

The Baptist Examiner

"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

CIRCULATION IN ALL STATES AND MANY FOREIGN COUNTRIES

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Ye must be born again'

By ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

one can get into this physical world without being born in a physical sense. It is as true that no one can get into the spiritual realm—the Kingdom of God, without being born in the spiritual sense. Jesus says this in John 3, where He says, "YE MUST be born again," "except one be born of water and of the spirit he cannot see the Kingdom of God."

an elderly woman—a woman of wealth, who knew that she was nearing the end of life, said to a relative, "You don't believe I have children. Would you consider any children? Of course not; so can you believe that God would permit His children to be born in Hell?" That woman's line of reasoning was based on the assumption that all people are children of God through the

natural or physical birth. But they are not. "They that are children of the flesh, these are NOT the children of God." Speaking of the natural conditions of the people, the Scriptures say, "And were by nature the children of wrath even as others." (Eph. 2:3). "Ye must be born AGAIN." The Greek word there is "anōthen," which means "from above." Jesus indicates that it is not the natural birth that makes one a child of God—it is the second or spiritual birth.

JUST WHAT IS THIS SECOND BIRTH?

1. It is not human reformation. Quitting some of one's meanness does not reborn one.
2. It is not joining a church or being baptized. That is all that many professing Christians have—church membership. There is nothing about joining anything that makes a new creature out of one.
3. It is not "getting religion."



Roy Mason

"So and So got religion down there at the revival." We have heard such a statement many times. But people are naturally "religious." This is shown by the practices of the heathen who have their gods and their worship.

POSITIVELY IT IS—

1. A work of God. (See John 1:12, 13) "...not of the will of man, but of God." None of us borned ourselves into this world, neither can one born himself into God's family. Only God can bring about the new birth.
2. It takes place instantaneously.

Some think of it as a process, (Continued on page 8, column 4)

Charlie's Sermons

A BIOGRAPHICAL SERIES ON THE LIFE OF
CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON (1834-1892)

ing Himself to us. This is one of the most effectual proofs of lowliness. Of necessity He describes Himself, for who else can describe Him? "No man knoweth the Son, but the Father." Matt. 11:27. Moreover, He states a fact which else might not be believed, seeing He makes Himself so common a flower of earth, so graciously a joy for men, that all may have Him.

We will not take up your time by trying to discover what flowers these may have been in the eastern flora; we may select those most like them in our own western land, and do our Lord no wrong.

I. THE EXCEEDING DELIGHTFULNESS OF OUR LORD.

He compares Himself, not only, as in other places, to needful (Continued on page 8, column 1)

"ONCE IN GRACE, ALWAYS IN GRACE"

By James F. Crace, Pikeston, Ohio

The doctrine of the eternal security of those who are truly saved is one of the most hated doctrines in God's Word. There are several reasons for this. The natural hatred unsaved folk have for Bible truths is the leading cause. However, there is a second reason which I would have you think about. Unsaved people are the spiritual children of the devil. They are under his power and they are by nature, generally speaking, of the same attitude toward God as the devil.

Now the devil's great desire is

to "be like the most high God." God is sovereign over all things. God rules everything He has created, including all the human race. God is absolutely free. He does as He desires to do. He is under no law whatsoever. He makes alive. He kills. He makes rich. He makes poor. He saves. He damns. In short, God does whatever He desires to do.

Satan would be like God if he could. However, the only true God also controls Satan. God tells Satan to go and Satan has to go. God tells Satan to stop and

Satan has to stop. God tells Satan to do this or that and Satan must do this or that. God is sovereign over Satan as well as everything else.

Man would be like God if he could. Listen to Christ in John 8:44: "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will (to) do." Those who think that the natural man is naturally inclined to worship the only true God would do well to quietly withdraw themselves and slowly read the Bible from cover to cover. They will find an entirely different picture of man than is generally set forth.

The Bible shows man (the end) (Continued on page 5, column 4)



Pastor J. M. McDonnell

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

"WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN JESUS COMES?"

"Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen."—Rev. 1:7.

In the light of my text, I think every time a cloud comes over the sky it should be a reminder to us of the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. Every time you see a cloud in the sky, you ought to more or less stand still and say, "He may be on this one." I don't know when He is coming. I don't mean that I am in any wise at all setting a date as to His return. However, I do say that every time we see a cloud in the sky, it ought to cause us to pause and reflect relative to His coming; and as I say, we ought to say to

ourselves, "My Lord may be on this one."

In fact, you and I ought to be thinking about the second coming of Jesus Christ every day. There ought not be a day go by but that we are thinking about, remembering, and looking forward to His return.

When D. L. Moody was pastor in Chicago he had a number of missions around over the city, and the various preacher boys of the Moody church conducted services in those missions. Every once in a while Mr. Moody would lay aside a week in which he would visit each night a different mission. He would always tell the preacher boys who had charge of the missions in advance: "Now sometime this week I am going to come

see you." He wouldn't tell them what night, but he would just say, "Now sometime this week I am going to come see you." That meant when Monday night came, every fellow was on his toes to have the very best service possible, because there was a possibility that Mr. Moody might drop in and worship with them that night. I guess, in all probability, after Monday night, when Tuesday night came, that one of the lads—the one that was visited by Mr. Moody the night before, would perhaps breathe a little sigh of relief, but all the others would be on their toes expecting Moody to come see them.

Well, I have often thought of that in this respect: We ought to (Continued on page 2, column 2)

HOW TO GET RID OF YOUR PASTOR

1. Look him straight in the eye while he is preaching and say "Amen." He will preach himself to death.

2. Give him a raise. He has probably been on starvation wages for so long, he will eat himself to death.

3. Tell him you are tired of seeing every one else doing all the work and you want a job to do. The shock will be too much. He will have a heart attack.

4. Pat him on the back from time to time and encourage him. Tell him what a good job he is doing. He will work himself to death.

5. Help him to grow in Grace and to get better and better and another Church will be sure to gobble him up.



(1834-1892)

Examiner Editorials

BIBLE CONFERENCE DRAWS NEAR

One of the biggest events of the year for us here at Calvary Baptist Church is our annual Bible Conference. We are looking forward to another great time of fellowship and blessing again this Labor Day week-end. We are expecting a great number of guests from all parts of the country and we are planning a preaching program which we believe will indeed be spiritually uplifting to all who attend.

We can't emphasize strongly enough our WELCOME to every reader of this paper to the Bible Conference. If you can get here, you won't have to worry about your meals; and, if the Lord provides, you won't have to bother about a place to stay. Thus far, we have been able to take care of all of our guests, but each year the matter of rooms becomes a little more difficult as our crowds increase. However, we are glad to have this problem, since we know that this simply means more people are in attendance.

We urge you—all of you who possibly can—to make your plans to be with us and the scores of other Baptists who will be here for the Bible Conference, beginning Friday night, August 30 and ending at noon Monday, September 2. If you can't make it for the whole Conference come for whatever time you can.

BROTHER CRACE WILL BE OUR MISSIONARY—

When Brother James Crace goes to New Guinea, he will be under the authority of Calvary Baptist Church, Ashland, Kentucky. We will be responsible for



James Crace

his support and he will be responsible to us as our missionary. Any offerings in behalf of Broth-

er Crace's work should therefore be sent to Calvary Baptist Church. Already a large offering has been received in his behalf (see report in this issue) and we appreciate the interest of others in this work.

You who keep up with the work of Brother Fred Halliman realize that Brother Halliman is in dire need of assistance. We believe Brother Crace will be able to render this assistance and thus further the work of Christ in New Guinea. We believe our readers will stand with us and Brother Crace with your prayers and support, as he makes final plans during the next few months to take his departure. We will keep you informed through TBE as progress is made toward this end.

"DEATH OF THE POPE" TO BE A TRACT

There has been such a response to the recent sermon by Brother Gilpin on "The Death of the Pope and What He Has Learned" that it is being put into tract form for further distribution.

A Texas reader, Brother N. L. Seale, has contributed \$100.00 toward the expense of the tract and urges others to likewise help in getting the sermon into print. There have been numerous other letters in response to this message and we feel that such an interest reveals that the message should be made available as a tract.

When ordering this tract, any offering you care to make toward printing and postal expenses will be deeply appreciated. Since we will only be able to print a limited number of copies, please be reasonable in your requests, asking only for the number of copies you feel certain you will be able to distribute.

What Will Happen?

(Continued from page one)

be on our toes, not just during one week, but we ought to be on our toes, with our eyes on the clouds, looking for the coming of Jesus Christ 365 days of every year. I say to you, beloved, every one of us ought to be continuously looking for His coming and expecting Jesus Christ to put in His appearance.

