

# 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

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## Baptist Church Building Stoned!

WE RECENTLY RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM AN ILLINOIS PASTOR ABOUT HOW HIS CHURCH'S BUILDING HAD BEEN STONED, EVIDENTLY BECAUSE OF HIS POSITION REGARDING THE RECENT ELECTION. IT TRULY REVEALS WHO IS THE "BIGOT" IN THIS MATTER OF THE "RELIGIOUS ISSUE."

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE, SLIGHTLY REVISED FROM THE "GOSPEL OF GRACE MESSENGER," TELLS THE STORY.

No, you do not have to go to South America or Spain to see a church building that has been stoned. You can see one right in the capitol city of Illinois — Springfield.

On Oct. 2, 1960, Ilah Claycomb,

pastor of the Berean Baptist church, 2300 So. 13th St., spoke on the subject, "If a Catholic Becomes Our President." This subject was announced in both Springfield daily papers, in an advertisement by this church, on the Saturday before the message was given. The church was packed that night, the registration cards showed 17 Methodist families present, besides others from other churches. Two men sat on back seats, taking notes and were said to be Jesuit priests.

The Pastor spoke from a manuscript and also had the message

taped, using mostly quotes from Roman Catholic periodicals, regarding what they say about religious freedom, separation of church and state, and showing that the Roman Catholic Church does govern and has the say-so over its members from cradle to grave and even afterwards, even in their private lives as well as public lives, also concerning their political lives.

On Oct. 11th, a reporter from a local Television Station came to the Pastor's study, wanting to take his picture and also stating (Continued on page 8, column 4)

## Examiner Editorials

By Bob L. Ross

### WHAT THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION REFLECTS

Although all the votes are not as of this writing counted, the election is all but completely over. Our fears were fulfilled, our hopes defeated. What will come into effect in the future is yet to be seen. We fear to think of all the possibilities.

This election serves as a commentary on the situation in the United States and gives indication of what the future holds.

#### Protestantism

When a Protestant nation elects a Roman Catholic president, it is an evidence of a decline in Protestant concern over the dangers of Romanism. This decline is due to the lack of scriptural depth in Protestantism. Baptists, of course, are not Protestants, but certainly we were surprised to see that even among Baptists there was a great lack of concern about the election of a Roman Catholic. Simply the "party

brand" meant more to a lot of Southerners than Kennedy's Romanism and Socialism.

It seems that Protestants are getting less protestant to the Romanism from which they rebelled. And Baptists are stinking worse every day.

#### Roman Catholicism

Practically all reliable sources are saying that the labor boss influence and the successful Kennedy effort to create and get Roman Catholic "bloc voting" decided the election. It was evident from the early returns that the Roman Catholics voted and voted heavily on one side. (Shame on the Baptists and Protestants who failed to go out and vote! Many dyed-in-the-wool Democrats would just as soon have a Roman Catholic as a Republican for president, so didn't vote!) The big cities and states where there is a concentration of the Roman Catholic population were carried by Kennedy and (Continued on page 2, 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 24 — 8:30 A. M.

PLACE: MAIN DINING ROOM, VENTURA HOTEL

## Why Troubles Come In The Life Of The Christian

Some have had the idea that when one becomes a Christian, all is "smooth sailing" from then on. Following their conversion they were greatly disappointed for they still had sickness, trials, and temptations. Every Christian needs to understand clearly that the Lord has never promised immunity from the common ills of life to his children. To the contrary, Jesus said, "In the world ye have tribulations."

Truth is, a child of God may have even more trouble in some respect than unsaved people. Certainly he is likely to have stronger temptations. He will likewise have persecutions that he would not otherwise have. And he may prosper less financially because he will not resort to all of the crookedness resorted to by unsaved people.

### What's The Good Of Being A Christian Then?

The answer is easily given. "Men of this world, have their portion in this life" (Psa. 17:14). The people of God have their main portion in the forever and ever to be. God's people have a future—the devil's people have worse than none.

### Why Does God Allow His Children To Suffer?

Why does the Lord let his people, whom he loves, go through hard experiences? As to the exact why of every trial and every circumstance, we cannot know. We must sometimes be willing to rest on Romans 8:28, and to await the time of future understanding. But generally speaking, we can know some of the reasons back behind the permission of trials and difficulties in our lives. Let us note some of these:

God sometimes allows troubles as a test of faith. (See I Peter, 1:7). Job is the classic example of this. His faith was demonstrated and proven by the way he bore afflictions. Friends argued that his troubles came as chastening, but they did not. Not all troubles are in the nature of chastisement, and we

By ROY MASON

Tempe, Florida



must realize it. Job is made the first proof that the devil's doctrine of "falling from grace" is a lie. The devil said that he could make Job fall from grace, and the Lord proved that he couldn't.

God sometimes allows troubles as chastening, with a view to correcting us and bringing us back into line. David said, "Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now have I kept thy word." Again we read, "As many as I love I rebuke and chasten." Chastening however is not punitive, but remedial and corrective. This is a truth that we must have if our theology is to be correct. While many trials are not allowed as chastening, we do well to find out if perhaps the Lord is trying to call our attention to some wrong course that needs correction. (Continued on page 7, column 2)

## ANOTHER 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.

Just now, 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.

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 great.

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.

## THE PATIENCE OF GOD

By A. W. PINK

Far less has been written upon this than the other excellencies of the Divine character. Not a few of those who have expatiated at length upon the Divine attributes have passed over the patience of God without any comment. It is not easy to suggest a reason for this, for surely the longsuffering of God is as much one of the Divine perfections as is His wisdom, power, or holiness, and as much to be admired and revered by us. True, the actual term will not be found in a concordance so frequently as the others, but the glory of this grace itself shines forth on almost every page of Scripture. Certain it is that we lose much if we do not frequently meditate upon the patience of God and earnestly pray that our hearts and ways may be more completely conformed thereto.

Most probably the principal reason why so many writers have failed to give us anything, separately, upon the patience of God was because of the difficulty of distinguishing this attribute from the Divine goodness and mercy, particularly the latter. God's longsuffering is mentioned in conjunction with His grace and mercy again and again, as may be seen by consulting Ex. 34:6, Num. 14:18, Psa. 86:15, etc. That the patience of God is really a display of His mercy, in fact is



ARTHUR PINK

one way in which it is frequently manifested, cannot be gainsaid; but that they are one and the same excellency, and are not to be separated, we cannot concede. It may not be easy to discriminate between them, nevertheless, Scripture fully warrants us in predicating some things of the one which we cannot of the other.

Stephen Charnock, the Puritan, defines God's patience, in part, thus: "It is a part of the Divine goodness and mercy, yet differs from both. God being the greatest goodness, hath the greatest mildness; mildness is always the companion of true goodness, and the greater the goodness, the greater the mildness. Who so holy as Christ, and who so meek? God's slowness to anger is a branch of His mercy: 'the Lord is full of compassion, slow to anger' (Psa. 145:8). It differs from mercy in the formal consideration of the subject: mercy respects the creature as criminal; mercy pities him in his misery, patience bears with the sin which engendered the misery, and giving birth to more."

Personally we would define the Divine patience as that power of control which God exercises over Himself, causing Him to bear with the wicked and forbear so long in punishment of them.

In Nahum 1:3 we read, "The Lord is slow to anger and great in power," upon which Mr. Charnock said, "Men that are great in the world are quick in passion, and are not so ready to forgive an injury, or bear with an offender, as one of a meaner rank. It is a want of power over that (Continued on page 7, column 4)

## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

### "WHAT GIVES PLEASURE TO GOD?"

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

"He shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand." — Isa. 53:10.

Every time I read this text I am reminded of that great astronomer of a few years ago by the name of Mitchell who perhaps did more in the field of astronomy than any other one individual. One day he was studying the sun, which he followed with his telescope for several hours, continually looking at it

and studying it. Along late in the afternoon when the sun had almost reached the western horizon, he happened to pick out an orchard, and he saw two boys that were stealing apples out of that orchard. Mr. Mitchell said that one of the boys was on the lookout and the other was over in the orchard helping himself to the apples. One of them was looking in every direction, most cautious lest he be caught. They took a great number of the apples and

left, thinking that nobody had seen them, and nobody was any the wiser so far as their little act of thievery was concerned, yet all the time this great astronomer was sitting in his laboratory with his telescope trained on them seven miles away, and saw everything that they were doing in the orchard.

