, you certainly aren't doing scriptural preaching.

Precisely how, where, and when this teaching is to be performed is not specified in the commission. We do know, however, it is to be performed in all nations through all ages by doctrinally sound, qualified teachers and such teaching is to be under the authority of Christ's church. I do not know anyone but the infidel, who objects to this.

In the divided class system, the "teaching" of the commission—whether to the lost or the

saved—may be scripturally performed. With qualified teachers, teaching the Word of God, under the authority of the church, there is no violation of any scriptural precept or pattern.

Divided Classes

The purpose for divided classes—among other things—is to teach the Word of God to as many people as possible according to the individual's needs and capacity. This system thus affords the church an opportunity for more teaching of the Word and also to teach the Word with more specific emphasis than is afforded in just a sermon alone.

In a divided class, questions may be asked, discussions held, and definitions made and clarified. Furthermore, people who are interested in specific Bible teachings or are in need of such teaching have the opportunity in a divided class they do not have elsewhere.

We will take the case of children. The SAME TRUTH of the Word of God must be presented to children IN TERMS THEY CAN GRASP. (As a matter of fact, this has to be done in many cases for adults, such as the blind, deaf, and afflicted.) Our English Bible is simply a translation and if we can translate the truth into simpler terminology, so that children can more easily understand, we should do so. It is TRUTH we are interested in getting across, not particular TERMS. If I can teach truth more effectively by adding illustrations (and what preacher or teacher doesn't use illustrations of some sort), then I will use illustrations.

Paul said that he was made all things to all men in order to save some (1 Cor. 9:22). To the Jews he became as a Jew; to the Gentiles, as a Gentile. The actions manifested and the messages delivered by Paul to the Jews were not necessarily the same as used with the Gentiles. He did, however, have the same TRUTH for both Jew and Gentile. He never betrayed or compromised truth.

So with children, we should become a child in our teaching them the truth. We must talk their language and suit their intellectual level. God and His truth are not confined to language barriers, much less to terms and phrases within a language. If God were to speak to me audibly, would He speak in a language I do not understand? Paul expressed his desire to speak words "easily understood." He would rather, he said, speak five words that were understood than ten thousand words in a foreign language.

Therefore, it is wonderful that—in addition to a general gathering of people to hear a sermon—there is also church-authorized teaching of the Bible by qualified teachers to various groups. The more the Word of God is taught, the better. It should be taught in the home, in the Sunday School, and in the preaching service. And for that matter, all other extra gatherings for study of the Bible are good, too,

so long as these gatherings are within the scriptural bounds.

An Anti-Sunday School Brother

A brother who opposes the divided class method and I were discussing this matter one time and I asked him the following: "You contend that it is wrong to divide into groups to study the Bible because this is, as you contend, dividing the body of Christ. All right, suppose you had two or three young men in your church who were called to preach and these young men asked to come to your home twice a week, in the evenings, to put in some extra study with you in the Scriptures. You would be their teacher and the Word of God would be taught. If you allowed this to take place, would you consider this to be a division of the body of Christ?"

This brother said that this was all right but was not parallel to the divided class system.

I told him that the SAME BASIC PRINCIPLE WAS INVOLVED. He contends that the chief error of the Sunday School is "dividing the body of Christ." Therefore, if on Sunday morning, before or after preaching service, Bible study classes are conducted, it is wrong, he says.

I said, "Now, brother, the only difference in those two or three young preachers coming to your house to study the Bible and the Sunday School is that YOUR ONE DIVIDED CLASS OF YOUNG PREACHERS and the divided classes of a Sunday School MEET AT DIFFERENT TIMES. BOTH are for the same purpose and both are divided classes."

In order to prove that divided classes essentially and spiritually "divide the body of Christ" one would have to prove that the body of Christ must be physically gathered in the same building or place—without any walls between them—in order to be the body of Christ. And then, if every member were not present, or if there were four or five

Michigan Pastor Greatly Impressed By Conference

Dear Brother Gilpin:

At the Bible conference you had each visitor to fill out a card to express his or her impressions. I hurriedly filled out one but the card is not big enough to contain my personal feelings. Therefore, in this letter I want to convey such.

First of all, I learned much. For example:

(1) I never realized that so many preachers throughout the country held to the historic Baptist principles and doctrines of Sovereign grace.

(2) There was preaching on subjects that I have never heard of before. This means there was preaching with conviction and fearlessness.

(3) That these men at the conference do not merely have doctrinal beliefs but they practice these truths within their own churches.

(4) I have heard many preachers say that the church is to send out missionaries and train preachers but they never do it. I was amazed at the fact that some of the most outstanding preachers of the conference received their training in their own church. These men knew more doctrine than hundreds of men that I have heard who attended Bible colleges.

Secondly, I never enjoyed better hospitality nor better fellowship. The food was delicious and in abundance. This skinny bodily frame of mine never had more food or any better tasting food. For the first time of my life I slept in an air-conditioned room. This was a treat and a novelty. Concerning fellowship, it has

is doing his part, upon the authority of the church, to fulfill the commission.

One of the objections often made to the divided class method is that there is a "mixed multitude" to teach. If this objection were valid, it would also apply to the preaching service, where there is also a "mixed multitude" of both saved and lost. On this, some try to wiggle out by saying that you preach to some and teach to others. However, as before stated, you can't preach without teaching; you can't disciple a lost man without teaching a lost man.

Furthermore, when Christ was here upon the earth, he taught the truth of God in "mixed multitudes." Yea, even when "the twelve" were gathered apart from the large crowds for deeper teaching, Judas made even that gathering a "mixed multitude."

Conclusion

In view of what has been said in the foregoing, we definitely favor Bible schools which meet the requirements set forth. We are for any teaching of the Bible which is in harmony with God's Word. Until we can be shown that there is a STANDARD method set forth in the Bible that militates against our present position, we shall continue our present practice.

been my conviction that the most sincere and genuine fellowship must be based upon doctrinal unity. I found this at your Bible Conference. In past days many fine Baptist preacher friends of mine have shown themselves friendly toward me, but underneath it all I know they do not like the fact that I am a five-point Calvinist and believe only in the local New Testament Church and not the "spooky" universal invisible church. What a privilege afforded me to fellowship with brethren of like precious faith in Jesus Christ.

