

The Baptist Examiner

Paid Circulation In All States And In Many Foreign Countries

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

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Accidents Centering Around World War I Which Prove That God Reigns On High

God did in World War I is under chapter of history and that He does move in various ways His wonders to men. And also that He makes wrath of man to praise Him. The darkest hour of the war was said to King George of England, "How will it ever end?" George prayerfully replied, "I will have to work a miracle."

He did. It is the answer. Because it is the God that does won- among nations is why Ger- had the war won seven and then lost it.

THE WIND A FATHER?

was at four o'clock on the moon of April 22, 1915, that Germans at Ypres turned for the first time their dead-

ly poisonous gas on the Allies. It was all unexpected, and the Allied armies, all unprotected, fell in wind-rows. They were piled up like bloated cordwood. All Germany now needed to do was to march through, take the English Channel, and the world was hers. Then, why didn't she do it? And why was this particular time selected to turn loose the gas? It was not the military but the meteorological authori- ties that fixed the hour. Dr. Schmaus, the head of the Meteor- ological Department, announced to the German general in charge that the direction of the winds was fixed and settled for thirty- six hours to come, and they would carry the gas far out over the Allied lines. So the gas was turned loose—when, all of a sud-

den, it whirled and flung itself back over the German army. And the Germans gasping, strangling, staggered by the thousands to their deaths. Dr. Schmaus, in his official report, said, "In forty years of meteorological records of the German government, the wind never acted so peculiarly before." And the doubly strange and striking thing was that the wind whirled in only a small area.

Columbus' sails were set straight for the New Jersey coast. The wind tugged and tugged southward. The sailors said, "Ad- miral, see the wind. Follow the wind." He turned the prow south- ward and landed in the West Indies. As a result, that southland was settled by the Latin and Catholic, and God saved this land

(Continued on page 5, column 2)

Craces To Be Returned Immediately In View Of Illness Of Mrs. Crace

It is with the deepest of regret that we announce to our readers that it will be necessary to return the Craces from New Guinea at once, in view of the serious illness of Mrs. Crace.

I do not have full information, but she is apparently suf- fering an emotional and mental "illness." Suffice to say that her condition is such that they must be returned im- mediately.

This is one of the greatest disappointments we have ever had relative to any work. Brother Crace is truly an able preacher. Everything had gone so smoothly relative to their going to New Guinea, and it looked as if God were leading every step of the way. Sufficient support in his behalf was available, and for him to be there to augment the work of Brother Halliman seemed to be a perfect missionary set up.

We will never know until we get to Glory just why God has planned it thus. We submit our wills to Him today with the fullest of assurance that what He has done is well done.

Further announcement will be made as to her condition, and other details will be released, just as soon as we learn them. We are attempting to bring them home immediately, although being in the interior of New Guinea with communi- cations as slow as they are, we have many problems to thus contend with. Therefore, we cannot say just when they will be coming home, but at a very early date—of this we are sure.

This presents another financial burden for an already over- burdened church and paper. Remember us much in prayer, and if God may lead you to share with us in this burden, such help will be appreciated.

We do not know what the future may hold for Brother Crace concerning his ministry. He is a good man, an excellent preacher, a loyal servant of our Lord, a devout student of the Bible, and we are sure that God will keep him busy in His service.

A Lumberman's Experience

am a firm believer in pray- remarked an influential busi- man one day, when I called office to solicit his mem- in our Organization.

"You have the time," he ad- should like to relate an in- which occurred in my own number of years ago."

uring him that I was in no he then told me this re- able story:

in the time this took place I in the lumber business and partner and I held large tracts valuable timber land.

had a customer for one of tracts, which we were quite us to sell.

was a man of consider- wealth, who lived in a far state.

secretary had written us he would be in our office on main day, and we hoped to a deal with him involving reds of thousands of dollars.

our disappointment, instead of coming, he wired that his plans been so completely disarrang-

ed, it might be several weeks before he could see us; but as he was still as much interested as ever, he trusted we would do nothing until he arrived.

"As my family had never vis- ited California I made up my mind that we would take a trip to the Pacific Coast while I was waiting for this deal to go through, for I was greatly in need of a complete rest.

"We had scarcely become set- tled in Los Angeles, when I re- ceived a telegram from my part- ner. Our prospective customer would meet with us the early part of the following week.

"Of course, he had no idea that I was then in California, hundreds of miles from my office.

"This was before the day of aeroplanes; so I hurriedly consult- ed a timetable and learned that by taking a certain fast train, which made direct connection in Kansas City I could be home in time to keep the appointment and I so wired my office.

"Leaving my family in Cali- fornia, I caught my train and reached Kansas City only to learn

that the express for my home town had left less than an hour before, and I could not get an- other until the following morning, which would be too late, for I would be leaving Kansas City at the very hour I was supposed to be in my office.

"This was the bitterest disap- pointment of my life, up to that time, for more than anything else in the world, my heart was set on disposing of that large tract of timber land.

"Although I was a born-again child I am ashamed to admit that I did not act any more like one than did Peter the night he denied his Lord with oaths and curses. (Matt. 26:74).

"When I thought of how I had been cheated out of my California visit, which I had expected to en- joy to the utmost, and had gone to the expense and discomfort of hurrying home on what now ap- peared to be a wild goose chase, I was mad through and through and acted like a spoiled child who deserved a good sound thrashing.

"There was nothing for me to do but to go to a hotel, which I

did, and by the time my room was reached I had cooled off suf- ficiently to be thoroughly asham- ed of myself; so I knelt down on my bed, and asked God to forgive me for having made a baby of myself.