Just as this great astronomer watched those boys and observed their actions and recorded in his (Continued on page 4, column 3)



# The Baptist Examiner

The Baptist Paper for the Baptist People.

BOB L. ROSS

Editor-in-Chief

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Editor

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THESE RATES APPLY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

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## Examiner Editorials

(Continued from page one) gave him the majority of electoral votes.

This reveals the strength of Romanism in America. This reveals why so many public leaders are fearful of saying anything against the inroads of Romanism in American governmental life.

### Socialism

But one of the saddest notes of this election was the fact that one-half of our American population knowingly or unknowingly cast its vote for a welfare, socialistic state. We grieve to think that the initiative of the

American individual is to the point that he is ready to give freedom up to the government and be the servant of the state.

Do one-half of our people really think more of the stomach than freedom? Do one-half of our people care more about "hand-outs" to care for temporary needs than individual liberties? It is sickening to think that people want this kind of life, rather than possess the great freedoms this nation was founded upon.

### Communism

Khrushchev's telegram to Kennedy clearly reveals that Russia is well-satisfied with the outcome of the election. Russia's Mr. K mentioned the policies of Franklin D. Roosevelt doubtlessly referring to the many concessions made to Stalin by FDR at Yalta and perhaps hinting to America's Mr. K. that he ought to make like concessions.

Frankly, we look for war in Formosa within the coming year. We expect that Khrushchev will get Red China to sit still until a summit conference is arranged with the U. S. Then he will ask for the U. S. to bring about the concession of the islands of Quemoy and Matsu. This would not only be helpful to Red China, but a big feather in Khrushchev's cap in his internal battle to convince Red China to go along with his "cold war" philosophy and methods. If these islands are given up, Chinese Nationalists in Formosa will soon be wiped out. If the islands are not given away, Red China will take them and Formosa in one effort. Kennedy has made it clear that he will not defend them. If he changes his mind and does defend them, it could lead to World War III—a war which is ready any minute to be set off in any number of areas, including Berlin and Cuba.

We certainly fear to think of the future, with Romanism, socialism, and communism breathing down the neck of the U. S.

### One Consolation

We dare say that no one who "lost" in the election has any greater consolation than we do. As for myself, my native state (Tennessee), my precinct, my county and the state of Kentucky all went for Nixon. Also, it is good to see that at present counting a majority of the 50 states are doing likewise.

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## IF YOU ARE IN DEBT THEN TITHE

By the Late WADE SMITH

If a man owed me money and he were having a hard struggle to make a living, and by all common sense reasoning there appeared very little prospect of ever getting my money back, I would try to persuade that man to begin tithing. I confidently believe if I could induce him to tithe his income, that is, pay one-tenth of it to the Lord, he would sooner or later pay me back every cent he owed me; because he would prosper.

Tithing solved serious financial problems for me and at the same time brought me spiritual blessing that far outweighed the material gain.

When I began tithing twenty-one years ago I was hopelessly in debt. Misfortune, which came when I first began to be a wage earner, plunged me deep "in the red," and, in trying to work out, repeated misfortune came one after another so that, like a frog endeavoring to escape from the well, when I jumped up two feet I fell back three. That was awfully discouraging, and I had just about given up hope of ever getting out of debt when I was persuaded to begin giving (rather, paying) to the Lord one-tenth of what I earned.

When I was first challenged to tithe I almost smiled, it seemed so ridiculous for me to think of it. Why, I said, it would be dishonest for me to "give away" any part of my income to church or anything else when I owed money to those who had trusted me; before I could give money I must pay my creditors. But I was troubled, for I was a Christian and I knew that tithing was Scriptural—that the Bible stated a definite portion (one-tenth) should be paid to the Lord.

So I prayed for light and understanding as to what really was duty in my own "particular" circumstances. Then there came to me this startling fact: the Lord was my first creditor. If any creditors should be given preference, it was He. He certainly had first claim on me. Then I looked at Malachi 3:10, and I saw God saying there that if I trust Him, and tithe, He would open the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing so big there would (Continued on page 3, column 5)

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## "I Should Like to Know"

(THE BAPTIST EXAMINER welcomes questions, to be answered in this column. Please state questions on separate sheet of paper, rather than including them in correspondence which relates to book orders, subscriptions, or some other matter.)

1. Was David saved when he planned the death of Uriah?

Yes. II Sam. 12:13 proves that conclusively. God dealt with him as a son, not a sinner. God put away his sin, but He chastized him sorely and four of his own boys died because of his own willful sin.

2. Is it good or evil for people in worship to repeat what is called the Lord's Prayer? If evil, name some of the evils.

It is wholly evil. Some of the evils are these: It is ritualistic. It promotes formalism. It teaches the unsaved to call God, "Father." It isn't praying, and any prayer said as a matter of form is hypocrisy and mockery in the sight of God. It kills the spirit of real prayer in many cases, and substitutes therefore a form of words, that are from the lips out. It is vain worship. "This people honoureth Me with their lips; but their hearts are far from me."

3. Where do you get your authority for receiving members into the church?

From the Word of God, of course. Read Rom. 14:1, "Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputation." This refers to the church at Rome receiving members. Acts 9:26-28, gives the account of Paul being refused membership in the church at Jerusalem until Barnabas recommended him.

4. Should a preacher marry a wife who is not a Christian?

No. Not only should a preacher not marry a non-Christian, but no Christian should marry a non-Christian. Read 2 Cor. 6:14. A Christian is to marry "only in the Lord" (I Cor. 7:39), which means for one Christian to marry another Christian.

5. Do the elect and sheep mean the same folk, and do the elect include all that ever will believe?

Yes. Before they believe they are called lost sheep. Matt. 10:6; 15:24; John 10:16.

6. What is scriptural bread for the Lord's Supper?

Unleavened bread — one loaf until after the bread is blessed. No crackers nor lightbread.

29. What do you think of a Baptist pastor appearing on a union Sunday School program?

The Scriptures in 2 Cor. 6:14-18 forbid any kind of unionism by individual Baptists or by Baptist Churches in connection with church work. There are organizations like the Anti-Saloon League or the Kentucky Children's Home Society or Law Enforcement organizations that individuals can co-operate in, supporting as citizens. The Scriptures forbid all unionism in church work of any kind. The Lord Jesus commands absolute separation between Baptists and all others in any kind of church work. Baptists everywhere will come into their own when they obey this Scripture to the letter.

8. What do you think of a man's Bible Class from a Baptist Church

going to a Presbyterian Church for a union Sunday School vice?

The Scriptures say in Jude 4, that Baptists ought to contend earnestly for the once-delivered faith, which cannot be done any kind of a union service. The Scripture also says in Jude 4 that such men were ordained to condemnation and turn the grace of God into lasciviousness. God punish all unionists in with a mighty crowd. Selah!

9. What about a member of a Baptist church who contends publicly that the Catholic Church was the first church, and Peter was the first pope?

He is too ignorant on both Bible and history to teach anybody. He ought to be retired.

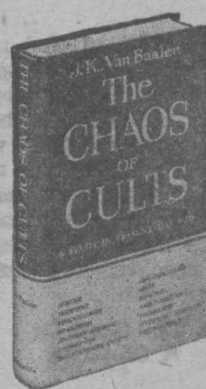
10. Do you think a pastor should dismiss his Sunday night service because there are only a few present?

No. He should preach to few or many. He thinks more of his sermons and himself than of the souls of his hearers if he dismisses. He hasn't much of a shepherd heart. He is might close kin to an hireling.

11. What do you think of literature put out about "Winning Made Easy," etc.?

It is sickening to anyone who knows the least of God's Word about the matter of salvation sets forth all kinds of trickery to get "decisions." We examine piece of this literature and it gives pictures, even, to show the "winner" how and when to get a "decision." It is nothing more than modern-day high-pressure salesmanship in a religious guise. It may be good for selling insurance and other items, but Christianity is not put up for sale in this manner.