Last of all, any man who stands for the truth has enemies. I have met some of your enemies (not at the conference) and they told me that even the folk in your church disliked you. What a terrible lie this is. I don't think I ever met a group of church members like you have. These folk really love their pastor. These folk were clean-living, spiritual people who put the kingdom of God first. They surely made me feel like I was at home. One young man who is a school teacher impressed me so much that I have a notion to contact our local school board and see if he couldn't move up here for a new job and unite with our church. Not one member of Calvary Baptist Church spoke a word of reproach or even implied any kind of discredit to their pastor or church.

Naturally, blessings bring responsibility. I will surely pray for the ministry of the Baptist Examiner. I will strive to support it. I will defend the doctrines that it proclaims from the Word of God.

Yours in CHRIST,
BOB NELSON

"Wonderful" Conference

(Continued from page one) capable of providing, at least for 1960. The men and women of our church worked long, hard, and diligently in preparing for the Conference and they did an excellent job, we believe, throughout this meeting.

In addition to the aforementioned features of the Conference, there was also a baptismal service, as well as an ordination. Three people—Bro. W. R. Shawl of Pennsylvania and Mr. and Mrs. George Pickett of Louisiana—were baptized by Calvary Baptist Church. Bro. Shawl is an elderly man of many years and was saved only about four years ago, although for years he had been a church member and even on the mission field at one time.

Bro. Pickett is a young preacher and in addition to receiving baptism, he was ordained as a missionary. He is going back to his state to continue in the work he has been doing for the past few months, only now he will be a full-fledged, church-authorized missionary.

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Don't Forget

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missionaries out holding services elsewhere, how could there be a united body of Christ, according to the anti-Sunday School brother's position?

Each Class—A Mission Field

So far as I am concerned, every member of a church should be a missionary (witness) for Christ in some way. Witnessing, I believe, is the duty and privilege of all saved church members. And I look upon each Bible class as a mission field where saved people are built up in the faith and unsaved people are acquainted with the truth of God's Word.

Some might object to my using the term "mission field" here, but I am within proper bounds. Whether a teacher is teaching saved people or lost people, he is fulfilling a mission. Teaching the saved is as much a part of the church's commission as teaching the lost. Therefore, when a qualified teacher teaches the Word of God in a class he

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"My Impressions"

(Continued from page one)

MICHIGAN:

"We have enjoyed the services very much. The fellowship is wonderful. We are thankful to God that we did come, and hope if there is a Conference next year that we will be able to come also."—James Thorne, Michigan.

★ ★ ★

"I look forward to the 1961 Conference. Truly this conference, and I'm sure the future ones will be no less an oasis for the redeemed."—J. Frank McCrum, Michigan.

★ ★ ★

"I found many truths here about the Baptists for which I am thankful. I gained a spiritual insight into things which should be before us at all times. I hope the Lord leads me here again."—J. Shattler, Owosso, Michigan.

★ ★ ★

"The doctrinal oneness is most impressive as well as the spiritual unity. The wonderful way everyone has been provided for is almost unbelievable. I will always remember the ministry of the Conference in all respects."—Charles Schwab, Owosso, Michigan.

★ ★ ★

"I have never found better quality preaching, nor better doctrinal preaching, therefore, the fellowship was extraordinarily wonderful. As for the abundance of delicious food and air-conditioned sleeping, I could ask nothing better."—Bob Nelson, Owosso, Michigan.

MISSOURI:

"The Bible Conference was a blessing to me. I was fed Spiritually and Physically. It was great to hear preachers preach who stand for the Truth. I am planning now towards the Conference next year."—Lee Hawkins, Missouri.

★ ★ ★

NORTH CAROLINA:

"After being here this year we are sorry we could not attend last year. The meals for both our spiritual and physical beings were nourishing. The hospitality of Calvary Baptist Church and the fellowship with believers from every part of our country, were heart-warming. We praise God for this wonderful opportunity."—Cletus and Mary Ann Snyder, North Carolina.

★ ★ ★

OHIO:

"Had a wonderful opportunity to meet many brethren, some for the first time, and discuss the doctrines of the Bible. The hospitality was tremendous by the host church."—Eddie Garrett, Hamilton, Ohio.

★ ★ ★

"I think the Conference was a glorious thing."—B. F. Scalf, Hamilton, Ohio.

★ ★ ★

"The spiritual food was excellent. The spiritual fellowship was excellent. The material food was excellent. My every need was supplied by the hosts. The whole program was excellent. May the Lord bless Calvary Baptist Church."—James Crace, Ohio.

★ ★ ★

"Many improvements over last year's Bible Conference. Everything possible had been done for our physical and spiritual welfare. I've rejoiced over this another privilege to fellowship with some of God's choice saints. Calvary Baptist Church, John R. Gilpin, and Bob Ross are doing a great job. May the Lord continue to bless them and theirs."—DeWayne Austin, Ohio.

★ ★ ★

"I have enjoyed the Conference immensely. My impression is that there are many sound Baptist preachers and churches in this country yet, and this Conference is evidence of that fact. May these conferences continue, and may God enable me to continue to attend. The hospitality

of this great church (Calvary Baptist Church) is a wonderful thing for which we are grateful."—Tom Robinson, Ohio.

★ ★ ★

OKLAHOMA:

"1. Impressed with the fellowship. 2. The preachers are all on the same level. 3. The nice rooms where we slept. 4. The fact that we did not hear a single interdenominational sermon. 5. The Bible doctrines were preached without fear. 6. The unity among the brethren. 7. Church authority concerning missionaries. 8. Appreciated very much the cooks and those who waited on the tables and the fine food."—Wm. Crider, Oklahoma.