In my last message on the Second Coming I tried to show you what is going to take place when Jesus comes. Among other things, I said that this physical world is going to be made over. Once upon a time this physical world was a thing of beauty, but as a result of sin, thorns and thistles

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came into the earth. Desert, wasteland, and solitary places began to abound. But someday, when Jesus comes, this earth is going to be made over, and it will be a new earth. The Word of God says that even the desert and the solitary place shall be glad, and the wilderness shall blossom like a rose garden.

Then I told you also that He is going to change things so far as the Jewish nation is concerned.

I think you will agree with me that the Jew is not in his place tonight. I don't think God ever intended the Jew to be as he is this evening. I think you will agree with me that the Jew is surely not in his homeland, and he is not doing the thing that God is pleased with. But there is a day coming when God is going to take the Jews and put them back in Palestine, and He is going to reign, Himself, from Jerusalem, and they are going to go forth as missionaries to the islands of the sea, to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

I also told you that when Jesus comes, He is going to get rid of all these false churches. I have no apology to offer in any wise at all relative to Catholicism or Protestantism when I say that they are false churches. When our Lord Jesus Christ comes back, He is going to destroy them.

I know, beloved, it sounds like that could never take place. I am satisfied that the farthest thing from the eyes of the world is the destruction of Catholicism and the Protestant churches that have come out of Rome. The majority of the people would "hoot" at the idea that such as that were going to take place; but, beloved, that day is coming. When Jesus Christ comes again, these false churches are going to be destroyed.

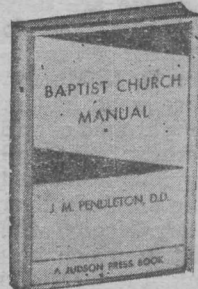
I also told you what is going to happen so far as His true churches are concerned. It is going to be a glorious day when the church that Jesus built, without a rival, and without anything in this world to distract, stands out pre-eminently, and is owned and recognized by the Lord Jesus Christ as His church. I tell you, I am glad to be a Baptist now, but I am going to be mighty glad in that day to have been a Baptist, and to have tried to stand for His Word.

Now tonight I want to show you some other things that are going to happen when Jesus comes.

A PURE LANGUAGE.

When our Lord comes He is going to give us a restoration as to language. We can go back to the early chapters of the book of Genesis and find that originally everybody spoke the same language. I think it must have been wonderful in those days that an individual didn't have to learn another language in order to converse with other people. I think

J. M. PENDLETON'S CHURCH MANUAL



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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 orders, subscriptions, or some other matter).

We feel that a word of explanation should be with regard to the questions and answers which have been — and still are — appearing in this column. We are sending in questions which are not at this time answered because we are going back over past issues reprinting some of the more significant questions — answers which will, Lord willing, compose a book entitled "I SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW." Presently we are sending these in this column and shall continue to do so until there are enough to complete the book. This will explain why some of the questions now being received are being answered at this time. Eventually they will be answered and many of them will no doubt be used in the book.

Who was the first person ever saved?

Doubtlessly, it was Adam. The typology of the chapters of Genesis clearly indicate that God saved Adam, symbolized by His clothing him in the skins. This, we believe, is the type of God's giving His Son in sacrifice for that we, as sinners, might be clothed with His righteousness for justification.

Do Baptists teach that one may "live like the devil" and still be saved?

Baptists teach that anyone who "lives like the devil" is spiritually a child of the devil and never has been saved. (Titus 1:16).

If once saved always saved is true, why do you try to live right?

"Living right" does not save anyone, but when people are saved by God's grace, they walk in the path of righteousness to honor the Lord who saved them. A person is a servant — a willing servant — of Christ. A person's religion is certainly rotten when the only reason he "lives right" is to try to escape Hell! Such a person has never been saved, regardless of what "living right" he is doing. God accepts no man's hell-scared religion. The true motive for Christ is the true motive back of acceptable obedience to God (1 John 4:19; Gal. 5:6).

Do you believe there are some Roman Catholics who are saved? The way you speak of them seems as if you think they are all going to Hell.

Sorry you received that impression. We believe that every person who has trusted Jesus Christ alone and for salvation is saved (Acts 16:31). If there are some Roman Catholics who have so trusted Christ, then they are saved. But how can one go on in Romish idolatry, and trusted the Lord Jesus? (Romans 6:2).

Are only Baptists going to be saved?

Again, we say that every one who has trusted Christ for salvation, depending upon Him alone for full forgiveness from the penalty of sin and for righteousness before God, is saved (John 3:36). Doubtlessly, there are some who are not Baptists who have so trusted the Lord Jesus. We have never said that one must be a Baptist to be saved. We do say that if a saved person who has the Bible carefully and do what it reveals for a saved person to do, he will become a member of a church which holds to the truths held by those people called "Baptists."

Is it right for Baptists to unite with sound Presbyterians and Methodists for revival meetings?

We have never seen any sound Presbyterian or Methodist. If they were sound, they wouldn't be Presbyterians and Methodists. Baptists have no scriptures to unite with any unscriptural group for any kind of meeting. (11 Thessalonians 3:6).

it must have been wonderful in those days just to know that everybody spoke the same language, and that there was no difference at all so far as the tongues were concerned.

But it isn't that way now. Our Brother Halliman has been over in New Guinea for quite some period of time, and the last time he wrote, he said that he wasn't able to preach yet in the language of the people with whom he is laboring. When our Brother Crace gets there, there will be at least a year or maybe two years, before he will be able to master the language sufficiently to speak to the people in their own tongue by way of a sermon.

Now when did this confusion of tongues come to pass? If you will go back to the time when they tried to build a tower unto the skies — at the Tower of Babel — you will find the Word of God tells us God came down and de-

stroyed their work and confused their language. That time on, there has been confusion as to the meaning of words throughout the world.

Mabel Clemens

By J. M. Pendleton

This is an old Baptist hymn that has lived for many years, telling the story of a young girl who was won from Campbellism. The hymn has been instrumental in bringing a number of people from Campbellism to Christ. It is a thorough and convincing refutation of Campbellism and its distortions of Scripture.

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The Baptist Paper for the Baptist People.

BOB L. ROSS
JOHN R. GILPIN

Editors

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and they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. And the Lord came down to see the tower which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have begun to do. Go to, let us go down, and there CONFOUND their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left to build the city. Therefore the name of it called Babel, because the Lord did there CONFOUND the LANGUAGE of the EARTH: and from thence the Lord scattered them upon the face of all the earth. — Gen. 11:4-9.

then, beloved, who is among us that can go to any country and make himself understood? There is among us, one that can go out as a missionary and preach to people of that country. The language of that country. The fact that we have to study the languages is proof of the universality of sin, and that there is sin within this earth. Scattered men upon the face of the earth, and God confounded the languages of men just because of that sin of presumption. So, beloved, the day is coming, or build a tower into heaven. Beloved, the day is coming, when all this is going to be done. It is not going to be done as a result of anything man does, but it will be done when Jesus comes again.

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upon the name of the Lord, to serve him with one consent." — Zeph. 3:9.

If you will read carefully the context of this Scripture, you will find He is talking about the second coming, and He speaks about the judgment that is going to fall upon the nations of the world. Then He tells us that after He judges the nations of the world, at that time God is going to return to the people a pure language.

I have often wondered what that language is going to be. Once upon a time I asked a great Greek scholar his opinion of it. He said he thought it would be Greek. I asked him for his reason. He said, "Well, when our Lord was here in the days of His flesh, He spoke the Koine Greek, and in all probability the Greek would be the language that the people will speak." I rather imagine this professor was somewhat prejudiced because he was recognized as a great Greek scholar himself. Beloved, I don't know what it is going to be, but I know one thing, it is going to be a glorious day when all of God's children will speak the same language. We'll be able to converse with one another, to talk with one another, and to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to the islands of the sea without having to learn any language. When is this going to take place? When is it going to come to pass? It will come to pass when Jesus Christ comes back to this world.

II THE BELIEVER.

So far as the believer is concerned, is there anything that our Lord hasn't done for us yet? Is there any unfinished work so far as we are concerned? He finished His work at the cross relative to our salvation, but I would insist that there is still some unfinished work that Jesus has to perform so far as even believers are concerned.

Beloved, you have a nature that isn't exactly perfect, and that is speaking mildly, I think, for every one of us. You have a disposition that isn't exactly what it ought to be. Well, some of these days the Lord Jesus Christ is going to come back, and when He does, He is going to take over, and re-make these bodies that we possess today. Listen:

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be CONFORMED to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren." — Rom. 8:30.

Notice, it is according to the predestinated plan of Almighty God that those of us who are saved shall be conformed to the image of His Son.

I am ready to grant you that most of us would never win a beauty prize. I am ready to grant you that the majority of us will never be chosen to be the most beautiful woman nor the most handsome man. I am ready to grant that some day, though, the Lord Jesus Christ is going to make these bodies over, and then we are going to be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ Himself.