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By  
J. K. VAN  
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WE WISH YOU

# A Most Blessed Thanksgiving!

"One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts."—Psalm 145:4.



## FIRST THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION

George Washington, in the year 1789, issued the following proclamation:

"Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits and humbly implore His protection, aid and favors:

"Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the Beneficent Author of all the good that was, is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country, and for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us."

This proclamation, is as appropriate today, as it was when issued. It is never out of date to thank the Father of Lights for "every good gift and every perfect gift"; for they are "from above" and come down from Him (James 1:17).

The exhortation in Ephesians 5:20 says: "Giving thanks always for things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Our thankfulness is not limited to a given day.

It would be proper to begin with the choicest of all His gifts—that of the Lord Jesus Christ. Everything needed in time and for eternity is treasured up in Him.

(Continued on page 4, column 3)



## In Debt?—Tithe!

(Continued from page two)  
not be room enough to receive it. So I decided to begin tithing, and I nailed the purpose down with Malachi 3:10.

On the first of the following month when I drew my salary I took out one-tenth and put it aside for the Lord's work. During the first two months it went pretty hard, and I had to pray harder and hang on harder to Malachi 3:10.

It looked for a little while as if God had forgotten about opening the windows. But I set my jaw and hung on. I kept a careful account to be sure that I was fair with God, even to the penny. Then things began to come to pass. Ways came to me to earn more money—ways I never dreamed of. Altogether unexpectedly, my salary was increased. I have not the space here to detail the different means that suddenly came to my hands for making more money. I wish I could tell you about it some time face to face. It is like a thrilling romance.

In less than a year I was out of debt and buying my own home. Up to that time I had lived in a rented house. I saved up something against old age. That was all wonderful, but the greatest joy was in the dispensing of the "Lord's tenth." It grew to much more than a tenth—more than double that amount. Formerly it made me grit my teeth to hear a missionary sermon or any appeal for money for the church or charity—I was so helplessly in debt. But now I rejoiced that every clear call that I could believe was from the Lord for His work, because there was always something in the Lord's treasury and I was His trusted servant to hand it out.

How I wish somebody could have told me this story when I was fifteen! How much joy I have missed! How much financial misery I have suffered! How different it could have been if I had just known! Before I began to tithe, financing seemed to have a curse attached; since I began to tithe, it is full of blessing. For twenty-two years I have not worried about money. Oh, sometimes there is close figuring, but it is always with the consciousness that the Lord, my Senior Partner, and I are figuring together and I know it will work out—and it does.

—The Sunday School Times

Another Thanksgiving season has rolled around. It seems only a few days since Thanksgiving of 1959, and yet when I re-  
the many blessings that I have enjoyed within the past  
twelve months, I am made to realize that God has given me  
many blessings—material, physical and spiritual—and that  
year has really been laden with God's best for us of THE  
BAPTIST EXAMINER family. It surely isn't hard for me to re-  
many things the Lord has done in our behalf.

THANK GOD above all else for my salvation. I never start to  
a Thanksgiving letter without my salvation coming to  
first of all. Of all the blessings God has given me in life,  
nothing equals the blessing of salvation. Early in life, God  
me, so that actually he saved my life as well as my  
soul. I say, beloved, that He saved me. I never could have  
myself even if I had wanted to, and certainly I would  
have wanted to in view of my depravity. As I rejoice over  
experience in Christ, I thank God more and more because  
arm brought salvation." (Isaiah 59:16).

THANK GOD for the freedom we have in worshipping God,  
and editing this paper. Strong efforts have been made to si-  
ence this voice through the years—especially within the past  
several months. We may not long have the privilege of send-  
forth this testimony every week as we have in the past.  
will we say with the Psalmist, "Therefore will not we fear,  
though the earth be removed and though the mountains be  
carried into the midst of the sea." (Psalm 46:2). However,  
when I read of the nations of the world, I thank God for our  
religious freedom today.

THANK GOD for the material blessings He has given us.  
know we always have plenty of these, although in 1959, due  
the nation-wide steel strike, it seems we had the fewest  
have ever experienced. This year has definitely been much  
contrast. God has blessed us much materially—so much  
could not begin to enumerate all His blessings to us. I  
and amazed with the Psalmist to say, "What shall I render  
to the Lord for all his benefits toward me." To give our all  
couldn't begin to repay Him for His blessings to us.

THANK GOD for the measure of health God has given me.  
fifty-five, there are some physical disabilities which cause  
me suffering every day without exception. I have suffered  
with a spinal condition for years that I imagine I'll carry  
me to the end of the way. This is serious enough in itself,  
of recent date my heart has become another problem.  
football, the referee blows a whistle two minutes before  
close of the game to tell both teams that time is running  
out. About two months ago, the Referee of all ages "blew  
whistle" in my behalf. I don't mean to say that it was a  
serious heart attack, but it was enough to cause me much  
an for the past eight weeks and to cause me to practically  
lose from my activities. I take it as a warning from God  
that I must "slow up." Through the years I have made many  
in hospitals and infirmaries and I have never come out  
one of these places without saying, "Thank you Lord that  
can walk out unassisted." Well, in this year of 1960, I am  
most thankful that I am still walking about, and by God's  
grace I expect to preach my annual Thanksgiving sermon  
Thanksgiving morning. I don't deserve to live and I often  
wonder why God allows me to go on, yet I thank Him today  
that I have rounded out another year in His service.

THANK GOD for our written ministry. There is never a day  
by that some of our readers don't write to express their  
appreciation for THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. Brother Bob, who  
does most of the work concerning it, has truly done a mag-  
ificent 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.

THANK GOD 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  
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  
him wrong." (Psalm 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  
quick, when their wrath was kindled against us" (Psalm  
124:2, 3). Surely, this is true of us, and I rejoice to feel that  
in the past year God has definitely been on our side.

THANK GOD for Calvary Baptist Church, though it isn't  
in the eyes of the world. It is an exceedingly little flock.  
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 fellowship which we have enjoyed within the  
past year. I have never enjoyed fellowship with any group of  
people as I have with the little group of saints of Calvary  
Baptist Church, and I truly thank Him for it.

I THANK GOD 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 al-  
lowed 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 peo-  
ple every week have access to our paper, and that in itself is  
no small ministry.

I THANK GOD 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 writ-  
ten 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 THANK GOD for my family. Mrs. Gilpin and I rejoice to-  
gether 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 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 THANK GOD for the missionary connections God has given  
us. First of all we are grateful for Brother Halliman, our long-  
time friend, now located in New Guinea. It seems only a little  
while since he came to me to talk about his going to the mis-  
sion field. We are happy to tell our friends of him and his work  
from time to time in this paper. How I thank God for Brother  
Fred and his family. I pledged him my support, and that of  
this paper, when we first talked of his becoming a missionary.  
God helping us, we want to be true to him, and we urge our  
readers today to be exceptionally loyal to this great man of  
God. . . . Then, too, our hearts are burdened for the work in  
the Caribbean area. Within the past year, we have been joy-  
ously privileged to entertain in our home Brother Hamza  
Mohammed of Trinidad, Brother George Starling of Cruz Bay,  
Virgin Islands, and Brother Angel Alejandro of Puerto Rico,  
who labors with Brother Joe Bell. All these brethren are doing  
sacrificial work and we can never thank God enough for  
them, nor assist them financially as much as we should. Both  
churches and individuals should get behind all these dear men  
of God and support them prayerfully and financially. Are you  
one of those privileged ones whom God has burdened for the  
work of missions?

I THANK GOD for the guests whom He has given us within  
our home. Every time one of God's own comes our way, we feel  
that God has honored us and blessed us again. From Trinidad,  
Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Japan, Hawaii and Brazil as well  
as from 28 states, He has blessed us with the visit of Godly  
saints. How wonderful that He should bring these our way!

I THANK GOD for the recent national election and its results.  
Long ago I learned from the Book that the results of any  
election come from God. Just as He is sovereign in all things,  
so does He control and pre-determine each election, so that  
the results thereof perfectly coincide with all His plans. Solo-  
mon said, "The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing  
thereof is of the Lord." (Proverbs 16:33). This is an allusion  
to the ancient form of voting when each one cast his vote or  
lot into the lap of some individual to tally the results. Brood-  
ing over it all is God, disposing or controlling all things.