"I also told Him that in my rage I seemed to consider my presence at the business confer- ence in my office, the following morning, absolutely essential, for- getting that He would be there as my Father, who would undertake for His own unworthy child.

"The trip home was without incident, but when I reached the hotel, about midnight, the clerk, whom I knew quite well, told me that I need not register, for the place was crowded to capacity, and he couldn't even give me a cot.

"He deeply regretted that I had not made a reservation, and so did I.

"My home at that time was away out in the country, several miles from the city, and with my family all away, I had no thought of going there at that time of night.

"While standing by the hotel desk, debating in my mind what I should do, a middle-aged man, dressed in the regulation garb of an oil field operator—a fa- miliar costume in our oil town—came up to me and extended his hand. He knew who I was, but we had never met before.

He said he had overheard my conversation with the hotel clerk and hoped that he might help me out of my dilemma by sharing his room with me for the night. I soon learned that he had one of the finest rooms in the hotel, with two beds and a bath; so I was delighted to accept his gracious hospitality.

"Being travel-stained from my long train ride, I soon enjoyed the luxury of a nice, warm bath, and when ready for bed, I saw that my host had already retired and was even then, as I supposed, sound asleep.

"Kneeling by my bedside, as has been my custom every night be-

(Continued on page 5, column 1)

WE LOVE HIM SINCE HE LOVED US

er Mother had finished a she said to her little girl, "may come now, dear." The said, "I am so glad, for I ed to love you so much."

I thought you were happy your dolly," said the mother. Mother, I was, but I soon ed of loving her, for she ed love me back."

is profound wisdom in answer of the wee philoso- God could have stopped His work with the inanimate on; but no: He wanted to be back! And so He made man He revealed to man sacrificial love, on the cross; sinful men who see that trust God and love Him

So God will have in not mere "dolls," ma- but He will have redeem- who will love and serve for all He has done for them! we love Him, because He first us." (I John 4:19).

—Christian Victory

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

"A THIEF IN THE NIGHT"

"But of the times and the sea- sons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For your- selves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you as a thief." — I Thes. 5:1-4.

May I say at the very outset that the second coming holds an important place in the Scriptures. I have always been afraid that the majority of us have never realized just how important a place the second coming really has in the Scriptures. Sometime

ago I made an estimate relative to the second coming, and other doctrines that were mentioned in the Bible, and it was amazing to me as to how many times the second coming is mentioned in comparison to other great doc- trines. For example, in the whole Bible, I found that the new birth is mentioned only nine times, baptism is mentioned only 20 times, repentance is mentioned only 70 times, yet in the New Testament alone, the second com- ing is mentioned 280 times. I am afraid that we just don't realize the important place which the second coming has in the Bible.

Now I don't mean to say that I know when Jesus is coming. I don't mean to tell you that He is coming at any particular time. I

do not set either the day or the hour. However, I do say to you, that the Lord Jesus Christ is soon coming, for we find Jesus saying:

"Let not your heart be trou- bled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I WILL COME AGAIN, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also." — John 14:1-3.

Notice another Scripture which tells us about the second coming of the Lord Jesus:

"Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up (Continued on page 3, column 4)

TO BE SURE, HE WANTED ACTION

A Macon, Georgia, deputy sheriff, according to an Associat- ed Press dispatch, held the fol- lowing conversation with a Ne- gro who had come to him for official assistance:

"Boss, I want to find out who owns the house I live in."

"Whom do you pay your rent to?"

"Ain't paid none."

"How long have you been liv- ing there?"

"Nine years."

"Well, then, what's your trou- ble?"

"Boss, the roof has started to leak, and if the landlord doesn't fix it quick I'm a-goin' to move out."

Are there not church members in almost every congregation of this type? Folk who do not con- tribute anything to the welfare of the church, either by regular attendance or financial support. But — when grumbling starts —

(Continued on page 8, column 5)

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unto you." — John 5:17.

"Come ye after me and I will make you to become fishers of men." — Mark 1:17.

"Lift up your eyes and look on the fields; for they are white already unto harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages and gathereth fruit unto eternal life." — John 4:35-36.

"My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." — 2 Cor. 12:9.

"If any man serve me, him will my Father honor." — John 12:26.

"He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." — John 15:5.

"He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he also do; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." — John 14:12.

You do not know what God may do through you until you give Him an opportunity. He often chooses the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty. See I Cor. 1:27. Turn from your sins, turn from your self, turn to Jesus Christ in simple childlike faith as your Sin-bearer and Saviour and He will save you now. He will abundantly bless you and use you.

WHY YOU SHOULD BE BAPTIZED

Baptism does not save, help to save or add anything to Christ's finished work on the Cross, but it is a most important first-step in the Christian life. It is for believers only.

1. Baptism is a divine command. "And he (Peter) commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord." — Acts 10:48. See also Acts 2:38, 22:16, and Matt. 28:19-20.

2. The water baptism commanded in the New Testament is immersion only. "One Lord, one faith, one baptism." — Eph. 4:5. That the New Testament teaches immersion only is proved by the following facts:

(a) The Greek word "Baptizo," translated into English as "baptize," means to immerse, to dip, to plunge, to submerge, to overwhelm, etc., and nothing else. There is a good Greek word for "sprinkle," which is "rantizo";

Send TBE to A Friend.

and another Greek word for "pour," which is "eccheo," but neither of these words are ever used in the New Testament for the baptismal act. Also, water is never said to be baptized upon a person, which would be perfectly proper if baptism was by sprinkling or pouring.

(b) The meaning "immerse" is either required or allowed in every passage in the New Testament where baptism is mentioned. The meaning "sprinkle" or "pour" cannot be substituted in these passages and make good sense.