Listen again:
"For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord

Jesus Christ: Who shall CHANGE OUR VILE BODY, that it may be FASHIONED like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself." — Phil. 3:20, 21.

When Paul speaks of our vile body he means it is truly bad. Really that isn't a good expression, or a good translation of the Greek in this instance. When it says He will change our vile body, actually and literally the Greek says that He will fashion anew our body of humiliation. In reality, our body is something that ought to humiliate us. Not one of us ought to be proud of his body. There isn't a one of us that will ever be able to stand before a mirror and say, "Mirror, mirror, on the wall." God knows that we all have a body of humiliation, but someday that body of humiliation is going to be changed, and the Lord Jesus Christ is going to fashion again our bodies and make us over to look like Himself.

We read:
"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we SHALL BE LIKE HIM; for we shall see him as He is." — I John 3:2.

Beloved, I don't know just what you and I will actually look like in that day, but I know one thing. When Jesus Christ comes, He is going to make us over, and we shall be like Him. These bodies are going to be changed, and changed completely.

The Apostle Paul refers to that change as it takes place, for he says:

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and WE SHALL BE CHANGED. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." — I Cor. 15:51-53.

Some of these days you may be standing before the mirror combing your hair, or you may be shaving, or you ladies may be standing before the mirror touching up some of the rough spots of nature when the Lord Jesus Christ puts in His appearance, and then you will be changed. Beloved, I say to you, when Jesus comes He is going to make over, and fashion anew the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.

What a glorious day it is going to be when the Son of God puts in His appearance, and when all believers are changed and made to look like the Lord Jesus.

III THE UNSAVED WORLD.

When Jesus comes, what is He going to do to the unsaved world? Beloved, He is coming back to reign over it. He is not coming

Mary Bunyan

by
Sallie Rochester Ford
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Would you just like to sit down and read a book of more than usual interest? We venture you will not be disappointed with Mary Bunyan.

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THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION AND THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

Since this book was published a few months ago, hundreds of copies have been distributed and many significant comments have been made about it. Those who are closely acquainted with the evils of (and within) the Convention have said that this book is the best all-around expose of the SBC and its program available today. Particularly impressive are the photographic reproductions of Convention literature which give indisputable proof of our charges. The book shows when the Cooperative Program began, what is actually given to missions thru it, the heresy it sustains, the idolatry that surrounds it, and how it has become the test of fellowship for Southern Baptists. Worldliness, dancing, infidel teachers in SBC schools, affiliation of seminaries with the NCC, pussyfooting with Rome, the Ralph Elliott story, Dale Moody's heresies, the SBC loan scheme, heretical books on sale in Baptist Book Stores, evolution, the RSV, feminism — these and other things, as related to the SBC, are dealt with in this book.

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as He came once. Once He came to be in the hands of men. When He comes again, men are going to be in His hands. Once He came to have men control Him. When He comes a second time, He is coming to control men. We read:

"Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt BREAK THEM with a rod of iron; thou shalt DASH THEM in pieces like a potter's vessel." — Psa. 2:6-9.

Beloved, this doesn't sound like the first coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. This doesn't sound like the first time He came when Herod had all the babes of Bethlehem put to death hoping to kill the Lord of Glory. Beloved, some day, when He comes, He is coming to reign over this world. He is coming to reign so far as this unsaved world is concerned, and He will break rebellious sinners with a rod of iron, and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

Notice again:
"Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool." — Psa. 110:1.

Some of these days God is going to take the unsaved of this world and use them as His footstool. You know what it means to sit down in your easy chair to put your feet upon a footstool. It is underneath you. It is completely dominated by you. Well, some day this unsaved world is going to be the footstool of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I ask, why is our Lord waiting? What is the reason He doesn't come on now, and set up His kingdom? Why doesn't He return and give us a pure language? Why doesn't He return and make the believer over? Why doesn't He return and take over this unsaved world and reign over it? I think there are some three reasons why He has delayed His return.

In the first place, I am satisfied that He has delayed His return waiting for man to demonstrate his inability to order his own course. God's Word tells us that man can't order his course. Listen:

"O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is NOT in man that walketh TO DIRECT HIS STEPS." — Jer. 10:23.

Beloved, man can't order his course. Man can't direct his steps. Everything man does, he makes a mess of it. In everything that man attempts, he fails concerning it. I am as certain as can be there isn't in any phase of life anything that man has ever touched but what man has complicated and confused the things that he has tried to do.

Take for example, the industrial world. Union leaders are pulling their hair today because they don't know which way to turn. They know things are out of control. In contrast, I am sure that there isn't a financial tycoon in the world but what will say that everything is out of control

so far as business is concerned. I am sure that is true in any field that you turn to.

In churches, for example, you know as well as I, how far removed from the New Testament church the religious world is today. Man just simply cannot order his steps. Man just simply cannot direct his ways. Anything that man takes hold of, he makes a mess of it. That is why the religious world is in such a condition as it is today.

I might also say that the political aspect of the world is surely far from encouraging. In our own country, even though you would want to be a loyal citizen, you wouldn't say that our government is what you would like for it to be. Regardless of what you or I might think about the Supreme Court's decision on prayer and the reading of the Bible in public schools, this administration is charged with the idea of taking God out of the school.

I say to you, this administration has taken God out and put the Negro in. That is about what it amounts to. So far as segregation is concerned, it is enough to cause every one of us to pull our hair as we think about what the future may hold in store. When I say "future," I am not talking about 10, or 15, or 20 years from now; rather, I am talking about what may happen within the next few weeks' time.

Beloved, man can't order his steps. Anything that man takes hold of, he makes a failure concerning it. I think the Lord Jesus Christ is just holding off His coming, waiting for man to realize that it is not in man to order His steps. He is just waiting for man to demonstrate his inability to order his course.

I think the Lord Jesus Christ is also waiting for the Holy Spirit to finish His work of conviction. While our Lord is waiting, the Holy Spirit is doing the work that the Lord Jesus Christ left Him in this world to do, which is the work of conviction. We read: (Continued on page 4, column 4)

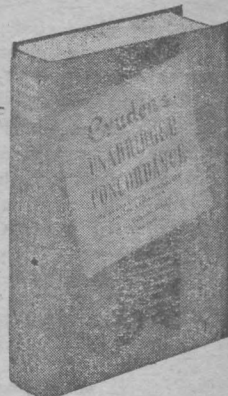
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Calvary Baptist Church, Ashland, Kentucky

WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN?

By HAROLD BRUNSON

First Baptist Church
Jacksonville, Texas

"These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

"I have glorified thee on the earth. I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I come out from thee, and have believed that thou didst send me."

"I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me: for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine: and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee, Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled."

"Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovest me before the foundation of the world." (John 17:1-12, 24).

First, I believe that God has a great circle with reference to election. Second, I believe that God is progressively forming this circle. Third, I believe that it is impossible for this circle to be broken.

I. GOD HAS A GREAT CIRCLE

I believe that in this circle are all of God's people that He foreknew before the foundation of the world.

They are His, first of all, by sovereign election.

"According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love; Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will." (Ephesians 1:4, 5).

"And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed." (Acts 13:48).

"Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory." (II Timothy 2:10).

"Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God." (I Thessalonians 1:4).

I believe that God's people are His by sovereign election. There is not a person in Christ that God ever chose on the basis of foreseen faith. That would make the actions of a sovereign God contingent upon the actions of depraved humanity, and that is contrary to the Word of God. Faith is a gift of God. (Ephesians 2:8).

I believe, second, that they are not only His by sovereign election, but they are His by divine protection. I believe in election so strongly that I believe God will actually protect His elect, even before they are saved by the grace of God. I believe there is a grace that precedes even saving grace which reaches the hearts of men today.

"Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" (Hebrews 1:14).

Spurgeon referred to this grace as "preventive grace." I believe that God has the angels of Heaven watching over some unsaved people who are His elect that will be saved later than even this hour. Perhaps there may be one in this group listening as I stand preaching to you today.

They are His by sovereign election. They are His by divine protection. One day they will be His by sudden collection.

"And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." (Matthew 24:31).

There is coming a day when the Lord Jesus, in Almighty power through His angels, is going to suddenly collect His elect together, and for the first time all of them will be together. Talk about a hallelujah time on the hills of glory! God's people are going to have it when they are suddenly collected to the bosom of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

II. GOD IS PROGRESSIVELY FORMING THIS CIRCLE

This circle is incomplete today, looking at it from the human standpoint. All of the elect have not yet been saved, but the circle is being progressively formed. Looking at it through our eyes, every time one of the elect is saved, more of God's circle which cannot be broken is being formed.

I believe that God forms this circle, first of all, by the preaching of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. There is nothing that will break a sinner's heart any quicker than the preaching of the gospel of the Son of God in the power of the Holy Spirit.

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." (I Corinthians 1:16).