I THANK GOD for the knowledge of God's will being done  
in the death of my little grandson (Bob and Ruth's first child).  
Only God knows how much this little man meant to me. Al-  
ready at less than two years of age, my life was completely  
interwoven with his. Nothing of all the sorrows I have known  
has ever caused me to grieve like his death. I've gone over on  
the hill, a half mile from our house, and stood there beside  
that grave which contains his precious body, many times—  
yes, multiplied times since his death. Every time I stand there,  
I promise to put in an extra "lick" just for him. I want this  
human, weak, frail and fleeting life to count now for him and  
me. I had made so many plans for his future. However, my  
(Continued on page four)



# TBE Is Thankful For Its Many Readers And We Trust You'll Think Of Us When You Pray, Asking God's Blessings To Continue With Us.

## WE WISH YOU A MOST BLESSED THANKSGIVING

(Continued from page three)

plans were not God's plans. In two instances, God said: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God." (Romans 8:28), and "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (1 Thessalonians 5:18). For years I had known these verses in my mind. Now I know them in my heart. I know that the taking of little Stephen was the very best thing for me, since God never does anything except the best in our behalf.

I THANK GOD for the blessings God has given us as a church within the past year. We are still meeting in the main dining room of the Ventura Hotel, but within the year of 1961 we expect to be in our own building. Such is already bought, but before we can make the repairs and alterations and complete the building thereof, a storm sewer must be replaced by the city. For over six months we have waited for them to begin work. We are most thankful even now for the prospect of being in our building soon. We have received some wonderfully fine families in our church this past year, which of course gladdens the heart of any pastor. . . . We have ordained two of our brethren, Brother Joe Wilson of Winston-Salem, N. C., and Brother George Pickett of Bosier City, La. What could be a greater joy than to ordain and send forth into the ministry two noble, sterling souls like these! . . . Brother Bob assisted in the re-organization of the church at Bristol, where Brother Gerald Price is the faithful pastor. . . . Our church is proud of its missions in Alaska, Michigan, North Carolina, and Washington. Brethren Crowe, Thorne, Joe Wilson, and Jim Blair who are carrying on these respective works are truly God's men for whom we are most grateful. . . . Many are the trips that were made by Brother Bob during the year, under the authority of our church, which took him north to Chicago, to western Kansas, to Florida and the Caribbean area. I just don't know how to find words sufficient to thank God for the honor He has granted us, relative to all these blessings.

I THANK GOD for the Bible Conference which God gave us in September. From nineteen states and two foreign countries 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 1961, and we are looking forward with a great deal of expectancy praying that God will bless us then as in 1960.

I THANK GOD 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 THANK GOD that I am 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. We lost a little better than \$15,000.00 in 1959, but this year as a result of our Rally Day offering and God's goodness to us, we have paid off approximately two-thirds of this amount. The remaining one-third is pressing mighty hard just now. I told you last week, the old wolf was scratching exceedingly hard at our door. We have had the usual amount of subscriptions and our income from the shop has been above average, but our contributions have been exceedingly low of recent date. 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 1960.

I THANK GOD 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.

## First Thanksgiving

(Continued from page 3)

Recalling His death for our sins, His resurrection for our justification, and His ascension to glory where He ever liveth to make intercession for us, we should most sincerely and heartily say: "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

Saul of Tarsus, who became the Apostle Paul, is set before us as a "pattern" or example. The following is but a partial list of things for which he offered thanks. Are we following his splendid example? He gave thanks for:

Being made fit to be a partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light.

Deliverance from the power of darkness.

Translation into the kingdom of the Son of God's love.

Redemption through His blood. The forgiveness of sins (Colossians 1:12-14).

His daily bread (Acts 27:35).

Human kindness in troublous times. (Acts 28:15).

The memory of friends (Philippians 1:3).

Fellowship in the gospel (Philippians 1:5).

The peace of God (Philippians 4:6-7).

Unthankfulness is one of the characteristic sins of these "perilous times" and it is coupled with unholiness (2 Timothy 3:2). Yet the God of all grace is "kind unto the unthankful and to the evil" (Luke 6:35).

A good motto for Thanksgiving Day and for every day, is: "Be ye thankful" Colossians 3:15).

—NOW

## "God's Pleasure"

(Continued from page 1)

mind their little petty thievery, so it is though we don't know God sees us, and though we don't recognize the fact God is looking at us, at the same time God is observing us, and seeing us, and is recording the acts of our lives.

My text says, "He shall see his seed." Not only is it true that God sees everyone every day, just like Mr. Mitchell saw those boys in the orchard—it is also true that God looking over a long range, from the day of Adam until the day that the last man shall be saved, sees His seed. It is not any surprise to God when a man is saved. I am sure that it is no surprise to the Almighty when somebody makes a profession of faith and is genuinely saved. I am satisfied that God sees His seed right down to the last man that shall ever

be saved.

My text says that not only shall He see His seed, but will prolong days—not "his days," for the word "his," as I have called attention to previously, is in italics and has been supplied by the translators. It isn't that the Lord Jesus Christ prolongs his days, for He is eternal, but rather He just prolongs time in order that the elect of God shall be called in. He looks out in the distance and sees His seed. He sees all those that shall be saved—all those that have been given to Him as a love gift of God the Father before the foundation of the world. Thus seeing His seed, He prolongs days. He extends time in order that the last one of God Almighty's elect shall be saved. As He does so, He declares that the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand. In other words, as the Lord Jesus Christ sees His seed, the love gift of the Father to Him before the foundation of the world, He prolongs days in order that the last one of them shall come into the fold, and to a saving knowledge of Himself. As He does so, thus the pleasure of the Lord prospers.

## MAN'S PLEASURES ARE VERY MUCH IN CONTRAST WITH THE PLEASURES OF ALMIGHTY GOD.

What you and I find pleasure in wouldn't in any wise at all bring pleasure to God. The pleasures of man are much in contrast to the pleasures of God. We read concerning the last days:

"LOVERS OF PLEASURE more than lovers of God."—II Tim. 3:4.

Thus the Apostle Paul is describing the apostasy of the last days and telling us about the perilous times that are going to come upon the earth. He tells us that people will be lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God. I say, beloved, there is quite a contrast between the things wherein God finds His pleasure and the things wherein we find our pleasure. Men are lovers of pleasure more than they are lovers of God.

Notice again:

"But she that liveth in PLEASURE IS DEAD while she liveth."—I Tim. 5:6.

I think there are some people who just live in pleasure, and for pleasure. I don't doubt but that some of you in days gone by, just lived in pleasure, and for pleasure. You lived with no thought in mind except the pleasure you got out of this world. As I look backward across the days of my ministry, I can remember lots of folk, though they were church members, who lived only for what they got out of this world. They were living in pleasure, and Paul says that the individual that lives in pleasure is dead while living. In the light of this text, a woman that just lives for the things of this world, is right now dead, even though she is living. If that is all she is doing, just getting pleasure out of this life and just seeking the pleasures of this world, Paul says she is dead while she lives. She just thinks she lives.

Listen again:

"Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the PLEASURES OF SIN for a season."—Heb. 11:25.

Beloved, don't let anybody tell you that there are not pleasures to be gathered from sin so far as your flesh is concerned. But you will notice that they are only

pleasures for a season.

Notice again:

"And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and PLEASURES OF THIS LIFE, and bring no fruit to perfection."—Luke 8:14.

This is in the parable our Lord gave of the sower. Some of the seed fell by the wayside and was picked up by the birds. Some of the seed fell on rocky ground and perished, part of the seed grew, but it was checked by the thorns, and it didn't produce anything. Our Lord said that the Word of God gets into a man's life and he is saved, but the cares of this world and the riches and pleasures of this life choke the Word of God to the extent that it brings no fruit to perfection.

I insist, beloved, there's many a Baptist classified by this third sowing. They are saved but the cares of this world and the riches of this life and the pleasures that this world has to offer choke out the Word of God, so they became unfruitful in the service of the Lord.

Listen again:

"If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing THY PLEASURE ON MY HOLY DAY; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord."—Isa. 58:13, 14.