(c) John the Baptist's baptism required, "much water." — John 3:23.

(d) The account of Jesus' baptism (Matt. 3:13-17) plainly indicates immersion. Do you not want to be baptized in the manner He was? Compare also Acts 8:36-39.

(e) Immersion is the only form of baptism that symbolizes the truths for which baptism is a picture, namely,

(1) Christ's death, burial and resurrection; (2) our identification with Christ in death, burial and resurrection; (3) the future resurrection of the believer's body from the grave, I Cor. 12:59. Rom.

"I Should Like to Know"

1. Who are the elect in Mark 13:20?

They may be tribulation saints: they may be Jews who will be saved by seeing Him when He comes in the air. Regardless of who they may be, God loves and cares for His elect saints.

2. Are all sinners punished alike?

No: It is more tolerable for the heathen and those who have no light than for the ones who have a chance to hear the gospel. Matthew 11:20-24.

3. When Jesus chose Judas, did He know that Judas would betray Him?

Yes, It was prophesied in Psa. 41:9. In John 6:64 it is said that Jesus knew from the beginning who should betray Him.

4. Has a New Testament church any authority for sending out women as missionaries?

Yes, to work among women. In Luke 8:1-13, they went with the Master and twelve on their itineraries and supported them with their gifts. They did not speak before men. In many countries women missionaries are needed to work among women, for only through women workers can Catholic and heathen women be reached. Men are not even permitted to go where women are or enter their homes. However, I would not send any unmarried

6:3-5 and Col. 2:62 show the symbolical significance of baptism. Note that baptism is the agency of burial; therefore, water baptism buries the subject in water.

(f) Baptism is a symbolical way of "putting on Christ." — Gal. 3:27.

(g) Baptism is symbolical of washing away sins. — Acts 22:16.

3. The Greek Catholic Church teaches and practices immersion. Modern Greek language is much like New Testament Greek, and this Church can get no other meaning out of the word "baptizo" but immerse. Surely Greeks can rightly interpret their own language!

4. If a believer is baptized by immersion, his baptism is beyond question or dispute. He himself will never doubt it. Wherever he goes, he will be accepted as a baptized believer.

5. Practically all scholars agree that immersion was the primitive form of baptism and was universally practiced for several centuries after Christ death.

6. Obedience to this command results in the answer of a good conscience. — I Peter 3:21.

7. Baptism is one way of publicly confessing Christ and identifying yourself with His people. He expects you to confess Him. — Mark 8:38.

8. Baptism should not be postponed. In the New Testament, believers were immersed immediately after conversion. — Acts 2:41; 8:38; 10:47-48; 16:32-33; 22:16.

9. If you have been sprinkled in infancy, that is not baptism. (Continued on page 3, column 1)

woman as missionary to a foreign field.

5. How were the Old Testament saints saved?

By faith in Christ. Gal. 3:12. John 8:56.

6. When did the observance of Sunday begin?

On the day the Lord arose from the dead. They met for their own worship Saturday after that. They went to the Jews at their worship on Saturday somewhere, but the disciples met from the resurrection on, on the first of the week. David prophesied about the new day that the Lord would make being marvelous to the eyes of the people, and so. Psa. 118:22-24. It was the Lord's doing. No one could have made such a change so suddenly except the Lord, Hosea 2:11.

7. Where was the soul of Christ during the three days He was in the tomb?

In Paradise. Luke 23:43.

8. If only the blood of Christ could atone for sin, how could anyone be saved before the cross was shed?

The Bible speaks of Christ slain from the foundation of the world. In God's purpose, He would not actually so unite death upon Calvary. Paul says in Roman's 3:23-25 that the Old Testament saints passed over in the forbearance of God until the death of Christ atoned for them. As a matter of fact, Old Testament saints did not go to heaven until after death and resurrection of Christ. That is what Paul means in 4, when he talks of Christ being captive a multitude of "prisoners." He took the Old Testament saints to heaven with Him after He had carried His blood into the Holy of Holies and made expiation for their sins. Now the saved go to heaven at death.

9. What kind of sheep is a sheep?

One of the elect not yet saved.

10. If one of the elect, how can he come to be lost?

He was born lost, a child of wrath, just like any other sinner. He was elected from before the foundation of the earth, but is not saved until he hears the gospel and is called by the Holy Spirit and repents and trusts in Jesus Christ. 2 Thess. 2:13-14.

11. Why is Jesus called "Son of God" and the "Son of Man"?

The title "Son of God" has reference to His deity or Godhood. He was God manifest in flesh. The title "Son of Man" has reference to His humanity or being man as well as God.

12. What is meant by "Gates of Hell?"

The organized forces of Satan.

Why You Should Be Saved, Baptized, And Join A Baptist Church

WHY YOU SHOULD BE SAVED

1. Because God says you are lost, condemned, under the wrath of God, blind, spiritually dead, without hope and without God. Read the following, taken from God's Word, the Bible:

"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:23.

"All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned everyone to his own way." Isa. 53:6.

"He that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." — John 3:18.

"He that believeth not (trusts not) the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." — John 3:36.

"For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." — Luke 19:10.

"If the gospel be hid it is to them that are lost, in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." — 2 Cor. 4:3, 4.

"But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities like the wind have taken us away." — Isa. 64:6.

"Dead in trespasses and sins... having no hope, and without God in the world." — Eph. 2:1, 12.

"Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." — Luke 13:3.

"He that believeth not (yieldeth not to Christ) shall be damned." — Mark 16:6.

"Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." — John 3:3.

You may never have consider-

ed yourself a sinner at all, but the above shows God's estimate of you.