"For after that in the wisdom of God the world by

wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." (I Corinthians 1:21).

"But we are bound to give thanks alway 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: Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." (II Thessalonians 2:13, 14).

I thank God for every true God-called gospel preacher in this world who is preaching the gospel of the Son of God which can still break the hearts of lost humanity today.

I believe He not only works through the preaching of the gospel, but through the power of the Holy Spirit.

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment; of sin, because they believe not on me; of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more: of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged." (John 16:7-11).

Now here is what I believe the Holy Spirit does today: I believe the Holy Spirit, first of all, uses the Bible, which is the Sword of the Spirit, and convicts sinners of one particular sin, and that is the sin of unbelief. I believe the Holy Spirit convinces men of righteousness — not their own righteousness, because they don't have any — but the righteousness of the Son of God. The Holy Spirit shows the righteousness of Christ to lost humanity. This is what the Bible teaches today.

Then He also convinces men of judgment which is to come. We hear much about the love of God in our modernistic, liberalistic day. I want to tell you that the God who tells us about Heaven in the Bible, has far more to say about Hell than He has to say about Heaven. The God who is a God of love is a God of wrath, and there needs to be a return to Baptist pulpits of not only preaching the love of God, but the preaching of the wrath of God.

Not long ago one of these sophisticated female flappers walked out of the church building, after hearing a strong message on the wrath of God, and said that she thought the preacher ought to preach more on love. The next Sunday morning he preached on "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength."

The next Sunday morning he preached on "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

The next Sunday morning he preached on "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

Then she walked out of the church building and said, "Pastor, give us some more of that old-fashioned Hell-fire and damnation."

I believe the God who loves people is also angry with people, and is a God of wrath, and Baptist preachers ought to get away from sentimentalism and start preaching the wrath of God.

God forms this circle not only by the preaching of the gospel and the work of the Spirit of God, but I believe that His providence also enters into it. I am glad that I do not relegate the works of God to a cold, impersonal fate. I believe God's providence works in this world, and I believe that God's works are being carried out — not behind time or ahead of time, but on schedule.

I believe that men ought to recognize the providence of God in every move they make in this old sinful world today. Joseph's brethren sold him into Egypt and he later revealed himself to them and they were afraid that Joseph would not forgive them. (Let me deviate long enough to say that Christian living is made up of two things: namely giving and forgiving, and we ought to remember that today). They wondered if Joseph would forgive them. Joseph forgave them and looked them in the face and said, "Ye meant it for evil, but God meant it for good." (Gen. 50:20).

I am glad that God forms this circle by the preaching of the gospel, and the power of the Holy Spirit, and by His providence which works throughout the face of this earth today. I believe that God is forming this circle, and I am glad to be among a group of people this morning who make up a part of God's elect. How wonderful it is to sit together with God's people who think alike and who love the Word of God and, above all, love the Lord Jesus, and beyond that ascribe to Him all the credit and the glory for the salvation of their souls.

III. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THIS CIRCLE TO BE BROKEN

I do not believe that Jesus Christ died in vain. I believe it is impossible for the circle of God's elect to be broken. I believe it is impossible, first of all, because His power cannot be penetrated.

"Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (I Peter 1:5).

God's power is unlimited. There is no power as great as the power of God. The atomic bomb, the hydrogen bomb, and all the nuclear bombs put together cannot equal the power of God. Not one thing that man or the Devil does to us can penetrate the power of God to break the circle of God's elect today. This is wonderful! It is an occasion of rejoicing in the heart of every person who has been born of the Spirit of God. You cannot break down the power of God.

The circle cannot be broken for a second reason — because His will and His compassion and His mercy (Continued on page five)



Pastor Harold Brunson

What Will Happen?

(Continued from page three)

"And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more: Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged."—John 16:8-11.

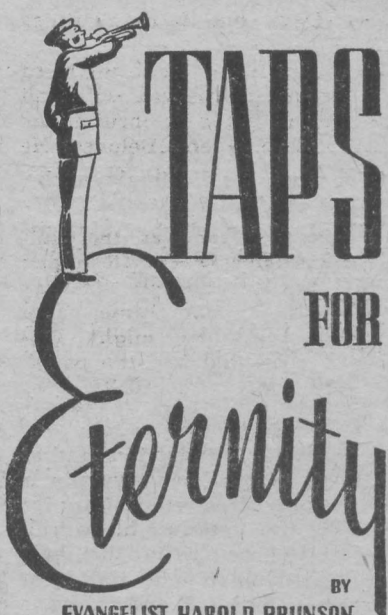
Beloved, one reason why He is waiting is to let the Holy Spirit complete His work of convicting the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.

Then I think that He is also waiting to call in His elect. Before the foundation of the world our Lord chose a certain number unto Himself. That certain number that was chosen are the elect of God, and every one of them are going to be saved. Not one of them will go to Hell. Not one of them will ever perish. Every one of them will be ultimately saved, and finally, and completely saved. When the last one has been garnered in, the day of the return of the Son of God will take place. What is He waiting for? Listen:

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, NOT WILLING THAT ANY SHOULD PERISH, but that all should come to repentance."—II Pet. 3:9.

If you will read this entire third chapter of II Peter, you can easily see that the "any" to which he refers is the elect of God. He is not willing that even one of His elect shall fail, but that all of them shall come to repentance.

I say to you, when man has failed to order his steps completely, when the Holy Spirit finishes His work of convicting this world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment, and when the elect of God have been called unto Himself, then the Lord Jesus Christ is going to come back to



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this world that has been in rebellion, and has rejected Him continually. Then He is going to make this unsaved world His footstool, and He is going to reign over this unsaved world.

In the book of Daniel we find the story of that great image which the king dreamed of — a head of gold, chest and arms of silver, belly and thighs of iron, legs of iron, and feet of iron and miry clay. When Daniel interpreted that dream, he said, "Nebuchadnezzar, 'You, as king of Babylon, are the head of gold, the chest and arms of silver, the belly and thighs of iron, the legs of brass, and the feet of iron and miry clay. When Alexander the Great, the legs are to represent the Roman Empire divided into two parts — the Eastern and Western Roman Empire, and the feet of iron and miry clay represent the nations that follow and out of Rome."

Beloved, I don't know all that vision may stand for, but I am sure of one thing, that King Nebuchadnezzar's dream was a dream of history. He was a dream of history. He was everything that would take place down to, and including, the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, for we read:

"Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his head, that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken in pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the great mountain, and filled the whole earth." — Dan. 2:34, 35.

Nebuchadnezzar said he dreamed he saw a stone cut out of a mountain without hands, rolled down the mountain and struck that image. On the head? No. On the chest? No. On the belly? No. On the legs? No. Where did it strike? It struck the feet, and the feet were ground into powder. This stone represents the Lord Jesus Christ who was born of a virgin, contrary to human nature. As the stone was cut out of mountains without hands, it was contrary to the laws of nature, so Jesus Christ was contrary to human nature.

Beloved, as that stone rolled down the mountain side and struck the image at the feet, Jesus Christ is coming some day. He didn't come in the days of Nebuchadnezzar. He didn't come in the days of Greece, but He is coming in the days that are represented by the toes of the image — the nations that are coming out of the country of Rome. When He comes, He is going to grind that image of world power into dust. He is going to dash the unsaved world to pieces.

We read:

"That at the name of the Lord every knee should bow, in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth, that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." — Phil. 2:10, 11.

When Jesus comes, every tongue shall confess that Christ is Lord. Beloved, He is going to reign over this earth.

IV

SATAN.

When the Lord Jesus comes, He is going to destroy the Devil. We talk about the

WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN?

(Continued from page four)

sovereign, and they cannot be nullified. For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that we have mercy, nor of him that runneth but of God that sheweth mercy. Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth." (Romans 9:15-18).

And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him by my Father. From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him." (John 6:65,66).

If you get around a group of Baptists who are about 99 per cent Arminian and 1 per cent television and radio, you can get them to the sovereignty of God and election, you can get the daylights out of them. They need it! I believe in God's mercy, God's compassion, and God's will are sovereign and mankind cannot nullify them, therefore, the circle will not be broken.

This circle will not be broken for a third reason: His promise that He has given to His people will never be denied. He has never broken any promise. He will keep all His promises to the end.

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).

How glad amidst all of our unfaithfulness and shortcomings that there is a God who will never let us back on His children. He promised to keep us, and His election and His purposes must stand.

Not too long ago, I read about a little boy who picked up his granddaddy's Bible, and in turning through it he found beside several verses of Scripture the letters "T" and "P". He looked at his granddaddy, and said, "Granddaddy, what do those letters 'T' and 'P' mean?" The Christian granddaddy patted his little grandson on the head and the tears began to roll down his cheeks. "Listen to Granddaddy. Everywhere, you see 'T' and 'P' that is a promise of God, and it means that God has tried them and that God has proven His promises are tried and proven, and that is the circle of His elect will never be broken.