★ ★ ★

PENNSYLVANIA:

"These days have been a building-up experience to me and my wife. The lively Bible messages kept my mind in attention. I heard preached many of the doctrines and promises which make up our faith. The meetings sounded just like THE BAPTIST EXAMINER in boldness and truth. I enjoyed our singing of the old-time hymns and the friendly fellowship. It was a pleasure to eat the well-prepared meals. They were cheerfully served. Your kind hospitality in providing all these things is certainly appreciated. Our visit with you brethren has been a great blessing. Thank you all for the comfortable lodging, too!"—Roy Sutherland, Chester, Pa.

★ ★ ★

"My impressions were made before I went to the Conference, that it was a New Testament church, and I found it to be that. Everybody treated me so good."—W. R. Shawl, Townville, Pa.

★ ★ ★

"I don't have the words to express my feelings about the Conference. I have enjoyed every moment of it. The fellowship is more than anyone could expect. Beside fellowship with the many fine brothers and sisters we met last year, we have made many more new friends. Every sermon has been a blessing. Every song and hymn a new inspiration. The talks by the missionaries should make us all ashamed of the little we do for the people who are laboring so hard in God's vineyard and on the barest existence, without anything which we at home know as the barest necessities. Would to God that all who calls themselves Christians could have attended this Conference and heard these messages. The wonderful people who did the cooking and serving have our utmost thanks. Everything was wonderful."—Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm H. Murray, Penn.

★ ★ ★

PUERTO RICO:

"Words can't possibly tell all it has meant to me. The people, the food and the Word in the Holy Spirit's power are beyond telling. Words, phrases, and slogans can lose their meaning, but southern hospitality, specially among you New Testament Baptist people, seems to increase. Thanks to all."—Bro. Angel Alejandro, Puerto Rico.

★ ★ ★

TENNESSEE:

"I consider it a great privilege and blessing from our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to attend this Bible Conference. It has been a blessing to my heart, to hear the wonderful truths in God's Word preached. So glad to know there are still some who are not afraid to preach the Word in power and truth. May God bless you and your church here."—W. P. Feathers, Bluff City, Tennessee.

★ ★ ★

"I have enjoyed the Conference, and it has been a blessing to my heart. The wonderful preaching and the meals were fine, and the fellowship just

TENTS AND PATIO AREA WHERE MEALS WERE SERVED



Two tents were raised in the backyards of Brother Gilpin and Brother Bob and they served a good purpose over the very hot Labor Day week-end. Many meals were eaten here and the grass really "took a beat'n" from big-footed Baptists.

wonderful. Bro. Gilpin, to add to this great Conference would be to extend the time—make it longer that we might hear and get more food for our souls. One service worth the trip. And I pray that I will be here in the next Conference, if it is God's will. I pray that God will give me strength to work and that I might help in this great work. May God bless you and your staff as you labor for the Lord."—Fred Vance, Bluff City, Tennessee.

★ ★ ★

"Good conference last year and much better this year in every way. A well planned program of 'salvation by grace,' 'church truth,' and missions. Thanks to Calvary Baptist Church for this great conference, and may God bless you."—Gerald B. Price, Bristol, Tennessee.

★ ★ ★

"In my 11 years of Christian walk of life, I have enjoyed this Labor Day weekend more than all of them. May the Lord bless you and yours. I praise the Lord for your invitation to this conference."—Oscar Manuel, Bristol, Tennessee.

★ ★ ★

"I enjoyed the time I was with you and the other visiting brethren. I wish I had been able to stay for the entire conference. The only complaint I would have, would be the heat, and none of us could help that. Thank you very much."—John B. Gouge, Elizabethton, Tenn.

★ ★ ★

"It was a real pleasure and blessing to attend the Bible Conference and meet and fellowship with God's people. May God bless each one who had a part in making us feel at home while enjoying the good food, fellowship, and good messages from God's Word."—Mrs. Daniel Phillips, Tennessee.

★ ★ ★

"I enjoyed last year's conference very much, but this year even more so because not only did I renew the fellowship we had last year with the people I met then, but I met new faces and enjoyed their fellowship. I could never pay Calvary Baptist Church for the blessings I received while here. Surely I'll be a better worker for God because I have been fed Spiritually and physically. May God bless richly the ones who sacrificed and worked so hard to make us comfortable. I enjoyed every message preached. May God bless your work here and supply your need, and may THE BAPTIST EXAMINER continue going out until Jesus comes, for it is a great missionary work in bringing people to the truth. I pray for your work as well as all of our sound missionaries here and

abroad. So thanks again, Calvary Baptist Church."—Daniel Phillips, Tennessee.

★ ★ ★

TEXAS:

"Sorry about the delay in writing you. You were real busy when we left and I didn't get to tell you just how much my wife and I enjoyed the Bible Conference. We didn't get to stay for Labor Day. I had a wedding and other things here and the children were so tired. However Bro. Schmidt is sending me the services on tape so I won't miss it but I did miss the fellowship.

"The food was delicious and I know much time was spent as well as labor in preparing it. We want to thank each of you for your fine hospitality. I would advise anyone for a spiritual lift to attend next year. In His service, James E. Denman, Texas.

★ ★ ★

"My (or our) prayer for Calvary Baptist Church is that it may grow in grace and number. Our thanks to the women of the church for their service and love to us. The mission reports were fine, some of the preaching outstanding. May each one look up and thank Him for every blessing, and ask for guidance that we may grow in grace and truth."—Mr. and Mrs. James A. Frederick, Texas.

★ ★ ★

"I have been wonderfully blessed, refreshed, and deeply moved by the messages. The friendliness of the Calvary Baptist Church has been outstanding. The fellowship has been heart-warming, and I am glad I attended the Conference. My prayer is that God may continue His blessings upon your work, and that I may have the privilege of returning next year. The outstanding, if I should have to choose, challenge to me was the mission reports and challenge. You are a wonderful people and have been wonderful to me in making my visit everything one could wish. May our Heavenly Father bless the women for their service and kindness. Pray for us."—Pastor S. L. Tidwell, Texas.

(Continued Next Week)

Sins Of The Elect

(Continued from page one)

vation comes only, wholly, and solely through the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ at Calvary.