"For the Lord seeth not as man seeth: for man looketh on the outward appearance; but the Lord looketh on the heart." — I Sam. 16:7.

2. You should be saved because of what God does for the saved. Read carefully God's Word.

"He that believeth on the Son hath Everlasting Life." — John 3:36.

"Believe on (yield to) the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be SAVED." — Acts 16:31.

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have PEACE with God." — Rom. 5:1.

"In whom we have REDEMPTION through his blood, the FORGIVENESS of sins, according to the riches of his grace." — Eph. 1:17.

"Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you REST." — Matt. 11:28.

"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." — John 5:24.

"But as many as received Him to them gave he power to become THE SONS OF GOD, even to them that believe on His name." — John 1:12.

"He that followeth me SHALL NOT WALK IN DARKNESS but SHALL HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE." — John 8:12.

"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, HIM WILL I CONFESS before my Father which is in Heaven." — Matt. 10:32.

3. You should be saved because you can then enjoy life and because of the great things God may do through you.

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." — Phil. 4:13.

"If ye abide in me and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done

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CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

SEPTEMBER 19, 1964

PAGE TWO



A CONCISE HISTORY OF BAPTISTS

By G. H. ORCHARD

\$1.50 paper -- \$3.00 cloth

J. R. Graves thought very highly of this book and brought it into print here in America. The author himself was an English Baptist and was very well informed about the history of our forefathers. In the study of Baptist history, you will find Orchard plays an important role.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P. O. Box 910, Ashland, Kentucky, 41101

Saved, Baptized"

Continued from page two)
Testament baptism is for
others only, and an infant can-
believe or disbelieve. Baptism
conversion.—Acts 18:8.
Baptism is a test of our love
Christ. If we really love Christ
will keep all His commands.
14:15; 14:21; 15:10, 14.

WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN A CHURCH

Jesus founded the Church,
16:18; he is its head, Col.
he loved it and gave himself
—Eph. 5:25. You cannot af-
to ignore what He is for.

New Testament Christians
the Church, and so should
if you are going to obey the
Testament as your guide.—
2:47.

A local church is the divinely
anted means of assembling to-
to worship God and honor
—Heb. 10:25.

The local church offers you
best means of witnessing for
—Matt. 10:32-33, and honor-
—Him.—John 5:23.

You need the ministry of the
ch to develop you in Chris-
character and to instruct you
divine truth also to administer
—Matt. 18:17.

The local church gives you
best opportunity to join with
others in carrying out the Great
Commission of Christ.—Matt. 28:
19, Acts 1:8.

The local church is the cus-
tom of the ordinances of Bap-
tism and the Lord's Supper, and
receive these you must belong
to the church.

It is the best place to form
most helpful Christian friend-
ships and social contacts.

The local church will assign
definite work to do for Christ,
this will keep you from being
hazard and careless as to
your responsibility.

Being a church member
definitely commits you to
the Christian program, making it
easier to do right and harder to
do wrong.

The church stands for the
interests of your community.
It takes the side of every right-
eous cause. It deserves your
loyal support.

Paul and the Apostles estab-
lished local churches throughout
the Mediterranean world as
centers of spiritual wor-
ship, evangelistic zeal, and mis-
sionary endeavor.—I Cor. 16:19.

It was in the midst of these
churches, even though they were
imperfect, and held their angels
in their right hand.—Rev. 1:13, 20.

Do not hurt Christ and yourself by
maintaining outside.

The local church is the "pil-
lar and ground of the truth."—I
Cor. 13:15. When you join the

church, you help the truth for
which it stands.

14. If you stay out of the
church, you will likely influence
others to do likewise. Could you
feel right about that?

15. If all Christians felt that
they did not need to join the
church, how would Christ's cause
be maintained?

16. Even though there may be
some hypocrites in the church,
yet the best people in any com-
munity are church members, and
the worst people oppose the
church. Which side will you take?

WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN A BAPTIST CHURCH

1. Because a true Baptist
Church stands for the largest
body of New Testament truth
of any church in your community.

2. A Baptist Church is model-
ed after the New Testament
churches in the following re-
spects:

(a) It requires regeneration be-
fore baptism and church member-
ship.—John 3:7.

(b) It does not baptize infants.

(c) It has no man-made creed,
but takes the New Testament
alone as its creed.

(d) It is a pure democracy; it
is independent of all bishops,
popes, councils, conventions, syn-
ods, conferences or human over-
lords. Christ alone is its head,
and it conducts its affairs as He
directs through the Holy Spirit.
But Baptist Churches may and
do cooperate.

(e) Every member has equal
privileges in a Baptist Church.

(f) It has only two classes of
church officers, pastors and dea-
cons. Bishop, elder, shepherd, and
pastor are New Testament words
all standing for the same office.

(g) It stands for equality of
ministers; no graduations in the
ministry, with some the overlords
of others.

(h) It stands for the direct ap-
proach of every believer to God,
without the aid of human media-
tors, rituals, ceremonies, or forms.

(i) It stands for baptism by
immersion alone upon profes-
sion of faith in Christ, the only
mode of baptism the New Testa-
ment teaches.

(j) It administers the Lord's
Supper as a symbolical ordi-
nance, picturing Christ's body
broken for our sins and His blood
shed for our redemption. It is not
a saving ordinance, but helps us
remember His death, inspires us
in looking forward to His com-
ing, and is for baptized believers.
—Acts 2:38-42.

(k) It stands for separation of
church and government. Political
issues should be kept out of the
church; and the civil government
should not interfere with the
churches. But each Christian is
to be a good citizen using his in-



fluence for civic improvement.—
Matt. 22:21.