There is a fourth reason: the circle cannot be broken because His purpose, being eternal, cannot be thwarted. He may make plans, but God overrules their plans and His purpose have to be changed. I do not believe that God's purpose has ever had to be changed. I believe that God's purposes are eternal, and His purpose to save the world for His name was an eternal purpose. I am sure that the purpose of God in the election of His people cannot be thwarted by any power or people within the world.

Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began." (I Timothy 1:9).

For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might bring forth many brethren." (Romans 8:29).

The word "predestinate" in the Greek carries with it the idea of "mark them off" or "fence around them." It tells you something. God's elect couldn't go to Hell if they wanted to. God's elect are surely going to the streets of Glory.

For whom he did predestinate, them he also called, and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified." (Romans 8:30).

This is God's eternal purpose. We have always been told that a chain is just as strong as its weakest link. I believe election was in eternity, and I do not believe that you can break a link in that chain today. I believe that predestination is a link in the chain and cannot be broken. I believe that those whom He elected and predestinated, and here is another link that cannot be broken. "But ye believe not, because ye are not of my elect." I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and they follow me." (John 10:26, 27).

work of Jesus Christ at the cross, and that is wonderful. I like the fact that Jesus did finish His work at the cross. But there are some things that Jesus didn't finish at the cross, and one thing is, He didn't finish His work with the cross to end the work of the Devil, but He didn't finish it.

If you will go back to the third chapter of Genesis you will find that He is going to bruise the head of the serpent. Beloved, He began to do it at the cross. Listen: "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might DESTROY HIM THAT HAD THE POWER OF DEATH, that is, the DEVIL." — Heb. 2:14.

The Lord Jesus Christ began to destroy the Devil at Calvary, but He hasn't completed it yet. He has left him here in this world, and the Devil right now brings a lot of hardship and grief to you and me. I think our Lord has left him here in order that through these trials of faith and manifold temptations that we have, we are brought a little closer to our Lord, and we are made to be more like Him. But there is a day coming when Jesus Christ is going to be completely victorious over the Devil. Listen: "And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set

I am glad God's sheep are eternally secure because of election, predestination, calling, and justification.

I heard a preacher say one time that justification is like a pardon. Well, that is not so. I had my heart broken three years ago when a person in my church embezzled \$130,000.00 from one of our local banks. She got five years; she served fourteen months and she is out today. You could walk up to her and say, "You are a bank embezzler," and she would stick the pardon in your face and say, "No, I have a pardon." I say to you, even though she might have a pardon from the penitentiary, she will always bear the marks that she was guilty of being an embezzler.

I am glad Jesus does more than pardon people when He saves them by the grace of God. A man may have pardon and still be guilty, but justification carries with it the idea that man is as though he had never sinned. In the eyes of God, a justified sinner stands perfect in Jesus Christ. Justification is wonderful. Our sins are cared for — past, present and future — under the blood!

God's sovereignty is seen in foreordination, predestination, calling, justification, and then glorification. I am glad that one day all five links in this chain are coming together. One day every one of God's elect is going to be together in that great circle because the One who did foreknow, the One who did predestinate, the One who called, and the One who justified, is going to glorify all of His people. It will be wonderful when God's elect all get together for the first time in the glory world.

As I said, this circle cannot be broken because God's power cannot be penetrated, God's promises cannot be broken, God's purposes cannot be nullified, and because God's will and compassion cannot be done away with by all the power of mankind. The glorification of the elect of God is going to be the greatest thing that ever transpired in the history of this world. I believe we are living close to the end of time, and I long for the second coming of our Lord and our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Not too long ago I buried one of the best friends I ever had — a Baptist deacon — one of God's truly beloved. He was one of God's elect, one of God's great men, one of God's noblemen. I thought of this man when I wrote about him in the last chapter of my book, "TAPS FOR ETERNITY," in the sermon, "Gone, But Not Forgotten." He believed the doctrine of election and would weep and rejoice while I preached it.

At first, I could not understand, humanly speaking, how a man forty-two years of age, who was at the zenith of his life, standing for God's Word and serving God devotedly, was so suddenly snatched from this world. However, I accepted Romans 8:28 because I believe it applies in all things. I preached his funeral in a suit he gave me. We were deer hunting buddies, we were fishing buddies, and above all, we were buddies and brothers in the Lord Jesus Christ.

I worried about his family very much because of their great loss. I waited until the marker was placed on his grave before I went back to the cemetery. I prayed constantly that God would reveal to his wife the doctrine of glorification as related to the doctrine of election. One day she came to me and said, "Brother Harold, if you would like to see the marker that I placed for J. C., it is ready." So I went out to the cemetery and I stood by the grave of my best friend and I saw written on his tombstone these words: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28).

When I read this, I knew my prayers were answered. Let me close by saying, "I ain't what I want to be; I ain't what I'm gonna be; but praise God, I ain't what I was."

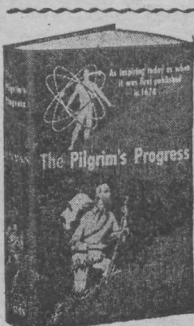
God has a circle which is being progressively formed, and it cannot be broken. Will His circle ever be broken? No! No! Ten thousand times no!

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a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. 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. 20:3, 10.

It sounds like it will be a long time until the Lord Jesus Christ gets rid of the Devil. We rub elbows and brush shoulders with him every day. There isn't a day that goes by but that we come face to face with the Devil and this world. But some of these



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days Jesus is going to finish His work with the Devil. He is going to completely destroy him, and cast him into Hell.

CONCLUSION

Beloved, it is a glorious thing to look forward to the coming of Jesus Christ. Someone is coming, and I rejoice that when He comes, all this and much more is going to take place. There is a glorious day awaiting the child of God.

I ask you, are you ready for His coming? Are you ready for Jesus Christ to come back to this world? As a Christian, are you ready? Suppose you thought He would come before morning. Is there anything you would like to pray about? You had better do your praying, for He may come. Are you behind on anything? You had better get caught up, for He is coming.

Years ago when I was just a boy preacher I made my first trip up Big Sandy to the headwaters of the river. About the only way you could go in those days was on a train or a pushboat, and since the pushboat was too slow, I went by train. I can remember a girl got on the train here, and she sat in front of me all the way up the river.

That was in the days before air-conditioned trains. It was a hot blistering day, and I can remember that most everybody had his window open. It sounds strange talking about riding along on a train with the windows open and people hanging out the window trying to get a little fresh air, but in those days you were happy to get the window open, and get your head on the outside, so as to get some fresh air. But when you did so, the cinders would blow back to cover you and with the sweat you already had on your face and on your clothes, and it looked like — well, it looked like you had been integrated and the integration had rubbed off.

I'll never forget that day. I was on my way to Jenkins to preach a trial sermon, hoping that they would call me as pastor. This girl who sat in front of me told me that she was going to meet her sweetheart, and they were going to get married. When we neared the end of the ride I can remember how unsightly she looked as a result of the sweat, and the grime, and the cinders. I am satisfied that she didn't want her sweetheart to see her like she looked, and just before we got to the end of the line, she went to the washroom to tidy herself, and changed clothes. When she came back, she looked entirely different. There was a great difference so far as her appearance was concerned. As I looked at her, I thought, she has tidied herself up because she is going to meet her sweetheart.

Beloved, that is exactly what you and I ought to do as God's children. We ought to tidy ourselves up. We ought to be looking for him. We ought to be getting ourselves ready for His return.

I ask those of you who are unsaved, are you ready for His return? Of course you are not, and He is going to reign over you, and He is going to make you His footstool some of these days, when He comes.

May God help you to realize that the only way that you can be ready, is to be saved, and may the blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, become precious to your soul, and may you become a child of God—saved, washed in His blood, and ready to meet Him when He comes.

May God bless you!

Once in Grace

(Continued from page one)
tire race of man) to be totally opposed to the real God. It (the Bible) reveals that men are totally depraved. They are inclined to do only evil. They, by nature, hate the true God. They, by nature, will not to serve God. They, by nature, will not to come to His way. In their natural state

BAPTIST CONFESSIONS OF FAITH

By W. L. Lumpkin

Although we do not approve of some of the historical and doctrinal statements of the author, the confessions of faith included in this volume will be of great usefulness. We know of no other book of this kind that is available today. Important and historic Baptist confessions are printed in full.

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they, like Satan, desire to be "like the Most High God." In fact, whether we realize it or not it is a manifestation of this natural evil desire every time a false, deceitful witness speaks of man's "free will." Every time we hear an "apostle of Satan" declare that men are able to thwart the will of God we are hearing the voice of man's rebellion against God. Each time we hear false preachers say God wants to do something but He can't because "man won't let him," we again witness man's evil desire, and false claim, to be "master of his own life and destiny."