I

FULFILLED PROPHECY

My text gives to us two prophecies—namely, that Jesus was

going to make His grave with the wicked and with the rich in His death. In other words, there were to be wicked people and rich people associated with Jesus when He died. Beloved, you know as well as I that that was literally and actually fulfilled by the Lord Jesus Christ when He came to die. Listen:

"And there were also two others, malefactors, led with him to be put to death. And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left."—Luke 23:32, 33.

Beloved, Jesus Christ came to die with a thief on either side, or as it says, with a malefactor on the right hand and a malefactor on the left. This text in Isaiah 53:9 tells how he is to die with the wicked, and that was literally fulfilled in that the malefactors—the thieves, were crucified the same day that Jesus Christ was crucified.

You will notice also that in my text it speaks about Jesus' association with the rich in his death, and that too was fulfilled at Calvary or immediately following Calvary, for when the Lord Jesus Christ was taken down from the Cross to be buried, we read:

"When the even was come, there came a RICH MAN OF ARIMATHEA, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple. He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed."—Mt. 27:57-60.

Now if you had gone out into that cemetery the day that Jesus Christ died and was buried, you would have found a sepulchre, and over the door, in all probability, was chiseled in that rock: "Sacred to the memory of the family of Joseph of Arimathea." In that tomb of Joseph of Arimathea the Lord Jesus Christ's body lay in burial.

You will notice that he speaks about Joseph as a rich man—a rich man of Arimathea, so when I come to my text which speaks about Jesus dying with the wicked and how He associated with the rich in his death, I say that it was literally and actually and completely fulfilled in that Jesus died between two thieves and that He was buried in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea.

I say then that this is a remarkable example of fulfilled Bible prophecy, and just like this prophecy of Isaiah 53:9 was fulfilled, so all the balance of the (Continued on page 5, column 3)

"CHEFS" AT CONFERENCE



Left to right: John D. Smith, Walter Willis, chief chef John R. Gilpin, Jr., all of Ashland, and William H. Miller (Marion, Ohio).

SOME OF THE LADIES WHO PREPARED AND SERVED FOOD



Left to right: Mrs. Elmo Woodson (Little Rock, Ark.), Mrs. James Swindell (Russell, Ky.) Nancy Renfroe (Ashland), Mrs. Nellie Barber (Ashland), Alice Norris (Coal Grove, O.), Mrs. John R. Gilpin, Sr., and Mrs. John R. Gilpin, Jr. (Ashland).

PRAYER BEFORE MEAL



A long-time friend and reader of TBE, Colonel Columbus Savage of Washington, D. C. (with hand gripping post), leads in prayer at the noon meal on Sunday, September 4. The second person to Colonel Savage's left is a former Air Force major, Brother Larue Thompson. Both Colonel Savage and Brother Thompson were station in Alaska and worked closely together. Brother Gilpin is at Brother Thompson's left and Brother Thompson's son, Jimmy, is the young fellow between Colonel Savage and the former major.

SOUTHERN BRETHREN



A. C. Tew
Headland, Ala.



Oscar Manuel
Bristol, Tenn.



Roy Worley
Bristol, Tennessee

TEXAS BRETHREN



James Frederick
Texarkana, Texas



Simpson Tidwell
Texarkana, Texas



E. N. Hinson
Houston, Texas

TWO YOUNG PREACHERS AND THEIR WIVES



Elder James Denman and Wife
Hurst, Texas



Missionary George Pickett and Wife
Bossier City, Louisiana

PIANIST AND YOUNG SOLOIST

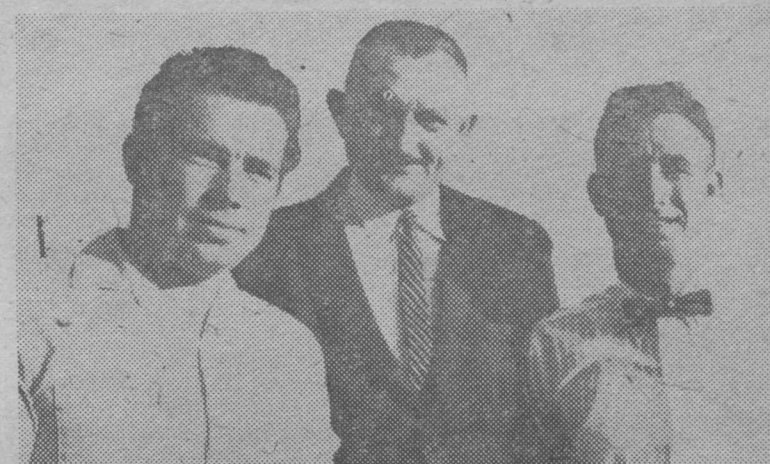
FROM HAMILTON, OHIO



The musical program at the Conference was very good, chiefly due to the excellent playing of Mrs. Ray Schwart of Hutchinson, Kan. Also, Johnny Hall, son of Pastor Henry Hall, of Gladwin, Mich., blessed our hearts with several solos.



Elder Eddie Garrett and B. F. Scalf
FROM ELIZABETHTON, TENNESSEE



John B. Gouge and Sherman Hartley
A MEAL BEING SERVED

SOME BRETHERN WHO HELPED THE PROGRAM

Presided

Brought Devotional

Sins Of The Elect

(Continued from page three)
prophecies of the Word of God must be fulfilled as well.

We read that the Lord Jesus Christ said:

"The Scripture cannot be broken." — John 10:35.

Beloved, if the Scripture cannot be broken, then just as Jesus Christ fulfilled this passage of Isaiah 53:9 in His death, then He is going to fulfill every other verse and every other passage in all the Word of God. The Scripture cannot be broken, and since it cannot be broken, of necessity it demands that it be fulfilled. I say to you, every Scripture is going to be fulfilled.

Now there are some that seems to us far from fulfillment. I can think of some Scriptures that it seems to me can surely never come to pass. We read:

"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." — Rev. 20:10.

Now, beloved, nothing in this world would seem farther from fulfillment than the complete utter destruction of the Devil, yet here is a Scripture which tells us that one day the devil is going to be taken out of this world and is going to be consigned to Hell. He is going to be cast down into perdition. We rub shoulders and brush elbows with the Devil every day. We see evidence of the (Continued on page 6, column 3)



Pastor Murrell Combs
Calvary Baptist Church
McLeansboro, Ill.