(l) It stands for the whole Bible
as God's Word, for evangelism,
missions, and holy living.

3. In addition to the above,
a Baptist Church, in common with
many others, holds such doctrines
as the divine inspiration of the
Bible, the Trinity; the virgin
birth, deity, atonement, resurrec-
tion, and visible second coming of
Christ; salvation by grace alone,
the eternal existence of the saved
in Heaven, and the lost in Hell.

4. A Baptist Church allows in-
dividual liberty to interpret the
Bible under the guidance of the
Holy Spirit.—John 16:13.

5. Baptist churches were not
originated by any single man,
such as Wesley, Luther, Calvin
Knox, Campbell, Otterbein, etc.
They are New Testament

Churches founded not on men,
but on the New Testament, and
as such have existed under vari-
ous names in all periods of Chris-
tian history back to the Apostles.

6. Baptists are an influential
and rapidly growing religious
group, numbering more than nine
million in the United States, and
being next to Roman Catholics
in size.

7. It does make a difference
which church you join. It is more
than a question of going to
Heaven; it is a question of partial
or entire obedience to the Word
of God. There is a vast differ-
ence between denominations. You
may belong to most any church,
or none at all, and go to Heaven,
but if you want to be loyal and
obedient disciple, you will care-
fully compare the teachings and
practices of the churches with the
New Testament. In that case, you
will be a Baptist. The longer you
are a Baptist, the more of a Bap-
tist you will be.

a prophecy of the return of the
Lord Jesus. It is a silent sermon
that Jesus Christ is coming back.
Every time we break the bread,
and pour the wine, even if we
don't mention the second coming
of Christ, it is a silent sermon in
itself that He is coming, because
the Word of God says that as
often as you do so, you show the
Lord's death, till He comes.

As I say, beloved, I do not mean
to tell you as to the exact time
that He is coming, but I do say
that He is coming. In fact, the
Word of God would warn us
against setting dates or offering
a prophecy as to the exact time
of His return. Listen:

"But of that day and hour
knoweth no man, no, not the
angels of heaven, but my Father
only." — Mt. 24:36.

(Continued on page 4, column 3)

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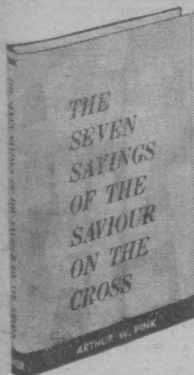


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sins that we would live forever.



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"A Thief In The Night"

(Continued from page one)
into heaven? This same Jesus,
which is taken up from you into
heaven, shall SO COME in like
manner as ye have seen him go
into heaven." — Acts 1:11.

They had seen him go into the
skies, and they had observed un-
til He was lost as a speck in the
clouds; then the angels said, "Just
as you saw Him go, someday you
are going to see Him reappear.
Someday He is coming back to
this world again."

Whenever we observe the Me-
morial Supper we have a pro-
phesy thereby as to the coming
of the Lord Jesus, for the Apostle
Paul said:

"For as often as ye eat this
bread, and drink this cup, ye do
show the Lord's death TILL HE
COME." — I Cor. 11:26.

So, beloved, every time we ob-
serve the Lord's Supper, we have

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

SEPTEMBER 19, 1964

PAGE THREE

The Baptist Examiner FORUM

"Is one Church as good as another?"

E. G.
Cook

701 Cambridge
Birmingham, Ala.

BIBLE TEACHER

Grace
Baptist Church
Birmingham, Ala.



In spite of the fact that the great majority of christendom believes that one church is as good as another, this question is utterly absurd. I do not mean that Brother Gilpin acted silly in giving us this question. It is well to have it aired. But the very idea of anyone thinking that a church started by Henry VIII is just as good as the one started by the Lord of glory is absurd to the Nth degree. This old renegade lived with six different wives during his church's first fourteen years of existence. One of them died in the dungeon where she had been thrown in order to get her out of his way. Two of the others had their heads cut off for the same reason. And still another one of them died of some cause or other after only one year with this old cut throat. If a man like that could start a church just as good as the one our Lord started it just means that our Lord did not do too good a job of it Himself. The other church founders are very little better than old Henry. I mean those this side of the Cross of Calvary, but space will not permit our dealing with them.

If a man can formulate a "way of life" that is as good as the one our precious Lord worked out on the Cross of Calvary, he can start a church that is as good as the one our Lord started. In fact, it just might be a little bit better.



JAMES
HOBBS

Rt. 2, Box 182
McDermott, Ohio

RADIO SPEAKER
and MISSIONARY

Kings Addition
Baptist Church
South Shore, Ky.

Yes. The King's Addition Baptist Church is just as good as any other Baptist church that loves the Lord and stands for His Word.

If the question means is one denomination as good as another, then I must say yes and no. All of the denominations that have a human organizer are just as good as one another. For instance the Campbellites are just as good as the Lutherans or the Wesleyites or the Smithites, etc. You

may as well take your choice, they are all the same — and all wrong.

No ordinary church is as good as a church that is the true church.

If you take someone from all of the so-called churches and ask them to answer the question "What must I do to be saved?", you will have as many different answers as you have representatives. This is confusion and God is not the author of confusion (I Cor. 14:23).

Any group that began with a human head is not as good as the church that has Christ as its head (Matt. 16:18, Eph. 5:23).