Notice that expression, "from doing thy pleasure on my holy day." God wants us to turn away from doing our pleasure on His holy day. I often read that verse and think of the contrast so far as people are concerned. God wants us to turn away from seeking pleasure for ourselves on His holy day, and seek His pleasure. In contrast, the majority of people look to Sunday as Funday. They look to Sunday as an opportunity to go visiting their relatives, an opportunity to take a drive, an opportunity that they might go to the ball game, or an opportunity that they might do something by way of the pleasures of this world.

Notice another verse to show you what God's reaction is to the individual that lives for pleasure:

"He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man."—Prov. 21:17.

The man who lives for pleasure will be a poor man. God just isn't going to bless even materially that individual who lives for the pleasures of this world.

II

LET'S NOTICE SOME SPECIFIC THINGS WHEREIN GOD FINDS PLEASURE.

God finds pleasure in the (Continued on page 5, column 1)

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

## "God's Pleasure"

(Continued from page four)  
righteousness of His people. We read:

"I know also, my God, that thou lovest the heart, and HAST PLEASURE IN UPRIGHTNESS." — I Chron. 29:17.

Beloved, do you want to know one thing that brings pleasure to Almighty God? It is the uprightness of heart and life, on the part of God's people. In view of this, I ask you, how much pleasure do you bring God every day? If uprightness causes God pleasure, how much pleasure do you bring God day by day?

The Lord also takes pleasure in His people. Listen:

"The Lord TAKETH PLEASURE IN THEM THAT FEAR HIM, in those that hope in His mercy." — Psa. 147:11.

"For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people." — Psa. 149:4.

Notice, the Lord takes pleasure in them that fear Him—in His people. I ask you, are you one of His people? Are you a saved man or a saved woman? Do you have a godly, reverential fear on your part whereby you stand in fear before God—that is, in reverence and awe before God? Are you one of His people that reverence Him day by day? If so, then you have this assurance that you bring pleasure to Almighty God.


Let's notice something else that brings pleasure to Almighty God: "That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure." — Isa. 44:28.

Isaiah wrote this prophecy two hundred years before Cyrus ever came into this world, yet Isaiah knew that Cyrus was going to be born, called him by name, and the result was that two hundred years later—in the providence of God—in the fulfillment of prophecy, Cyrus was born, he was named the very name that God called him through Isaiah, and he became the king of Persia.

Now how did Cyrus bring pleasure to God. We read:

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"That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the Lord, and there is none else." — Isa. 45:6.

When Cyrus became king of Persia he gave forth an edict, as is recorded in Ezra 1, that the Jews should be returned from the land of Babylon to their own land in Palestine. The purpose of that edict was that the world from east to west might through the Jews know that there was none but God—that there was none else beside Him. Now, beloved, that unsaved man, Cyrus, did that. God said two hundred years before Cyrus was born that he was going to get pleasure out of what he did.

I want to tell you, beloved, whenever you find Scripture fulfilled, it brings pleasure to God. Here was an unsaved man that fitted into the niche that God carved out for him, and the result was that Cyrus did exactly what was prophesied. God got pleasure out of him because he did the will of God to the extent that he caused the people of God to give forth a testimony before the Lord from the east to the west that besides God there was none else—He was the only God.

Let's notice something else wherein God gets His pleasure. Listen:

"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and FOR THY PLEASURE THEY ARE AND WERE CREATED." — Rev. 4:11.

This is the picture in Heaven of those individuals falling down before God worshipping Him. May I remind you that the creation of this world came about through the hands of Almighty God. It was for the purpose that God Himself might get pleasure through the things that He created. Just think how the creation is used against God. Just think how the creature and the creation is used by man so contrary unto God, yet this text says that the angels of God praise Him for His creation and say, that "for thy pleasure they are and were created."

I want you to notice one thing wherein God doesn't get pleasure. We read:

"Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man DRAW BACK, my soul shall have NO PLEASURE in him." — Heb. 10:38.

Beloved, God gets pleasure out of His creation. God gets pleasure even out of an unsaved man that does His will, as in the case of Cyrus. God gets pleasure out of His own people that serve and fear Him. God gets pleasure out of those who walk in uprightness. But there is one thing sure, God does not get pleasure out of the individual who is saved, who draws back, or who backslides. He says, "My soul shall have no pleasure in him."

I recognize the fact that all the Arminians take this Scripture and run off to an extreme to declare it is talking about a man who was saved, and who is lost again. There is not a word of truth in it, beloved. This is talking about a man who is saved but has lost the joy of his salvation—a man who was once living for the Lord and isn't living for the Lord today—a man who was once walking with God and he isn't walking with God today—a man who was once serving the Lord and he isn't serving the Lord today. God says, "But if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him."

I ask you, what is your status before God? Are you saved? If you are saved, are you walking close to Him, or is your soul drawing back? Are you cold and indifferent? Are you in a backslidden state? Do you go to church only when it is convenient, or are you faithful to the Lord every hour of the day to the best of your ability? Beloved, God gets no pleasure out of the individual who draws back, and who fails to live for Him.

This is a warning. This ought to stand as a tremendous warning to every one of us. There isn't a one of us but what backslides every day. You might not want to call it that. You might not want to admit that your life cools down considerably between the time you come to church and the time you come back the next time. I tell you, beloved, there isn't one of us but what has to be on our guard every day lest we get cold and indifferent and get far removed from God. The Word of God says God has no pleasure in the soul that draws back from Him.

## III WHAT IS THE PLEASURE OF THE LORD THAT HE IS TALKING ABOUT?

If you will study the entire chapter, you will see that He is talking about the death of the Son of God. You will see that He is talking about the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. You will see that He is talking about Jesus Christ coming to die for our sins. In other words, the work of man's redemption which was put into Christ's hands to accomplish, is that which gives pleasure to Almighty God above everything else.

May I remind you that there was never a time in the life of the Lord Jesus Christ that He wasn't looking forward to Calvary when He was here within this world. We read:

"I am afflicted and ready to die from my youth up." — Psa. 88:15.

From the very youth of the Lord Jesus Christ He was looking forward to Calvary. From the time that He came into this world He was looking for the

time when He was going to the cross. He never left this world until He finished the work that He came to do. What Christ purposed and resolved was that He should die upon the cross, and He set His heart upon it to the extent that God looked down and spoke of it as the pleasure of the Lord. I say to you, beloved, the one thing above everything that brought pleasure to Almighty God was the death of Jesus Christ at Calvary when He died for our sins.

Men talk about their works, and how they are working their way to Heaven. Men talk about how they went to an altar of prayer, and how they prayed through. Men talk about how they have been baptized, and how they have gotten rid of their sins. I want to tell you, beloved, baptism doesn't bring any pleasure to God from the standpoint of salvation. A mourner's bench doesn't bring any pleasure to God in the realm of salvation. It is an abomination to Almighty God. A man's works bring no pleasure to God. Rather, the finished work of Jesus Christ at Calvary brings pleasure to Him. We read:

"Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, ACCORDING TO THE GOOD PLEASURE OF HIS WILL." — Eph. 1:5.

I tell you, beloved, the salvation that Jesus Christ wrought out at Calvary was for the good pleasure of the will of the Father.

Will you take a little trip with me to Calvary? Will you see Him who two thousand years ago felt the nails as they went through His hands and His feet, and who felt the spear as it pierced His side. Will you see Him whose face has already had the beard plucked from it until that face is left a mass of gore. See His back which has already been smitten to the extent that it is nothing but a mass of gore and blood. See Him as He stands with the blood fast dropping from His body. Look at Him as the very pain leaps along His arteries, and as His bosom heaves and falls beneath the weight of sorrow that He is bearing. I tell you, beloved, the one thing that pleased Almighty God above all else was the death of His Son for our sins whereby He wrought out our redemption.

## IV THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT MUST SUCCEED IN ORDER FOR GOD TO GET HIS PLEASURE.

There must be the ministry of the Word. The Word has to be preached if God's pleasure is going to become a reality. God never in this world has saved one man apart from His Word. We read:

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD." — Rom. 10:17.

"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." — Isa. 55:11.