This is especially true concerning the doctrine of salvation by the pure grace of God and the doctrine of "once in grace, always in grace." The natural man not only desires to save himself but he also desires (and that very foolishly) to be able to fall from grace and go to Hell even after he is saved, if he so pleases. How very foolish the natural man is!

1. The Witness of God's Word

The first thing I would show you is a few passages which expressly teach eternal security.

In John 5:24 we read, "Verily, verily I say unto you, He that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life"

(Continued on page 6, column 2)



The Late T. T. Martin
Author of "Heaven, Hell and other Sermons"

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You recently read the series in TBE by the late Brother Martin on "God's Plan With Men." This book is written in the same evangelistic, fervent style. A good book for saved and lost, preacher and layman.

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This is Luther's reply to Erasmus, the scholar who advocated "free-will." The language is clear, the message is easily understood. Spurred on by this book highly. It is a book to show Luther's view on subjects as depravity, election, predestination, etc.

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Questions, Answers About New Guinea Missions

By FRED T. HALLIMAN

1. A writer from North Carolina and one from Tennessee would like to have me tell something of Marino.

Many of you perhaps are now readers of TBE since I first wrote about Marino. Marino was a native about 20 years of age that came with me when I came into this area to build a house for the family. While waiting for permission to get out to this area to find a spot of ground for the mission, I held several services in Koroba, and at one of these meetings Marino made a profession of faith. He became, more or less, a personal servant to me while out here building the house and, needless to say, we became attached to each other and he wanted to stay on after the family arrived.

Whether or not he was actually saved I do not know, but he never did respond very much to the teachings of the Bible and consequently did not show any growth in grace. His home district is in the Western Highlands and it had been about two years since he had been home, but about three months ago we decided it would be best for us to send



Fred T. Halliman

him back. Marino left with a heavy heart and while his conduct around the Mission was far above that of some professing Christians, he did, however, have some habits that were not becoming to a good Christian and we were afraid this might reflect upon the standards we were setting for a follower of Christ.

2. A writer from Illinois would like to know, "How do you talk to the natives, in their language or ours?"

Most naturally, the natives do not understand the English language so we have to use some other medium of speech. We use Pidgeon English and an interpreter. It is difficult for folk back there to fully understand the extent of the language problem here. For instance, there are four completely different languages used here on the Mission station every day, namely, English, Pidgeon, Duna, and Huli, and there is no one person that knows all four of them. Only one person—our interpreter—knows as many as three of them and is able to converse in any one of the three that he chooses. Our interpreter speaks Pidgeon, Duna, and Huli. I know some of both Duna and Huli, but nothing like enough to preach on my own in either of them.

We are on the border line of these two language groups but since our work will be primarily with the Duna people I am attempting to learn Duna; however, it seems like an uphill pull with so many languages being spoken all the time and so little time to study language. Therefore we use neither English nor any one of the local languages in our preaching.

3. A writer from Maine would like to know, "How long do you intend to stay in New Guinea?"

Until the Lord is ready for me to leave. I don't know when—if ever—that will be.

4. A writer from Texas would like to know, "Are you impairing your health by making those strenuous hikes to the out-stations, plus all of your other duties?"

Insofar as I know, my health, generally speaking, is good. It is true that I do a tremendous amount of walking, up to 30 miles a day at times, but I believe walking is a great asset and, in fact, essential to good health. At the same time there is no doubt that we can overdo things; however, I pray for daily guidance and daily strength and while even my wife tells me that I am doing at least three men's work, I somehow believe I am working in the will of the Lord. There are many times that I am down but never out, and though my work is hard I am happy in doing it.

THE ETERNAL SECURITY OF BLOOD-BUGHT BELIEVERS

By J. M. CARROLL

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Ashland, Kentucky

believer has everlasting life. Now as death means separation so life means union. Therefore, what we are taught here is that the believer has everlasting union with God through Jesus Christ. This union with God also speaks of an everlasting relationship with God. The believer has ceased being a child of the devil and has become a child of God. Each believer is born into the family of God. God is his Father and he is God's son. John said this in I John 3:2 when he said, "Beloved, now are we the sons of God." As I am my earthly father's son permanently, so I am God's son permanently through Jesus Christ.

We are also told in John 5:24 that the believer shall not come into condemnation. What could be more clearly spoken? Shall not come into condemnation! This is a positive statement. I believe God means this. I believe it shall be just as God has said. The believer is at this time saved and he shall never again be lost or condemned.

In John 6:47 we read, "Verily, verily I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." How long is everlasting? Do you agree that it means the same as the word eternal? When does something eternal end? Can anything that is eternal end? God is eternal. Can He cease to be? Christ is eternal. Can He cease to be? If one has eternal life, and if that eternal life can cease, then the eternal God can cease to be. It is equally as foolish to speak of the eternal life as being capable of ceasing as it is to speak of the possibility of God ceasing to exist.

The most popular argument against the teaching in these verses is that there is a condition which we must live up to if we are to "remain saved." We are told that we will lose our salvation if we fall into sin again. Such teaching of necessity is based on the idea that our works have something to do with our salvation. I know that nearly all the false teachers deny that they teach salvation by works. However, the denial of men is not necessarily to be depended upon.

Let's see what David has to say about this matter. In Psalm 37:23-24 we read, "The steps of a good (justified) man are ordered by the Lord, and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand."

Many times the writer has heard the exact opposite of this passage taught. We are told that our remaining in a saved condition depends upon our not falling. We are told that God will take away our eternal life if we fall into sin. I'm sure you also heard this sort of teaching. Perhaps you even are of the opinion that you will lose your salvation if you fall. But what does David say? He says the steps of saved men are ordered by the Lord and though they fall they shall not be utterly cast down. We should believe God rather than men. God says the believer shall not be utterly cast down even though he fall. Why? Because the Lord upholds him. Beloved,



we are saved by the Lord and we are upheld by the Lord.

2. The Way God Saves His People

The second thing I would show you is the way of salvation. Nothing more clearly proves the doctrine of eternal security than this. It was the false teaching as to the way of salvation that fathered the "falling from grace" theory. It is the notion of salvation by works that continues to keep the false, God-dishonoring doctrine of "falling from grace" alive. Personally, I have very little conviction that those who really believe they can fall from grace are saved. And my doubt increases when a person is properly taught and then continues to rebel against the truth of eternal security.

According to the Word of God, the wages of sin is eternal damnation in hell. Every one of the human race are sinners and deserves eternal damnation. There is not a man on the earth that is not a sinner—whether he be saved or lost. Therefore, all the human race ought to go to hell. God is true as well as merciful. God has said that there be no salvation except the wages for

the individual be paid in full. God will not acquit the reason men go to hell is to pay their sin debt to God.

This brings up the question why, then, all people do not go to hell, since they are sinners and owe God a sin debt? There is an answer to this question. However, it is not the answer that is usually given by other than faithful churches. The servants of God would have us believe some saved because of something in the way of commanding keeping. They would have us believe God Himself has not redeemed His people. A Campbellite (so-called Church of Christ) preacher even told me that he believed Christ died in vain for those who go to hell. What blasphemy! What dishonor of the Bible!

God saved His people by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to the world to pay their sin debt for them. In Rom. 5:8 we read, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Can you see that which we owe? He died the death we deserved to have died. Can you see that He was for His people? He was the sacrifice by which God saved His people. Christ was the representative of His people who lived and died for them. In Rom. 5:10 we see that we are reconciled to God by the death of His Son. By what? By the death of Jesus Christ. Not by our obedience. Not by our prayers, baptism, doing good or not doing evil. "By His blood we are redeemed." Do you see the Scriptures? Search the Scriptures and see that God saved His people by placing Jesus Christ in their place.

Here, then, is the reason for whom Christ died to go to hell. And here also is the reason for the eternal security of the believer. When a person believes in Christ as Saviour he becomes a child of God. In this place manifested that Christ died for that person ought to be saved. It is Christ that paid the sin debt of the believer. By grace we are saved through faith in Jesus. Grace saves. Not good works. Not God doing and us doing a part. Salvation is of the Lord.