AUSTIN
FIELDS

PASTOR,
Arabia Baptist
Church
Arabia, Ohio

NO! There is no church that is as good as the church that was founded by Jesus Christ. All churches who trace their ancestors back to some man could not in any sense be as good as the one which was founded by Christ. Furthermore only the church that the Lord started has the truth, all others are teaching error. Jo. 16:13. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. This promise was given to the church of Jesus Christ, all man made organizations are without the leadership of the Comforter, therefore could not be in the truth. In Rev. 2:9, I know thy works, and tribulation and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

The synagogue of Satan was our Lord's awful name for those that opposed the truth; the Jews opposed the virgin birth, blood atonement and the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave, and salvation by grace. The descendants of these people (doctrinally) are still with us today and are still labeled by the Lord "Synagogue of Satan." To me it is quite evident that the synagogue of Satan could not be as good as the church of Jesus Christ.

Heb. 11:36-38. "And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: they were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword; they wandered about

in sheepskins and goat skins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy) they wandered in deserts and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth." These men thought it made some difference as to what one believed, and as to how one was to worship God. From this I gather that it is impossible for one church to be as good as the church of Jesus Christ.

ROY
MASON

Radio Minister

Baptist
Preacher

Aripeka, Florida



One thousand times no! There is scriptural and historical evidence that Jesus started the Baptists, and churches holding the essential doctrines of Baptists have had continuous existence from then until now. How dishonoring to Christ to say that churches founded by men centuries after Christ started his church are "just as good." How doubly dishonoring to him to say that churches holding doctrines utterly contradictory to his teachings are "just as good."

And so far as that goes, a Baptist church that has become loose in doctrine and worldly in life is not "just as good" as one that is sound doctrinally and whose members live lives of separation and consecration.



"A Thief In The Night"

(Continued from page three)

In the light of this Scripture, how foolish it is for men to set dates, and how utterly absurd it is for any individual to say that Jesus is coming on such-and-such a day. No, not even the angels of God know the hour when the Son of God is coming back to this world again, for we read:

"When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power." — Acts 1:6, 7.

Here were the disciples, after the resurrection of Jesus, talking to the Son of God, and they said, "Lord, we would like to know, are you going to restore again the kingdom of Israel? Jesus said to them, "It is not for you to know the times nor the seasons. Those things have been put in the hands of God. They are under the power of the Father Himself. It is not for you to know the plans, or the times, and the seasons, as to the setting up of the kingdom of God.

So I say to you, beloved, we don't know when He is coming, but we do know that He is coming. We do know that the second coming occupies an exceedingly prominent place in the New Testament. We do know that in this day in which we live, a great number of people are making fun of, and ridiculing the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ more than ever before. To tell you truly, I have been amazed at the papers that come to my desk which scoff, and ridicule, and mock, and make fun of, and look down on the second coming of the Lord Jesus.

Well, that is just exactly what we find prophesied in the Word of God, for we read:

"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming: for since

the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." — II Pet. 3:3, 4.

Peter says that in the last days we can expect scoffers, and we can expect those individuals that do not believe the Word of God to make fun of the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. They are going to say, "Everything is just like it has been down through the years. Where is the promise of His coming? Why expect Him to come back? We have been waiting for 2,000 years now and He hasn't come. Why should we expect Him?"

Well, that is what we have today. We have scoffers today who say, "There is no need in expecting Christ to return. They have looked for Him in every age down to the present time, and there is no need for us to look for Him now."

I want to say to you, I believe that Jesus Christ is coming, in spite of the scoffers — in spite of the fact that it has been 2,000 years since He went away — and in spite of the fact that we don't know when He is coming. In spite of everything that you can raise up by way of opposition to the second coming of Christ, I tell you that I believe Jesus Christ is coming, and my text says that He is coming as a thief in the night.

I

A THIEF DOES NOT SEND YOU WORD THAT HE IS COMING

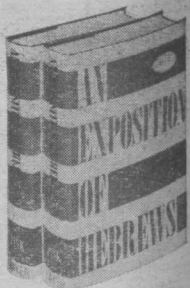
Did you ever go to your home, to find that somebody had broken in, and stolen something from you? Well, if you did, then I would ask you, before the thief broke in and stole from you, did he send you a letter — maybe special delivery, to say that at such-and-such an hour he was going to come to your house and rob you of what you have? No, no, beloved, a thief doesn't do that. A thief comes at a time when he is least expected. He doesn't send you word that he is coming to your home.

I don't know how many times in life that I have had the experience that something has been stolen. I remember once when I was pastor in Russell that one Sunday morning I went to the church building and found the door into the inner office had been completely chiseled into pieces, and a great big hole had been cut out so that one could reach in and turn the Yale lock from the inside. They had torn the office upside down to the extent that it took days to get everything back in place again. Well, I am satisfied if the thief who did so, had sent me word that he was coming to my office that Saturday night I would have stayed up and waited for him. I am sure that I would have been there to have given him a warm reception when he put his hand inside the door. I am satisfied that I would have been right there — but he didn't announce his arrival before coming.

Well, beloved, the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is said to be as a thief in the night. A thief doesn't send you word when he is coming, and Jesus Christ's coming is going to be just like that. He doesn't tell us when, and He doesn't send us word, but He tells us to be ready at all times because He is coming back to this world for us.

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II

A THIEF COMES IN THE DARKEST PART OF THE NIGHT

You wouldn't expect a thief to come to your house in the light of the moon. You wouldn't expect him to come to your house at a time when there is light about, illuminating your house both inside and out. Rather, a thief comes at the darkest part of the night.

Beloved, that is just exactly like it is with the Lord Jesus Christ, for when He comes to this world, He is going to come at the darkest time so as this world is concerned. He comes at the darkest part of the night.

"This know also, that in the last days PERILOUS TIMES shall come." — II Tim. 3:1.

Notice, if you will, when the Son of God puts in His appearance, it will be in a day of perilous times.