Pastor Willard Pyle
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church
Cheapeake, Ohio

CONFERENCE SONG LEADERS

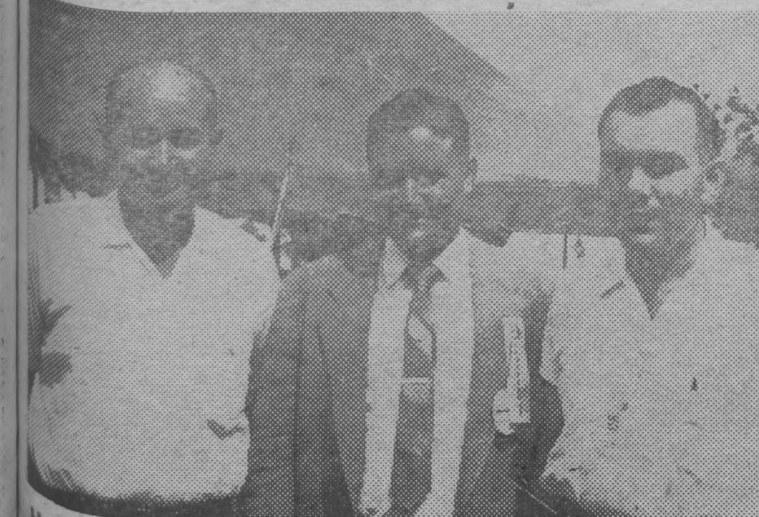


Joel Caves
Tulsa, Oklahoma

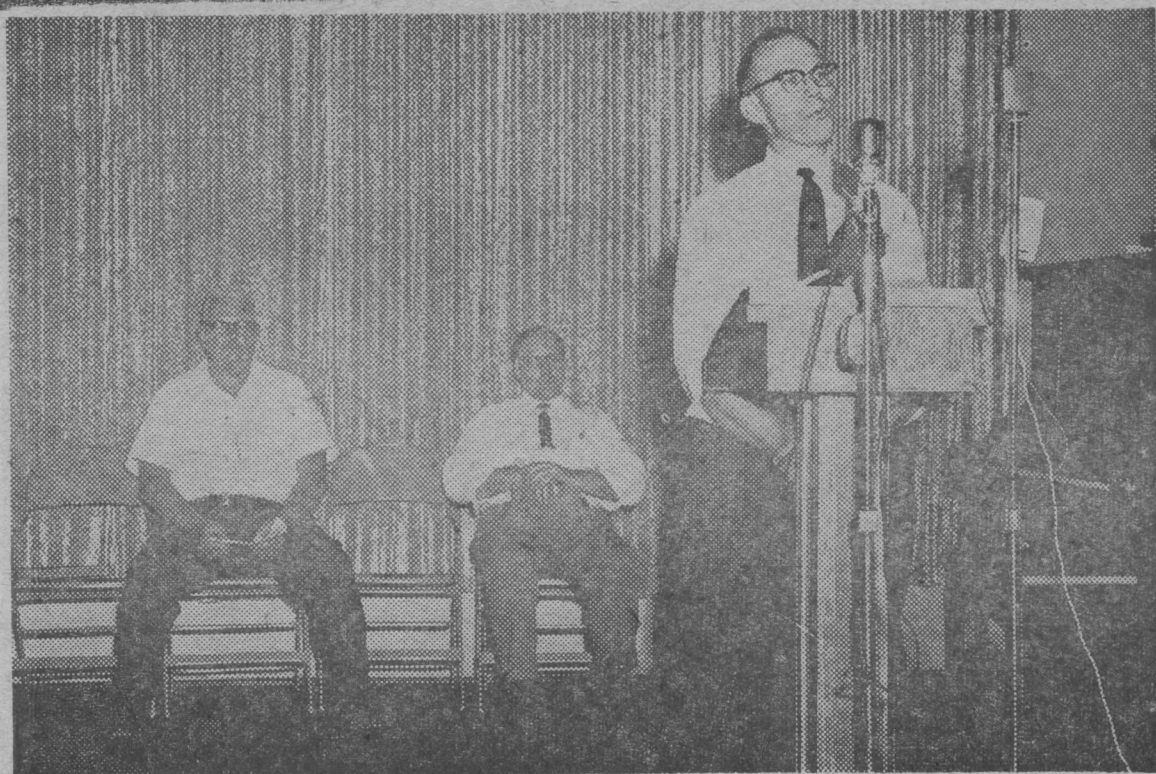


James Hobbs
Portsmouth, Ohio

FROM CHICAGO



Harold Chapman, Pastor Lloyd Wyrick, and Harry Sanders.



Elder Glen Tweet of Seattle, Wash., is caught in this photo delivering one of the many devotional messages presented at the Conference. Bro. Jim Everman and Bro. James Hobbs (left to right) are seen on the rostrum, too.

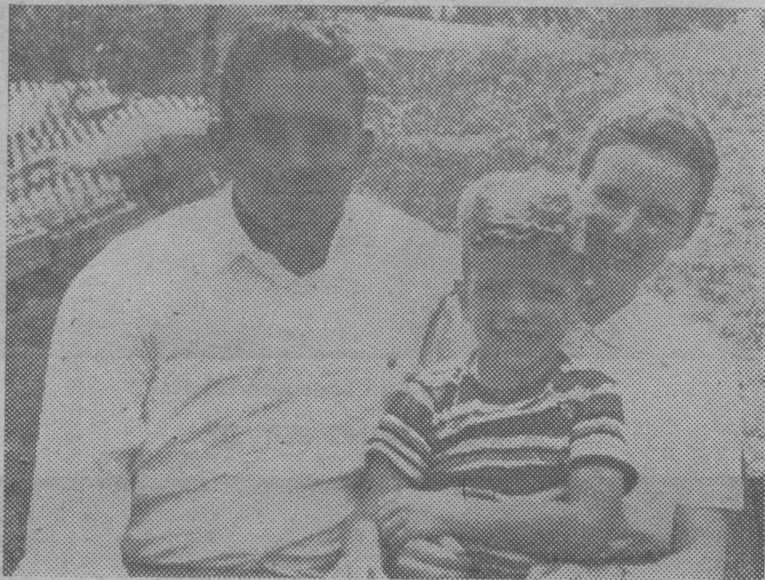
SOME FAMILIES [OR PORTIONS THEREOF] THAT CAME

Sins Of The Elect

SOME COUPLES THAT CAME



The Dan Phillips Family, Bristol, Tenn.