Now if we are saved by grace which Christ has already paid how can we ever "fall from grace"? Can His perfect work be undone? God forbid! No! We who are saved are sinners with a sacrifice. There is no such thing as sinless perfection in this world. (Continued on page 7, column 1)

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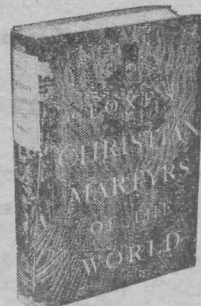
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Once in Grace

(Continued from page 5)
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NEW GUINEA MISSIONS

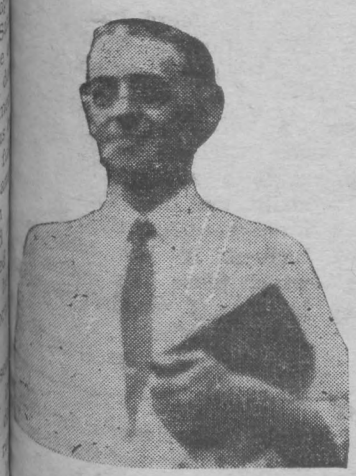
REPORT OF OFFERINGS, NEW GUINEA MISSIONS, APRIL 1963

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NOTE: This report was sent out a little early this month and therefore many of the offerings that came in at the end of the month do not appear on this report, they will be on the report for May.

Send offerings to: New Guinea Missions, Macedonia Baptist Church, 2501 N. Maplewood, Chicago, Illinois

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(1886-1952)

One of the great Bible expositors of this generation, Arthur W. Pink was the author of numerous books and pamphlets. Until his death, he edited an influential Bible study magazine entitled "Studies in the Scriptures." No one who has ever read his writings has failed to receive the greatest spiritual benefit therefrom.

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HE CARES

1. His EYES are upon you Psal. 33:18-19
2. His EARS are open to you Psal. 34:15; I Pet. 3:12
3. His ARMS are about you Psal. 89:13
4. His HAND is upon you Ezra 8:22; Acts 11:21
5. His MOUTH speaks to you Deut. 8:3; Psal. 119:72
6. His FEET will crush your enemies I Cor. 15:25
7. His MIND is ever upon you Psal. 40:5; I Pet. 5:7

AN INTERESTING LETTER

Today is my seventy-fourth birthday. I am a retired rural letter carrier. More than twenty years ago when delivering the mail to an old Baptist preacher's box I noticed an article that attracted my attention. I read a little of it before putting the paper in the box and asked for the paper when he had read it. That was the first time I had noticed the paper or known there was a Baptist Examiner. I sent in my subscription then and have received it regularly since that time. I want to tell you that I have never disagreed with anything either of you have written. Sometimes it goes beyond my weak ability to understand. I feel that the Examiner is one of the few voices sounding out the truth, and my prayer is that it may continue as truthfully and fearlessly as in the past.

James R. Tate, Illinois

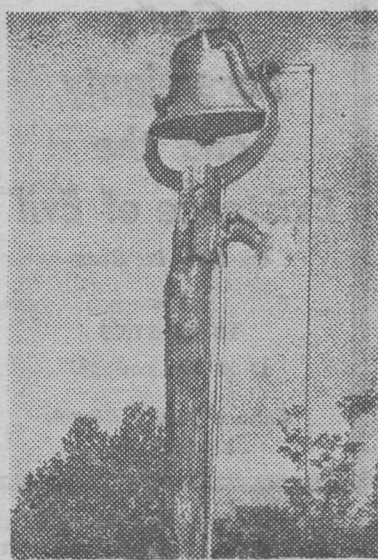
Once In Grace

(Continued from page six)

We all sin every day. We just do not deserve the salvation we have. The opponents of truth say God will take our salvation away when we sin because we do not deserve to have salvation anymore. Beloved, we don't deserve, nor merit, salvation even when we are doing the work of the Lord zealously. If God were to base our salvation on what we deserve He would never save anyone.

We are saved forever because of the fact that we are saved on the basis of Christ having been punished in our place. That which saved us has already been accomplished. God poured out His wrath on God the Son for our sins. The believer's sins were not overlooked. God punished Christ instead of the believer. Therefore, they have no reason to ever be

WHAT? WHERE?



Do you recognize the above scene? Many of our readers have seen it in person, yet we wonder how many really remember it. If you know what it is and where it is, write us and we'll put your answer in TBE along with our explanation as to why we are asking about this picture.

condemned.

I hope you see the reason of eternal security. I hope you have a sacrifice for your sins. Christ is the sacrifice for the sins of His people. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. You will then have eternal life. Not temporary life.

I close with this thought. The man trusting in partly what Christ did and partly what he himself has done can only say

Christ and me, We have set me free.

But the man who is trusting Christ can say, Not one thing that I have done, I am set free by God the Son.

The Lord bless you all.

Prayer

(Continued from page one)

as a son. And the Father has the right of command over His sons. Therefore, your will is surrend-

ered to His. It is not what you want but what He wants that becomes your controlling thought. By obedience to His will, we learn Real Peace. On the other hand, to fail to recognize the Sovereignty of God is to fail in all of life. An old motto says in picture and verse — "Hammer away, ye hostile hands! Your hammers break; God's anvil stands." The scene pictures an anvil and a number of broken hammers. So, until you can say, "Father", you need not attempt to pray further.

III. Father means more than ruler or lawgiver; it also signifies a rule of love and mercy into the very heart of judgment. Rom. 8:15—"For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear, but ye have received the Spirit of adoption whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

IV. "Heavenly Father" means not only authority and love, it also means holiness. Isaiah in the temple when he heard the seraphim singing, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of Hosts," saw the spotless purity of God and he was convicted of his own unrighteousness. Isa. 6:5.

V. In this first phrase of the model prayer is summed up the Christian life. The word "Father" expresses our faith—"No man can call Jesus Lord but by the Holy Spirit." (I Cor. 12:3).

"In heaven" includes all our hopes, meaning perfection; the word "heaven" signifies the quality of life toward which sincere Christians are striving. Matt. 5:48.

The word "our" means inclusive love. In the first years of the church, the heathen said of its members — "Behold how these Christians love one another." I've heard of a group who recently voted whether or not they should help one of their sick fellow members. Can you see the good Samaritan calling a conference with others of his group to vote on the need to help this one in need. "Our Father"—should it not evoke the highest love and

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concern of our hearts for fellow Christians?

VI. How would it change my life to really pray, "Our Father which art in Heaven." It would throw me on my knees in some Gethsemane in complete obedience to His will. It would lead me to sacrifice my life in serving and seeking to save my fellow man. Most important, it would bring God into my soul thoughts. Then no matter what might happen I could pray with our Lord, Luke 24:46—"Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." I could sing with Paul, I Cor. 15: 55-57,— "O death where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory?" And with Job I could exclaim in adoration and praise, "Yea, even though He slay me yet will I love Him. I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth." Job 19:25.

Isa. 46:10—"Be still, and know that I am God."

Isa. 40:31—"They that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength."

H. G. Wells, the historian, said, "Until a man has found God he (Continued on page 8, column 4)

ON GOLGOTHA'S HILL

AND WHEN THE CENTURION, WHICH STOOD OVER AGAINST HIM, SAW THAT HE SO CRIED OUT, AND GAVE UP HIS SPIRIT, HE SAID "TRULY THIS MAN WAS THE SON OF GOD" MARK 15:39



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Charlie's Sermons

(Continued from page one)
bread, and refreshing water, but
to lovely flowers. In Jesus there
are all delights as well as all
necessaries.

1. He is now all that He ever
was, for His "I am" runs through
all eternity in unabated force.

2. He is Himself, the delight of
men. He speaks not of offices,
gifts, works, possessions, but of
Himself. "I am."

3. He is delightful to the eye
of faith, even as flowers are to
the bodily sight. What more
beautiful than roses and lilies?

4. He is delightful in the savor
which comes of him. In Him is
a delicious, varied, abiding fra-
grance.

5. In all this He is the choicest
of the choice: the rose—yea,
Sharon's rose: the lily—yea, the
most delicious lily of the valleys.
There is none like Him. He is in-
deed a plant of renown.

Yet blind men see no color,
and men without scent perceive
no odor in the sweetest flowers;
and carnal men see no delights
in Jesus. Roses and lilies require
eyes and light ere they can be
appreciated, and to know Jesus
we must have grace and gracious
dispositions. He says, "I am the
Rose of Sharon;" and so He is
essentially; but the grave ques-
tion is,—"Is He this to you?" Yes,
or no.

II. THE SWEET VARIETY OF HIS DELIGHTFULNESS.

1. Of the rose, majesty; of the
lily, love.

2. Of the rose, suffering; of
the lily, purity.

3. Of both, a great variety; all
the roses and all the lilies, all

the beauties of heaven and earth
meet in Jesus.

4. Of both the very essence. Of
all the creatures, all the excel-
lences, virtues, and blessings,
which may be found in them,
come from Jesus, and abide in
Jesus without limit. Many eyes
are wanted to spy out the whole
of Jesus. No eye, nor all eyes,
can see all that lies in His varied
perfections.

5. Of all these a perfect pro-
portion, so that no one excellence
destroys another. He is all a rose
should be, and yet not the less
perfect as a lily.

Hence, He is suitable to all
saints, the joy of all, the perfec-
tion of beauty to each one.