The Apostle Paul goes on to mention some of the characteristics of these last days, and every instance he makes mention of how dark the situation is going to be. Listen:

"For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, holy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, continent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." — II Tim. 3:2-5.

I tell you, beloved, a thief comes in the darkest part of the night, and when Jesus comes, it is going to be in perilous times, such as we have read to you from the Word of God.

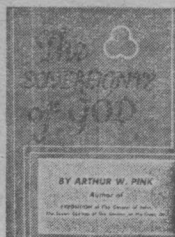
Let's notice some other scriptures which would show us (Continued on page 6, column 1)

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PAGE FOUR

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berman's Experience

(Continued from page one)

retiring as long as I can remember, I remained for some time in silent prayer.

When finally in bed, my meditation was interrupted by a voice across the room: "What are you doing just now, down on your knees all that time?"

"I was praying," I replied. "To whom were you talking?" "Why were you talking to God?" "Do you think that God hears lumbermen when they pray?" "Yes, I'm quite sure that He hears this lumberman anyway."

"What makes you think so?" "Because He has answered my prayers so many times in the past."

"Would you mind telling me what you asked Him for just now?"

"Certainly not—I asked Him to take good care of every member of my family, and to be a blessing to each of them, now separated from me by many hundreds of miles."

"Also asked Him to be my partner in the lumber business, and to help with a big job which He knows means much to me."

"And you really believe that He will do all that for you?" "Yes, I'm sure He will, for He has promised—"

"Promised?" "Promised?" "Where did He promise?" "Where He promised to help you?" "In the Bible."

"And do you believe the Bible?" "Certainly do, every word from cover to cover."

"I was silent for some time, and then finally asked: 'Do you have any idea where I could find a Bible in this town?'"

"I mentioned the name of a concern that handles Bibles. He presently bade me good-night and said no more."

"I heard him leave the room next morning very quietly, without disturbing me, and did not see him again for several months."

"When I reached my office, finding in splendid trim after a night's rest, I learned that the Lord had marvelously answered my prayer, for, like my customer had been delayed and had not yet arrived."

"When he came, the deal went through in record time, without delay, and both he and I were content over our good fortune."

"Time went on, I had all forgotten my benefactor, who had shared his room with me until, one day, I was informed that he wished very much to see me."

"I told him up, but he found me by no means unshaven, shabbily dressed, and man I have been telling about."

"A greater transformation one scarcely imagine for this man was manicured and made and expensively dressed in a made-made suit that was the last word in style and good."

"I remarked about his apparent wealth, and he replied, 'Yes, I have you to thank for every cent of it.'"

"That night I shared my room with you, I was at the end of my rope, and did not know which way to turn."

"I had risked every penny I could rake and scrape on some oil land, and had lost, for the final payment was due the following day, and I could not raise another nickel, which simply meant that I was penniless, and even worse than penniless, for I was in debt."

"My wife died a number of years ago. She was a wonderful Christian, who believed in God and prayer, and the Bible, just as you do. We were happy together, and when God took her home, it made me bitter and resentful and I grew to hate God."

"I never darkened a church door after her death, and neither did I open a Bible—in fact, I wouldn't sleep in a room if there was a Bible there."

"I didn't want anything to do with God Who would rob me of my wonderful wife, whom I loved more than anything else in all the world."

"But that night, while you were on your knees in my room, I did some tall thinking."

"I knew that you were a very successful business man—the leading lumberman in this part of the country, and there you were down on your knees, talking to God that I hated so."

"And then, afterwards, when you told me that God was your Senior Partner in your lumber business, I couldn't help wishing that He were my oil Partner: so I bought a Bible at the bookstore (Continued on page 7, column 4)

God Reigns

(Continued from page one) to the Puritan and Protestant. Who sent the wind? God! Who sent the wind at Ypres? God!

A little book which most people call the Bible, which can well be called the "Encyclopaedia"? "He made a great wind to pass over." "Jehovah blew the great wind." "He walketh on the wings of the wind." "Awake, north wind, awake and blow." In the story of Jonah we read, "And Jehovah prepared a vehement wind." "Where is the factory where the winds are made?" "He bringeth the wind out of His treasury." That is the manufactory. A hundred and sixteen times the Bible tells of God's doings and dealings with the wind.

HATH THE RAIN A FATHER?

We have come to the darkest June of the war. Austria and Germany have swept down the Alps to swallow Italy. Just before them lies Venice. Venice is the heart of Italy. To have taken Venice at the time would not only have broken the heart of Italy but the Central Powers would easily have taken Florence, Rome, Naples, Milan, Italy. If, at that crucial hour, Italy had fallen, the Allies would have lost. All there was between the Central Powers and victory was the Piave River. The Piave is a slow, sluggish stream that sleeps itself away one hundred and twenty-five miles to the sea. The banks are so flat that it is easy to fling bridges or cross by boats. The Austrians and Ger-

mans poured over by the tens of thousands. They took no food for the granaries of Italy were just ahead. Every soldier carried an empty chest. There were automobile trucks by the score to bring back the loot. They are now within six and one-half miles of Venice. The sky is red with the flame of their victory and the air is rent with their shouts, when, all of sudden, out of what had been a dead and dry sky an hour ago, there bursts a Niagara. And in an hour the Piave was a racing, roaring, mad wide sea, sweeping before it boats, bridges, trees, soldiers—whole battalions of Austrians and Germans were swept to the sea. The Austrian and German soldiers were cut off without supplies, a great terror seized them, and the Italians captured or killed more than forty thousand of them. General Foch said, "General Diaz did his best." What would his best have amounted to without God's best? General Diaz recognized this, when, sobbing, he said, "Deus facit"—God did it.