God doesn't save people apart from the hearing of His Word. In order for the pleasure of God to be a reality there must be a faithful ministry of the Word of God—that men shall hear the Word, that faith shall be begotten in that manner, and that they by faith shall come through the Word of God to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. I tell you, beloved, if the Word of God is not preached, God's pleasure would never be a reality.

A woman wrote me of recent date and told me that I was wrong in my preaching, all because I said that the Word of God had to be preached. She said that makes salvation dependent upon man. That is the Hardshell position. The Hardshells all through the years have said that if you have to hear the Word of God, that means that salvation has some of man's efforts in it, and it is not all of grace. Without taking time to answer that, I'll say this in passing, God in six thousand years has never saved a soul apart from His Word in some manner. It is recorded in the Word of God that the only way men shall be saved is by the hearing of the Word. We read:

"But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and BELIEF OF THE TRUTH." — II Thess. 2:13.

Beloved, God doesn't just work through the Spirit. God works through the Holy Spirit and a belief of the truth, and without the truth nobody would ever be saved.

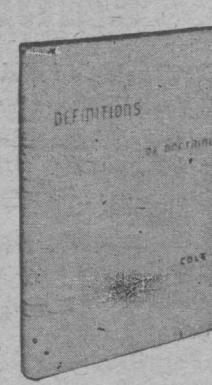
I see that crowd that He is going to prolong days for, in order that the last one of them shall be saved, coming from the east and the west and from the north and the south. I see that crowd that is going to bring more pleasure to God than anything else. When I see that crowd, I say that the one thing that the pleasure of God is contingent upon is the faithful ministry of God's servants until the last one of God's elect is called in.

Beloved, I want to be sure I am faithful to this Book. I want to be sure that I don't deviate from His Word. I want to be sure that from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21 I give a "thus saith the Lord," and I give it faithfully, and that I am able to explain it in such a way that men will understand, and nobody will be confused thereby.

I tell you, beloved, one thing that is going to bring pleasure to God is a faithful ministry of the Word, which shall bring salvation. (Continued on page 6, column 5)

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# God's Unlimited Liberty Concerning Evil

By PASTOR JAMES CRACE  
Missionary Baptist Church,  
Pikeston, Ohio

## EDITORIAL NOTE:

The following is certainly dealing with a much controverted thought. The author has expressed his convictions clearly. They may not meet with the approval of many readers. However, please keep in mind that he is dealing with the subject of evil from the standpoint of its EFFICIENT cause, not the INSTRUMENTAL cause. That God has a purpose in evil and that it is here because of His direct will is only denied by those who make God subject to other powers. That evil did not necessarily have to be is certainly true, for God did not have to create this world, Satan or man. That evil does exist is evidence within itself, that God has a purpose in it.

"I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil. I the Lord do all these things." (Isa. 45:7).

Is God the efficient cause of sin as well as good? Where did evil come from? Who is the "author" of sin?

These and many more questions have been asked by many people but few even attempt to answer them. When someone does undertake to answer, it is usually with the idea of giving the Devil or man or both the credit for having brought into existence evil. I am aware that many will disagree with the things I am going to set forth, but I cannot but speak the things of God. Therefore, I humbly ask you who differ to consider carefully and scripturally before you reject what I say. May the Holy Spirit grant that you do so.

In this message there will be many things left unanswered. There will be failings as far as explanations are concerned. Nevertheless I believe the message is true and I pray that God will be glorified hereby.

First let me say that the argument about God's being unfair or unjust if He did create evil is based entirely on a false reasoning by the natural mind and not on scripture. Doesn't God require more than man is able to perform, so far as His law is concerned? Did God ever say it was right for a person to disobey Him? Did He ever say that the best we could do is acceptable to Him? Does He have a "sliding scale law" whereby He makes men responsible only to that part of the law which they find themselves able and willing to keep? I answer, No. God's actual re-

vealed requirement for all men is that they sin not. In other words He never one time reveals that it is right to break even one of His commands or precepts. Sin is the transgression of His law and we are commanded to sin not—even when we are angry.

Now almost all folk realize that they cannot keep from sinning. I know that there are those that claim to be living above sin but they do lie. They know better—or ought to. They know their sayings will not match the sayings of God's Book. Before Christ came and died for the sins of His people God required that an offering or sacrifice be offered for the sins of ignorance. This, of course, was a type of Christ and showed that He would die for the sins of ignorance as well as all other sins of His people. I tell you that God calls any transgression of His Word a sin.

Do you say, Not so? Perhaps you will quote James 4:17 which reads, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." I answer that this verse is referring to what man is aware of and not what God thinks of the matter. Even if a man is not aware of the fact that he has transgressed God's law he is not free from guilt. If Christ has died for that man, he will not suffer the eternal consequences of that sin, but he nevertheless is guilty. Those of you that know this to be true will not charge God with being unfair or unjust in this matter. Why then will you say that it is an unfair God that would create evil?

The same thing is true concerning those who are predestinated to eternal hell. They never had a day of grace. They never shall have a day of grace. From God's standpoint, there has never been a moment that the reprobate could have been saved. God created the reprobate with His eternal destiny in view, yet God is not unjust or unfair in the matter. Those of you who know the truth of this will not charge God with being unjust. Why then will you rebel at the fact that God created evil? Why will you try to give Satan the appearance of having been able to create anything—even evil? Why do you fail to realize that whatsoever God does is good and right, even though most people may say they do not think it is right? Why will you

try to please men rather than God by preaching and teaching in such a manner that unbelievers of truth can give power and strength to the Devil by proclaiming how he (the Devil) created evil? Therefore, say they, God did not create everything that is created. They attribute the creation of sin to the Devil. This is a lie and it gives to Satan a power that he does not have. The only true God is absolute creator of all things including evil. He is the absolute ruler of all things. He only is the first cause of all things, both good and evil.

I realize that I am under obligation to prove these things. However I am not obligated to make you believe them. There is God the Holy Spirit; it is His work to make whom He pleases believe or disbelieve these, as well as all other things. Therefore, may His will be done in this message. I am persuaded that those who are to believe this message shall believe it and those that are to disbelieve it shall disbelieve it. I shall plant the truth as I am told to do but God must give the increase.

Let us now proceed to the body of our message. Our text says that God created evil. In the same verse (Isa. 45:7) God declares that He formed the light. Few challenge Him about this. God further says He created darkness. Few dispute this. He says He makes peace. Only unbelievers disagree. But God goes on to say that He created evil.

Lo and behold, practically all the human race disagrees violently! "Mistranslation," they cry. "A terrible mistake," they say. "Dangerous words," some declare.

Well, we cannot accept such rebellings against this truth. In God's Word we read, "Shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it?" (Amos 3:6).

Again Job says to his wife, "Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips." (Job 2:10).

Also, "The Lord hath made all things for himself; yea, even the wicked for the day of evil." (Prov. 16:4).

And again, "The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue is from the Lord." (Prov. 16:1).

In Prov. 16:9 we read, "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps."

If God has given grace to believe His Word how can one reject these true sayings? If one rejects these things how can he believe any of God's Word? If you do not believe these things how is it that you can expect people to believe you when you say you believe other parts of the Word? Take heed, friends that the light that is in you be not darkness.

There is one more portion of God's Book that I would bring to your memory before we go on. In Acts 2:22-23 we read, "Ye men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Him being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken and by wicked hands have crucified and slain."

I would discuss first the reason Jesus was delivered up. Who will dare oppose the revealed truth of this text? Christ was delivered up by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God. I also go further and say that all things (I make no exceptions) happen because of the determinate counsel of God. I understand His foreknowledge to be according to His

determinate counsel or eternal purpose. I assert that the comings and goings of all His creation do come to pass because God, in the beginning, determined and willed that the particular events would come to pass. I say that no man nor beast or non-living thing can do one thing, either good or bad, unless Almighty God has willed that it do that thing. Neither can any of God's creation fail to do those things that God has predestinated them to do. I do not believe that God has left any of His created things to chance or choice. By this I mean that God has so ordered every event, both large and small, and that every event will come to pass just as God has predestinated. I refer here to evil as well as good.