The C. W. Bronson Family, Phillipsburg, Kan.



The S. W. Rule Family, Belva, W. Va.

THE GILPIN FAMILY.



From left to right: Mrs. Bob L. Ross (formerly Ruth Gilpin), Deborah Ross, Bob L. Ross, Nathan Ross, Mrs. John D. Smith (formerly Rhoda Gilpin), David Smith, Darrell Smith, John D. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Gilpin (seated), John R. Gilpin, Jr., Jere Gilpin (seated), Joel Gilpin, Mrs. John R. Gilpin, Jr., John R. Gilpin III, and Judith Gilpin.

(Continued from page five)
Devil on every hand. There is never a day in our life but that we come in contact with the Devil in some form or other, and nothing would seem farther from fulfillment than to think that someday the Devil is going to be taken out of this world. Beloved friends, I know that it is going to come to pass. Jesus, in His death, fulfilled my text, and He Himself said, "The Scripture cannot be broken." If he fulfilled one of them, He is certain to fulfill every one of them. If He fulfilled this passage that I have for my text, then he will fulfill every other text within the Word of God, including that which God says about Satan.

I would remind you of another passage that seems very, very far from fulfillment and that is Revelation 17 which is the story of the old whore and her harlot daughters. Many times in preaching from this Scripture I have taken time to exegete and to explain the meaning of it word by word, and verse by verse. I will not do so now except to say that I believe the whore spoken of in Revelation 17 is Roman Catholicism and the harlot daughters are the Protestant churches that have come out of Rome, so when we read of the old whore and her harlot daughters we are reading of Roman Catholicism and the Protestant churches that have come out of Rome.

Here is a passage of Scripture which tells us that Rome is going to be destroyed. 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.

Now could there be any picture that is more complete so far as destruction is concerned than this? Is there any verse of Scripture that could more em- (Continued on page 8, column 1)

"Wonderful" Conference

(Continued from page two)
So far as we know, every one who started to the Conference made it safely and every one arrived home the same way. For this we give thanks to God who was truly good to us in every way. The weather was hot, but without any hindering effect. Just about one week after the Conference, rains drenched our city and a mild cold wave still lingers at this writing.

We hope every one who attended the Conference was benefitted and we hope this occasion can be repeated again.



Elder and Mrs. Henry C. Hall, Gladwin, Mich.



Mr. and Mrs. John Schmidt, San Bernardino, Calif.



Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Roach, Charleston, W. Va.



Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Harrell, Murray, Ky.

BEFORE -- -- -- AFTER
Brother Joe Wilson, Winston-Salem, N. C.



Some brethren were on diets — big ones!

Here Are Those Who Spoke At The Conference



PASTOR AUSTIN FIELDS
Arabia Baptist Church
Arabia, Ohio



PASTOR BOB NELSON
Calvary Baptist Church
Owosso, Michigan



PASTOR WILLIAM CRIDER
Tabernacle Baptist Church
Tulsa, Oklahoma



**MISSIONARY
GEORGE STARLING**
Cruz Bay, St. John
U. S. Virgin Islands



PASTOR JOHN REYNOLDS
Providence Baptist Church
Henderson, Texas

"FATHER-AND-SON"



Brother DeWayne Austin and son, Don,
Cincinnati, Ohio



PASTOR RAY SCHWART
Temple Baptist Church
Hutchinson, Kansas



PASTOR SCOTT RICHARDSON
Katy Baptist Church
Fairmont, W. Va.



**MISSIONARY
ANGEL ALEJANDRO**
English Missionary Baptist
Church
Hato Rey, Puerto Rico



Brother G. F. Hall, Noblesville, Indiana,
and son, Owen Hall, Woodway, W. Va.



PASTOR A. J. CORCORAN
Cottage Hills Baptist Church
Cottage Hills, Illinois



PASTOR GERALD PRICE
Temple Baptist Church
Bristol, Tennessee



PASTOR NEAL BRILLHART
West Side Baptist Church
Emporia, Kansas



Brother James Thorne and son, Larry,
Detroit, Michigan



PASTOR WAYNE COX
Woodlawn Terrace Baptist
Church
Memphis, Tennessee



PASTOR LLOYD WYRICK
Macedonia Baptist Church
Chicago, Illinois



PASTOR J. FRANK McCRUM
Zion Baptist Church
Detroit, Michigan

Sins Of The Elect

Continued from page 6)

phatically tell us that Roman Catholicism is going to be destroyed? Today that seems farthest from the minds of the people. The majority of people today think that Roman Catholicism is truly the religion of the world and that Protestants and Baptists mean absolutely nothing because Catholicism really rates in the eyes of the world. Look at it from this standpoint. Everytime that Cardinal Spellman sneezes over in New York City he gets his picture on the front page of the paper. In fact, the Catholics control the newspapers of the country today to the extent that you can't get anything in the paper which is contrary to Catholicism in any wise at all. It has come to the place today that the world at large thinks of Catholicism as outstanding in every particular, yet the Word of God says that the day will come that Rome will be made desolate and naked, and the beast shall eat her flesh and burn her with fire.

Mark it down, beloved, whether you like it or not, or whether you agree with it or don't agree with it, that is the prophecy of God's Word, and God says within His Book that Rome is going to be definitely, completely and totally destroyed.