III. THE EXCEEDING FREE- NESS OF HIS DELIGHTFUL- NESS.

1. Meant to be plucked and
enjoyed as roses and lilies are.

2. Abundant as a common
flower. He is not as a rare or-
chid, but as the anemones which
cover Sharon's plains, and as the
lilies which abounded in all the
valleys of Palestine.

3. Abiding in common places,
as roses in Sharon and lilies in
the valleys, where every passerby
was free to gather. Not found on
inaccessible steeps, or within
guarded enclosures, Jesus is out
in the open: a flower of the com-
mon. This is a leading idea of
the text. Those who desire Christ
may have Him.

4. Scattering fragrance, not over
a room or a house, but far and
wide, perfuming every wander-
ing wind.

5. Yet roses and lilies fail to
set forth our Beloved for He is
unfading virtue. They are soon
withered, but "He dieth no more."

CONCLUSION In all things
look for Jesus. See Him in prim-
roses and daisies. In Jesus look
for all things of beauty and
sweetness: lilies and roses are in
Him.

Listen much to Jesus, for He
can tell you most about Himself;
and, coming at first hand, it will
be surely true, and come with
great force and unction. Harken,
and hear Him say, "I am the Rose
of Sharon."

Following this sermon he lists
his observations on the text.

A. "I am the Rose of Sharon,
and the Lily of the Valleys;"
words most seemly in the lips of
the Lord Jesus Christ, in whom
it is not robbery (by) from
others, but condescension and
grace, to commend Himself to
the sons of men. "I am meek and
lowly," would be the utterance
of pride in Gabriel, but it is
humility in Jesus, who has stoop-
ed that He might become meek
and lowly. "I am the true Vine,"
"I am the good Shepherd," etc.,
are the expressions alike of truth
and grace, and so here. — A.
Moody Stuart.

B. Not to flowers which only
of the rich and great can possess,
but to those easily obtainable,
does He liken Himself; for always
did He stoop to the lowliest, and

God's Sovereignty and the Existence of Evil

by Bob L. Ross

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Calvary Baptist Church
Ashland, Ky.

the common people ever heard
Him gladly. His presence on
earth never failed to bring com-
fort to the needy, and refresh-
ment to the downcast spirit, just
as sweet odors float around roses
and lilies, and minister solace to
the organ of smell, while their
fair forms and rich and delicate
colors gratify the eye.—H. K.
Wood, in "The Heavenly Bride-
groom and His Bride."

C. We believe that there can
be little doubt that the rose is
really intended by the Hebrew
word. Even in the general sense
should it mean but a flower, we
should still infer that, when ap-
plied in a particular sense, it
means a rose, for this would be
according to the usage of the
East. Thus the Persian word "gul"
describes a flower in general, and
the rose par excellence. This suf-
fices to show the estimation in
which the rose is held in the
East. In the Persian language
particularly, there is perhaps no
poem in which allusions to it,
and comparisons drawn from it,
do not recur even to repletion.
The extreme fragrance and
beauty of the rose in some parts
of western Asia have attracted
the notice of many travellers. It
is also cultivated, not merely as
a garden plant for pleasure, but
in extensive fields from the pro-
duce of which is prepared that
valued and delicious perfume
called rose-water. The size of the
rose-trees and the number of the
flowers on each, far exceed in
the rose districts of Persia, any-
thing we are here accustomed to
witness.

It can be readily seen that it
was not so much the content of
his sermons that placed him
above other men in the field, but
his method of presentation. Note
also that his outlines are mere
skeletons of the messages he
preached and are a difficult gage
of the delivery or the man him-
self.

Charlie wrote an article on
getting the attention of an audi-
ence that would indicate his skill
in this matter and gives us an
idea of his own action with re-
gards to so important a part of
the "speaker" in public.

1. Frequently it is very diffi-
cult for a congregation to listen
because of the place and atmos-
phere.

2. The manner of other people
distract.

3. In order to get attention, the
first golden rule is always to
say something that's worth hear-
ing.

4. Speak plainly.

5. Give attendance to your
manner of address.

6. Do not make the introduc-
tion too long.

7. Do not repeat yourself in
exactly the same phraseology.

8. Use many illustrations.

9. Cultivate surprise power.

10. Be interested yourself in
the subject you have.

11. Make the people feel that
they have an interest in what
we are saying to them.

As to the power of Spurgeon's
eloquence, Sheridan Knowles, the
speech teacher previously refer-
red to in this series, said that
Charlie could make an audience
laugh, cry, and laugh again with-
in five minutes time. Spurgeon
valued emotional persuasion as
a means of reaching the hearts

of people but yet others who
heard him speak were impressed
by his conversational style of
approach.

Here are the impressions of a
former president of the United
States as he heard Charlie pro-
claim from the pulpit. In John
Garfield's journal are recorded
these words, "He evidently pro-
ceeded upon the assumption that
the Bible, all the Bible, in its
very words, phrases, and sen-
tences, is the Word of God. His
arrangement is clear, logical, and
perfectly comprehensible; and at
the end of each main division of
the sermon, he makes a personal
application of the truth develop-
ed, to his hearers, and asks God
to bless it. He has the word-
painting power quite at his com-
mand but uses it sparingly. I
could see those nervous motions
of the hands and feet which all
forcible speakers make when pre-
paring to speak; and also in the
speaking the sympathy between
his body and his thoughts which
controlled his gestures and pro-
duced those little touches of the-
atrical power, which are so ef-
fective in a speaker . . ."

Prayer

(Continued from page 7)
begins at no beginning and works
to no end." So you are not ready
to pray until first your mind has
been possessed by thoughts of
God. Minds filled with thoughts
of God, His Holiness, His mercy—
His love—all these condition us
for prayer.

We Need This Confidence—
Said the Robin to the Sparrow,
"I should really like to know
Why these anxious human beings
Rush around and worry so."
Said the Sparrow to the Robin,
"Friend, I think it must be
That they have no heavenly
Father
Such as cares for you and me."

By: Elizabeth Cheney

'Ye Must Be Born Again'

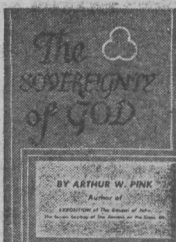
(Continued from page one)
like those for instance who talk
about "praying through to salva-
tion." Many things may lead up
to one's receiving Christ as Sav-
iour, but the work of God in re-
generation is done immediately.
The Philippian jailor asked the
way of salvation, and believed
as he was directed to do, and
God wrought a miracle—the mir-
acle of the new birth right there
that night.

3. It is unexplainable. Clearly
we are dealing here with a mir-
aculous work of God, hence with
something that does not lend it-
self to full human explanation.
Along with it goes repentance to-
ward God and faith in the Lord
Jesus Christ, and let us remem-
ber that even these are produced
by the Lord. Repentance unto
life is "granted" as we read. And
even faith is "the gift of God."
(Eph. 2.8.)

4. It involves the use of in-
strumentalities. The Word of God
is used, and the new birth is

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MOUNTAIN MUSINGS

By Simon Muse



Matilda Hornbuckle
to vizit with my wif' fer
an' sed that her pastur sh
full of his subjeck last
morn. I ask'd hur what
jec wuz an she sed,
Serpent, th' Devil."

One uf th' mimburs ov
Hog Waller wuz tell'n
th' church is look'n fer
pastur. (Th' last one got
They say that they want
"Mixer." Whin Jake Corn
ings heerd that they wuz
a good mixer, he thawt
a church had sumthing
with lickin, so he applic
job. I's afeerd lots uf
in pasturates knows as
'bout that job as ole Jake

I notise'd in th' news
one uf our ex-presidents
more to say 'bout hell. Th
strikes me that that fell
more 'bout hell than he d
heaven. If his talk
which plase he's gonna
he dies, I woodn't want
along with'm.

(More Musings Next)

never experienced by
knows nothing of the Gos
proof of this read the
Scriptures: I Peter 1:23
5:26; James 1:18. Since
the Word then, how futle
expect people to be saved
the preaching of death-
ies, or indeed anything
leaves out the Word of
it relates to Christ and
rificial death for sinners.

INDICATIONS THAT ONE HAS BEEN BORN AGAIN

1. Spiritual appetite. Clearly
born alive will soon cry
A person who has been
ally reborn will crave
food, too. Church membe
find it punishment to sit

SEND THE TO OTHERS

ten to the Word, have
petite. Church members
find every excuse imagin
not attending the worship
should tell the truth and
simply have no appetite
itual things." Why? The
never been reborn.

2. Changed attitudes.
things have passed away
all things are become
have seen dozens of
change their habits, cha
associates, change the
manner of life, because
something within that
this.

3. Manifest love for God
things of God. "We love
cause he first loved us"
love of Christ constrains
"The love of God is shed
in our hearts by the Holy
which is given unto us."
will cause one to separate
the world. It is one of
notable characteristics
truly saved.

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