I know there are many of you who will scoff at this message. Some of you will say that some people will be caused to throw all morals away. I disagree. Why? Well, first, no man can throw all morals away unless God has so ordered. In the second place, the only reason all of us do not throw all our morals away is because God won't let us. Thirdly, the only morals we have are those that God has wrought within us.

Don't you realize that you are totally depraved and have any morals at all only because of the grace of God?

The God that I worship absolutely and unhindered controls every thought, word, and deed of every thing and every person. Do I worship a false God? If I worship a false God I am at this time on the road to destruction. If you can prove that the God I am describing in this message is a false God then you have a duty to teach me the truth. Is the God you serve different from this God I speak of? If so, we are not worshipping the same God. I say I am speaking of the God of the Bible. I say He is the only true God. I say no other god can save. Is this your God? Do you know this God or do you know another?

And I believe that I can prove that God efficiently created sin. In II Peter 2:8, we read, "And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at his word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed."

Consider carefully these things. These people were appointed to be disobedient. Disobedience is

sin. Now since all men must do everything that God has appointed for them, it does follow that God is the efficient cause of sin as well as good. To say less is to say that God is not sovereign.

God says He created evil. I believe that. I believe evil actions must have an efficient cause. I believe that a sin or evil is more than a negation. Sin is the transgression of the law. Christ proved that thoughts and desires are sin when He said a person who looks on a woman to lust after her has committed adultery with her already in his heart. Cf. Mt. 5:28. I repeat Prov. 16:1, which says, "The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue is from the Lord."

In spite of all these things, I do not, and will not fail to regard men as responsible beings. They are commanded to obey the revealed things of God. Not to do so is sin. The wages of sin is eternal damnation in Hell. I warn you that you are commanded to keep the commands of the Lord. You are responsible to do that which is right and good. Only God can do as He pleases. Men can not but do what God has so commanded. If men do not do so they shall be counted guilty of sin. The wages of sin is death. Obeying God's law will not save, never-the-less obedience is required by the Lord.

"Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God!"

## "God's Pleasure"

(Continued from page five)  
vation to those of His elect.

Not only must there be a faithful ministry to His Word, but the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is going to have to succeed. I recognize the fact that the Devil is working hard. The Devil would like to see every true church go out of existence. When I say a true church, I mean a Missionary Baptist Church. I don't mean all Missionary Baptist churches, because some of them are just as corrupt as the Devil would have them be. The only churches our Lord has is Missionary Baptist churches, and if God is going to get His pleasure, His church is going to have to continue.

I am not worried one particle about the church going out of existence. The Lord Jesus Christ said, "I will build my church and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it." Beloved thus far He has kept His promise. He has to (Continued on page 7, column 1)

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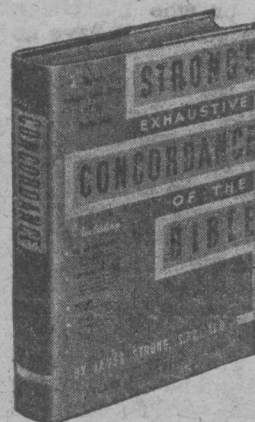
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### "God's Pleasure"

(Continued from page six)

keep His promise. The gates of Hell cannot prevail against His church. It is His church that is to take the Word and faithfully give it out until the end of the ages, to the extent that all those who are the elect of God shall hear the Word, and shall receive the Lord Jesus Christ by faith. I tell you, beloved, it just means this, if God gets His pleasure in the bringing in of the elect, then the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is going to have to continue right down to the end of the age.

It tells me something else. It tells me that the glorious doctrine of missions shall never come to an end until the last one of His elect is called in. When our Lord was here, He gave a commission to His church, and that commission was that we were to go into all the world, to preach the Gospel to every one. When we have preached the Gospel to every one we have done our part. Then, beloved, it is up to God to do His part. When we have given the Word of God as faithful witnesses of our Lord in a missionary effort, we can expect thereby to bring in the elect of God to the Lord Jesus Christ.

You say, "I don't know who the elect are." I don't know either, beloved. I have no way of knowing. That is not my business. My business is to preach the Book. It is God's business to call in His elect. Beloved, you can be certain of one thing. Everyone of God's elect will be called in.

We read:

"ALL THAT THE FATHER GIVETH ME SHALL COME TO ME; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."—John 6:37.

Do you think that there is going to be one of the elect lost? Do you think that there will be one single one of the elect of God that won't make it? No, no, beloved. "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me."

My God is going to have pleasure. He is going to be satisfied.

I know there are things that give Him pleasure now. Even an unsaved man like Cyrus, gave God pleasure, when he did God's will. I know there are things that give God pleasure right now, for saints, children of God, that live for Him please God right now. I know there are things that give God pleasure. The very fact that you and I as children of God, witness for Him—the very fact that we live in uprightness brings pleasure to God. I tell you, beloved, the thing that is going to bring the most pleasure to my God is for the last one of the elect to come in eventually. He shall see them gathered from the east, from the west, from the north, from the south, and from the isles of the sea. I think those of America shall perhaps sing "One Lord," those of Europe and Asia shall perhaps sing "one faith," and those of the isles of the sea perhaps will sing "One baptism"; then all together in one grand and glorious hallelujah chorus shall sing "One Lord, one faith, one baptism. All the saints of God will come marching in, and when the last one of God's elect is garnered off the earth, the pleasure of the Lord is complete.

Doesn't it bless your heart to be a member of a church that is trying to carry out a missionary program? Doesn't it bless your heart to know that you know a little bit about the Book, and you are trying to live in the light of it, trying to preach it and trying to teach it?

How I pray that God will help us as a church to keep busy that ultimately the pleasure of God shall be fulfilled.

May God bless you!

### Troubles

(Continued from page one)

God sometimes allows trials to come as a purifier of faith, and a developer of Christian character. (Mal. 3:3). Trials may serve to purify and refine just as fire refines precious metals. As has been stated, it is the storms that cause the great oaks to send down roots that serve to anchor them firmly in the depths of the soil. In many years of experience in radio broadcasting, we have learned that the letters from listeners that express the greatest spiritual understanding come from sick people—especially invalids who have gone through the refining fires of af-

fliction. Strong Christian character is not developed in a spiritual hot house, but out in the world of trials and temptations and human difficulties.

God sometimes allows trials to come that we may be privileged to obtain eternal reward. (See James 1:12) Great reward shall be given to those who face temptations and difficulties and overcome them for Christ's sake. One day we shall doubtless thank the Lord for every difficulty that he let come our way, for we shall see that he enabled us to 'get rich' in eternal things by means of the testings that we came through. A great pas-

### THANKSGIVING HERITAGE



### The Patience Of God

(Continued from page one)

man's self that makes him do unbecoming things upon a provocation. A prince that can bridle his passions is a king over himself as well as over his subjects. God is slow to anger because great in power. He has not less power over Himself than over His creatures."

It is at the above point, we think, that God's patience is most clearly distinguished from His mercy. Though the creature is benefitted thereby, the patience of God chiefly respects Himself, a restraint placed upon His acts by His will; whereas His mercy terminates wholly upon the creature. The patience of God is that excellency which causes Him to sustain great injuries without immediately avenging Himself. He has a power of patience as well as a power of justice. Thus the Hebrew word for the Divine long-suffering is rendered "slow to anger" in Nehemiah 9:17, Psa. 103:8, etc. Not that there are any passions in the Divine nature, but that God's wisdom and will is pleased to act with that stateliness and sobriety which becometh His exalted majesty.

In support of our definition above let us point out that it was to this excellency in the Divine character that Moses appealed, when Israel sinned so grievously at Kadesh-Barnea, and there provoked Jehovah so sorely. Unto His servant the Lord said, "I will smite them with the pestilence and disinherit them." Then it was that the typical mediator pleaded, "I beseech Thee let the power of my Lord be great according as

Thou hast spoken, saying, The Lord is longsuffering," etc. (Num. 14:17). Thus, His "longsuffering" is His "power" of self-restraint.

Again in Rom. 9:22 we read, "What if God, willing to show His wrath, and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction." Were God to immediately break these reprobate vessels into pieces, His power of self-control would not so eminently appear; by bearing with their wickedness and forbearing punishment so long, the power of His patience is gloriously demonstrated. True, the wicked interpret His longsuffering quite differently — "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil." (Eccl. 8:11)—but the anointed eye adores what they abuse.