As I say, nothing could be farther from fulfillment in this day, yet it is going to come to pass. I may not be here in the flesh when it comes to pass, and you may not be here in the flesh when it comes to pass, but, beloved, it will come to pass. Why? Because all Scripture will be fulfilled. Jesus in His death saw to it that He Himself was crucified with two thieves and buried in a tomb of a rich man. He was God and He was sovereign and could have seen that it was otherwise, but He fulfilled this Scripture in a sovereign manner. I insist that since He fulfilled this Scripture and since He said that the Scripture could not be broken, then He is going to fulfill every verse within the Bible. There will never be a passage that won't come to complete fulfillment.

II

PURPOSE OF HIS DEATH

Christ not only died with the wicked, but He died for the wicked. We have an illustration of that in this same passage where it speaks about His crucifixion, because when He died, He died on a cross that had been prepared for Barabbas. As Jesus Christ was hanging there on that cross with a malefactor on the right hand and another on the left hand, can you realize that Jesus Christ shouldn't have been on that center cross? Instead, Barabbas ought to have been on that cross. Three crosses had been prepared for the three thieves. Barabbas, the one on the right hand, and the other on the left should have been crucified, but due to the clamoring of the crowd, Barabbas had gone free and instead of Barabbas, Jesus Christ was crucified, so that we can say that Jesus not only died with the wicked, but He died for the wicked.

May I remind you that all the teaching of the Word of God is that Jesus Christ died for the wicked, and I thank God that He did, because since He died for the wicked, then I have the assurance that His death was for me.

We read:

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." — Isa. 1:18.

What a marvelous and remarkable promise for any individual. I tell you, beloved, the individual who is so given over to sin that he might be called a crimson-dyed son of Adam — that individual can have his sins washed white as snow through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Years ago I had this forcibly brought home to me. A man took a piece of red glass and held it

up and had me to look at a red rose. But when I looked at it, it didn't appear as a red rose, but rather as a white rose. Beloved, when I looked at that, I couldn't help but think how true when God looks at my crimson stained soul through the blood of His own Son, He sees not my sins as crimson sins, but He sees them white as snow.

I thank God that Jesus Christ not only died with the wicked, but He died for the wicked. We read it all the rest of the way through the Word of God. For example, listen:

"But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not COME to call the righteous, but SINNERS TO REPENTANCE." — Mt. 9:13.

Remember, beloved, that the Lord Jesus Christ came not to save good people, but He came to call sinners to repentance.

Listen again:

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to SAVE THAT WHICH WAS LOST." — Luke 19:10.

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world TO SAVE SINNERS; of whom I am chief." — I Tim. 1:15.

Beloved, I come back to my text which talks about Jesus associating with the wicked and with the rich in His death, and I say that the purpose of His death was not only that He might die with the wicked, but that He might die for the wicked as well. What a marvelous blessing to know that He died for the wicked.

Do you know who the worst man is in Ashland? Are you acquainted with him? Do you know the name of the vilest man in this town? Well, do you know the worst woman there is in this town? I don't know, but I'll say this, if I were to find a man and a woman who would say that they were the lowest people in this town, I would point them, to the Lord Jesus Christ and tell them that there was hope for them, because Jesus Christ came to die not only with the wicked, but for the wicked. If I were to see a man walking around this town with a sign on his back saying that he was the lowest, most trifling man in this town, I would point him to Jesus Christ. If I were to see a woman with a sign on her back saying that she was the most vile woman within this city, I would point her to Calvary and would say that there was hope for her in the Lord Jesus Christ.

My text says that "he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death." In His death He associated with the wicked. He came with a purpose in mind, and that purpose was not only dying with the wicked, but for the wicked. Thank God, He died for the wicked, which includes you and me.

III

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE SINS OF THE WICKED?

I would like to tell you about twenty things that happens to the sins of the wicked when Jesus Christ died for them.

First of all, those sins are **blotted out**.

"I, even I, am he that BLOT- TETH OUT thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins." — Isa. 43:25.

What happens to the sins of the elect? The Word of God says that those sins are **borne by another**.

"Who his own self BARE OUR SINS in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness by whose stripes ye were healed." — I Pet. 2:24.

Furthermore, the Word of God tells us that our sins have been **cast behind God's back**.

"Behold, for peace I had great bitterness but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption for thou hast CAST ALL MY SINS BEHIND THY BACK." — Isa. 38:17.

Notice also that He says that He has **cast our sins into the depths of the seas**.

"He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt CAST ALL THEIR SINS INTO THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA." — Micah 7:19.

Thank God He didn't say a river, for a river sometimes dries up.

Out in one of the western states is a river that has a beginning and an end. It is the only river of its kind in the world. The Humbolt River has a fairly good beginning, and then finally sinks in the sand. That is the end of it. I am glad that God didn't say He was going to cast all of our sins into a river, because a river might dry up. He might have cast them into the Humbolt River and if He had, our sins would have appeared again. But He says He is going to cast our sins into the depths of the sea.

Years ago, I heard a man in a Bible Conference say that on his way from England to the United States, to speak in that Bible Conference, as he was walking along on the deck of the ship, that he dropped a coin and that coin rolled overboard. He said that he asked some individual on board how deep the water was, and he told him that it was approximately five miles deep. He said when he realized that, he had to say "Thank God," because he knew that his sins were at least five miles removed from him.

Also our sins are **washed away in the cleansing blood of the Lord Jesus Christ**.

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST HIS SON CLEANSETH US FROM ALL SIN." — I John 1:7.

Some people talk about having their sins washed away in the water, and some people talk about having their sins removed from them in the baptism. Beloved, I have something that beats that ten thousand times. My sins have been blotted out, and I have been cleansed from all sin in the blood of Jesus Christ.

The Bible also reveals that the **sins of the elect are completely covered**.

"Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose SINS ARE COVERED." — Rom. 4:7.

Likewise, the Word of God shows that the Lord Jesus Christ has **finished with our sins**.

"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to FINISH THE TRANSGRESSION, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy." — Dan. 9:24.