"The God of Patience" (Rom. 15:5) is one of the Divine titles. Deity is thus denominated, first, because God is both the Author and Object of the grace of patience in the creature.

Second, because this is what He is in Himself: patience is one of His perfections.

Third, as a pattern for us: "Put (Continued on page 8, column 1)

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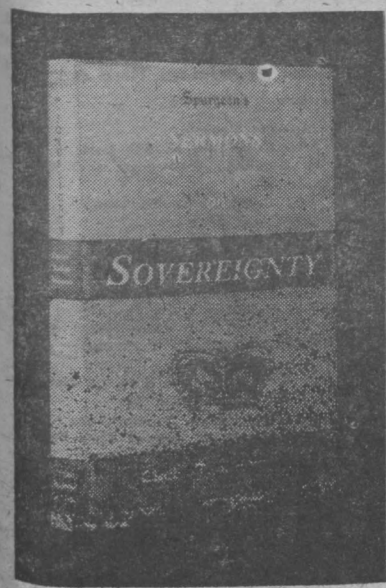


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## The Patience Of God

(Continued from page 2)  
on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercy, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering" (Col. 3:12).

And again, "Be ye therefore followers (emulators) of God, as dear children" (Eph. 5:2). When tempted to be disgusted at the dullness of another, or to be revenged on one who has wronged you, call to remembrance God's infinite patience and longsuffering with yourself.

The patience of God is mani-

festated in His dealings with sinners. How strikingly was it displayed toward the antediluvians. When mankind was universally degenerate, and all flesh had corrupted his way, God did not destroy them till He had forewarned them. He "waited" (I Peter 3:20), probably no less than one hundred and twenty years (Gen. 6:3), during which time Noah was a "preacher of righteousness" (II Peter 2:5).

So, later, when the Gentiles not only worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, but also committed the vilest abominations contrary to even the

dictates of nature (Rom. 1:19-26), and hereby filled up the measure of their iniquity; yet, instead of drawing His sword for the extermination of such rebels, He gave them "rain from heaven and fruitful seasons." (Acts 14:16, 17).

Marvelously was God's patience exercised and manifested toward Israel. First, He "suffered their manners" for forty years in the wilderness (Acts 13:18). Later, when they had entered Canaan, but followed the evil customs of the nations around them, and turned to idolatry; though God chastened them sorely, He did not utterly destroy them, but in their distress, raised up deliverers for them. When their iniquity was raised to such a height that none but a God of infinite patience could have borne them. He, notwithstanding, spared them many years before He allowed them to be carried down into Babylon. Finally, when their rebellion against Him reached its climax by crucifying His Son, He waited forty years ere He sent the Romans against them, and that, only after they had judged themselves "unworthy of eternal life" (Acts 13:46).

How wondrous is God's patience with the world today. On every side people are sinning with a high hand. The Divine law is trampled under foot and God Himself openly despised. It is truly amazing that He does not instantly strike dead those who so brazenly defy Him. Why does He not suddenly cut off the haughty infidel and blatant blasphemer, as He did Ananias and Sapphira? Why does He not cause the earth to open its mouth and devour the persecutors of his people, so that, like Dathan and Abiram, they shall go down alive into the Pit? And what of apostate Christendom, where every possible form of sin is now tolerated and practiced under cover of the holy name of Christ? Why does not the righteous wrath of Heaven make an end of such abominations? Only one answer is possible: because God bears with "much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction."

And what of the writer and the reader? Let us review our own lives. It is not long since we followed a multitude to do evil, had no concern for God's glory, and lived only to gratify self. How patiently He bore with our vile conduct! And now that grace has snatched us as brands from the burning, giving us a place in God's family, and begotten us unto an eternal inheritance in glory; how miserably we requite Him. How shallow our gratitude, how tardy our obedience, how frequent our backsliding! One reason why God suffers the flesh to remain in the believer is that He may exhibit His "longsuffering to usward" (II Peter 3:9). Since this Divine attribute is manifested only in this world, God takes advantage to display it toward "His own."

May our meditation upon this Divine excellency soften our hearts, make our consciences tender, and may we learn in the school of holy experience the "patience of saints," namely, submission to the Divine will and continuance in well doing. Let us earnestly seek grace to emulate this Divine excellency. "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Matt. 5:48); in the immediate context Christ exhorts us to love our enemies, bless them that curse us, do good to them that hate us. God bears long with the

wicked notwithstanding the multitude of their sin, and shall we desire to be revenged because of a single injury?

## Building Stoned

(Continued from page 1)

he wanted his statement regarding this subject and he would put his picture on the TV screen and tell the Pastor's viewpoint.

On Tuesday, Oct. 11th, at an evening broadcast over this TV Station, the reporter did throw this pastor's picture on the TV screen but never said one word this pastor had to say, but quoted what the downstate chairman of the Kennedy-Johnson committee had to say about this Pastor, named him, and gave the address and name of the church and called the literature sent out by him and the church "hate literature."

Then, that night, Oct. 11th, under cover of darkness, the lovely building was stoned, by party or parties unknown. Rocks and brick bats were hurled through the tinted glass windows and five were broken out and the missiles rolled across the lovely hardwood floors to the opposite wall of the building. Some hit seats and one hit the end of the piano, leaving a large dent. The Pastor and his wife live in the parsonage just south of the building and it was not until the next morning that they knew the building had been stoned. The same reporter from the Television Station was called and asked to come out and take a picture of the scene; he refused to do so.

The Mayor and Chief of Police were notified and not one word about this building's being stoned was ever put into the two Springfield papers as a news item.

On Friday, Oct. 14th, the Pastor tried to get a nine inch, one column AD put into the two papers, telling of his stand and telling about the buildings being stoned. They refused to take it, until that evening, he was called and told if he would sign an affidavit to the effect that the building was stoned they would put the ad in Saturday morning and evening papers. He did this and they put it in as a PAID ADVERTISEMENT.

There are three Radio Stations in the city; only one mentioned the stoning of this building.

It has been confirmed that the Democratic chairman mentioned and the reporter of the TV Station are both Roman Catholics—one wonders who controls the Radio Station, Television Station and Newspapers in this capitol of Illinois.

The police guarded this building and parsonage for over one week, having a police car stationed, watching the building every night and now two cars patrol the streets around the building every night. The pastor has received three anonymous telephone calls, threatening his life; one that they would get him if he didn't send out letters, stating he was wrong about the contents of the article he sent out (30,000 copies of this article have gone out). Another call, when the pastor was out of town, was to his wife telling her to get in touch with him and tell him not to come back or they would get him.

Pray for this church and pastor. We are wondering how many other pastors of Protestant and Baptist churches in Springfield have said anything about the danger of a State Church coming

to America.

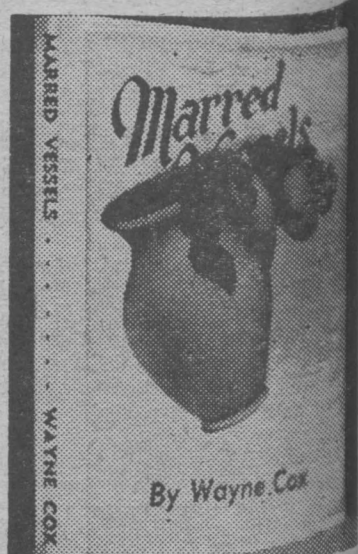
God give us, who profess to have and know the truth, grace backbone and intestinal fortitude (just plain guts) to stand for truth and righteousness. Oh, why are so many so weak-kneed, back-boneless, mealy-mouthed and so timid about their stand for our blood-bought heritage? We wonder how such ministers will feel when they stand before the judgment seat of Christ? And should it be that we have a State Church in America, with what and how would these ministers face their congregations, when they did not inform their people about said dangers?

Three Roman Catholic women came into the pastor's office after this event and after discussing this matter they said they hoped that if Mr. Kennedy were elected that Berean Baptist Church would be one of the first churches that he would close up. They thus allowed their hearts to speak out loud and this is evidently the real desire of the Roman Catholics the world over.

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