Now without going into a detailed explanation of this seventy weeks which is spoken of, may I say hurriedly that the Lord Jesus Christ in seventy weeks is going to do six things and the first of those six things is to finish the transgression. Mark it down, when Jesus Christ came to the Cross of Calvary He finished our transgressions. As He hung there, He looked up in the face of the Father and said, "It is finished." Some people would argue much as to what was meant by that statement, "It is Finished." Let me tell you, I know what was finished. Daniel 9:24 says that He was going to come to finish the transgression. The sins of the elect were all finished the day that Jesus Christ died on the Cross.

Also the sins of the elect are **forgiven**.

"And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with him, having FORGIVEN YOU ALL TRESPASSES." — Col. 2:13.

How many sins do you have forgiven? All of them. That means the sins of yesterday, the sins of today, and the sins of tomorrow. That means the sins of the past, the sins of the present, and the sins that are yet to come. Beloved, He says that He has forgiven you all trespasses.

I am glad that I am not an Arminian. I am glad that I am not an Arminian preacher. I would have a hard time if I didn't believe in sovereign grace to explain passages like this. Here is a verse of Scripture which tells us definitely and specifically that the Lord has forgiven you all trespasses.

Again, our sins are **not beheld any longer**.

"HE HATH NOT BEHELD INIQUITY in Jacob, NEITHER HATH HE SEEN PERVERSENESS in Israel: the Lord his God is with him, and the shout of a king is among them." — Num. 23:21.

Do you believe that your sins are no longer beheld? Oh, the Arminian who is afraid that he is going to do something that will send him to Hell — who is afraid that he will do something whereby he will lose his salvation, needs to read this verse. God says that He does not withhold iniquity or perverseness in his people.

Beloved, doesn't that thrill your heart just to know that all your iniquity, and all your perverseness, and all the sins of your life are laid on Jesus, and that God doesn't even behold them? You say, "I thought God saw everything." He does, beloved, but I tell you one thing, God doesn't see it because our sins and iniquities are covered with the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let's notice also that the **sins of the elect are not imputed**.

"Blessed is the man to whom the LORD WILL NOT IMPUTE SIN." — Rom. 4:8.

That word "impute" is the word for "charge," and it says that God will not charge sin to His people. Why? Because He has already charged it to somebody else. He has already charged it to His Son, the Lord Jesus.

Again, He **doesn't remember our sins**.

"For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities WILL I REMEMBER NO MORE." — Heb. 8:12.

Now, beloved, God isn't going to forget anything that you as a Christian do whereby you might be rewarded, but He is going to forget every sin that you as a Christian have ever committed. Why? Because they are covered in the blood of His Son.

Notice also that the sins of the elect by the death of Jesus Christ are **pardoned**.

"Who is a God like unto thee, THAT PARDONETH INIQUITY, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger forever, because he delighteth in mercy." — Micah 7:18.

Now, beloved, God doesn't pardon iniquity like the governor sometimes pardons a criminal, and lets the criminal go free. God pardons on the basis that Jesus Christ has paid for the sins. I insist that there is no forgiveness apart from redemption. Sin has to be paid for, and no one is ever pardoned of his iniquities until the Lord Jesus Christ has died and paid for that sin.

Let's notice also that the sins of the elect **have completely passed away**.

"And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused THINE INIQUITY TO PASS FROM THEE, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment." — Zech. 3:4.

Read the whole story and you will see that it is a picture of Joshua, the high priest, who is clothed with filthy garments, with the Devil standing there to challenge him. The Lord said to the Devil, "The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan," and He said of Joshua, "Is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?" Then he says concerning this brand that is plucked out of the fire, "Take away the filthy garments that he is wearing. Clothe him with fresh linen and cause his iniquity to pass from him."

Brother, sister, that is exactly what God has done for every

child of His that is within the world. Our sins have all passed away.

More than that, our sins have been **completely purged**.

"Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding things by the word of his power, when he had by himself PURGED OUR SINS, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." — Heb. 1:3.

Some people talk about purgatory and I know you will recognize at once that there is great and false religious systems that is built upon the idea of purgatory. Beloved, I am glad to believe in purgatory. I thank God that I am a subject of purgatory and that my sins have already been purged away. But the purgatory that I believe in is a purgatory of the Lord Jesus Christ, and He is the one that has purged my sins.

Not only that, but our sins have been **put away**.

"For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to PUT AWAY SIN by the sacrifice of himself." — Heb. 9:26.

How many times did He suffer? Just once. For what purpose? To put away sin. Beloved, I thank God that the death of Jesus Christ was sufficient to put away sin.

More than that, what has He done in behalf of the sins of the elect? Those sins have been **remitted**.

"To him gave all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive REMISSION OF SINS." — Acts 10:43.

Also, our sins are **removed**. "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath HE REMOVED OUR TRANSGRESSIONS from us." — Psa. 103:12.

More than that, our sins have been **subdued**.

"He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." — Micah 7:19.

Again, the sins of the elect are **sought for and are not found**.

"In those days, and in that time, saith the Lord, the iniquity of Israel shall be SOUGHT FOR, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah, and they SHALL NOT BE FOUND for I will pardon them whom I reserve." — Jer. 50:20.

Do you believe that your sins might be sought for and could be found? That is exactly what justification is. When a man is justified, he stands in God's sight "just as if I had never sinned." That is the meaning of justification. Our sins might be sought for but can not be found.

Lastly, the Lord Jesus Christ has **taken away our sins**.

"And he laid it upon his mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine INIQUITY IS TAKEN AWAY, and thy sin purged." — Isa. 6:7.

Now, beloved, come back to my text which tells how the Lord was going to associate with the wicked and the rich in His death. By His death He has done twenty things. Our sins have been blotted out, they are borne by another, they are cast behind God's back, they are cast into the depths of the sea, they are washed away with His cleansing blood, they are covered, they are finished, they are forgiven, they are passed away, they are purged, they are put away, they are remitted, they are removed, they are subdued, they are sought for and are not found, and they are taken away.

That being true, you ought to thank God that one day Jesus Christ went to the Cross of Calvary and there died, not only with the wicked but for the wicked, and through His death our sins have thus been completely atoned for and removed by the Lord Jesus Christ. We ought to thank Him and praise Him for His goodness.

May God bless you!