Napoleon will fight the battle of Waterloo at six o'clock in the morning, and by two o'clock all will be over. And it would have been, for Wellington could not win without Blucher, and Blucher could not arrive until five o'clock. But Napoleon did not fight the battle of Waterloo at six o'clock, nor seven, nor eight, nor nine, nor ten, nor eleven. For all the night God sifted His rain down through the sieve of the trees and the ground was so soft Napoleon could not use his artillery, and he could not win the battle without his artillery. And Blucher came at five o'clock, and Napoleon lost. Who sent the rain at Waterloo? Who sent the rain at Piave?

Job asks a very interesting question, "Hath the rain a father?" And the Book says, "Jehovah caused it to rain grievously upon the earth." "And Jehovah sent thunder, lightning, and rain." "He maketh a deluge or rain." "The Lord God sendeth torrents of rain." One hundred and two times the Bible speaks of God's dealings and doings with the rain—His rain.

Napoleon was right. "God is on the side of the heaviest battalions." Only Napoleon forgot that God stables His battalions in the skies. Napoleon with half a million picked soldiers of France started for Moscow. He will have Russia and the world. All of a sudden a snowflake kisses Napoleon's cheek. He laughs and brushes it off. And then a dozen snowflakes. Napoleon laughs again, but not so loud. And then handfuls of snowflakes, armfuls—avalanches of snowflakes. And the men and horses flounder and rear and plunge and sink and die, beneath a mountain of snowflakes and half a million French soldiers lie frozen on the plains of Russia, and Napoleon lost. Who sent that snow? "He scattered the hoar frost." "He sendeth the snow." "Hath the snow a father?" "He saith to the snow, come, bury the earth." "He sendeth fire, hail, and snow." "Rain cometh down, and snow from heaven." God unlatches the door of the skies and the earth is buried. Napoleon was right. God is on the side of the heaviest battalions, but God's battalions are stabled in the skies, and Napoleon lost. He forgot the sky battalion. Likewise Germany.

HATH THE SEA A FATHER?

November 17th, 1917. The German submarine strength is at its tide. Night and day for ten months they have been turning them out. They have enough submarines now to sweep the seas of American ships and soldiers. It is done. The war is won. The Berlin papers of those weeks gloated over the winning of the war by submarine, when lo, the seas rolled and raged and would not cease, and the submarines, unable to return to their bases because of the fury of the seas, were forced to come to the surface and were captured or sunk.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

SEPTEMBER 19, 1964

PAGE FIVE

Consolation

There is never a day so dreary
But God can make it bright,
And unto the soul that trusts Him,
He giveth songs in the night.
There is never a path so hidden,
But God can lead the way,
If we seek for the Spirit's guidance
And patiently wait and pray.

There is never a burden so heavy
But the nail-scarred hands are there
Outstretched in tender compassion
The burden to help us bear.
There is never a heart so broken,
But the loving Lord can heal:
The heart that was pierced on Calvary
Doth still for His loved ones feel.

There is never a life so darkened,
So hopeless and unblessed,
But may be filled with the light of God
And enter His promised rest.
There is never a sin or sorrow,
There is never a care or loss,
But that we may bring to Jesus
And leave at the foot of the cross.

—one hundred and ninety-nine, with three thousand of their crew, and the back of the German submarine warfare was broken, and Germany lost.

In 1588 the Spanish Armada sailed forth from Spain — One hundred and twenty-nine great ships and thousands of sailors and soldiers, to swallow England and wipe Anglo-Saxon civilization off the world. The Armada now lies just off the coast of England, waiting for the dawn of the morrow and the deed will be done; when such a storm as never struck those shores before or since seized the one hundred and twenty-nine ships and shivered them to splinters, and the next morning the proud Spanish Armada was but floating wreckage and dead men.

"The sea rose by reason of a great wind that blew." "He causeth the sea to rise and swallow them." "He maketh them afraid with His storm." "Thou breakest the ships of Tarshish." "Thou terrifieth them at sea." "The Lord God hath His way in the whirl wind." Two hundred and nineteen times the Bible tells of God's doings and dealings with His storms at sea.

Hath the rain a father? Hath the snow a father? Hath the wind a father? Hath the sea a father? "He holdeth the seas in the hollow of His hand." He turned His hand and split them on Germany, and Germany lost.

GOD RULES

It is September 6, 1914—one month after the war began. The Germans are in sight of Paris. The Kaiser, from yon hill, through his glass, can plainly see

the Eiffel Tower. The French have but eight hours ammunition. The orders are already given — "When the last round is fired, every man take to his heels." The archives of the Government have been removed from Paris southward, and the women and children have been taken out by the thousands. Eight hours and the war is done and the world is won—only eight hours—when, all of a sudden, the Germans ceased firing, and did not begin again for forty-seven hours. General Gallieny commandeered every taxicab, automobile, carriage, cart, wheelbarrow — everything that had wheels—in Paris and rushed munitions and men to the front. When after forty-seven hours the Germans began firing again, they met with such fury that they were pounded back, and never in four years were the Germans to near Paris again. Generals Von Kluck, Hausen, and Beulow—German generals in charge—in their official report said they did not know why they ceased firing! Only eight hours and the world is Germany's, and the Germans ceased firing and do not know why! The Bible answers that: "So far shalt thou come and no farther."

When Napoleon all but has Waterloo won, he cries, "Oh, why doesn't Grouchy come?" Grouchy? He lay off yonder with thirty-five thousand of the picked soldiers of France. Napoleon sent him an urgent message to come. True, the messenger was captured and Grouchy never received the message, but for hours (Continued on page 8, column 1)

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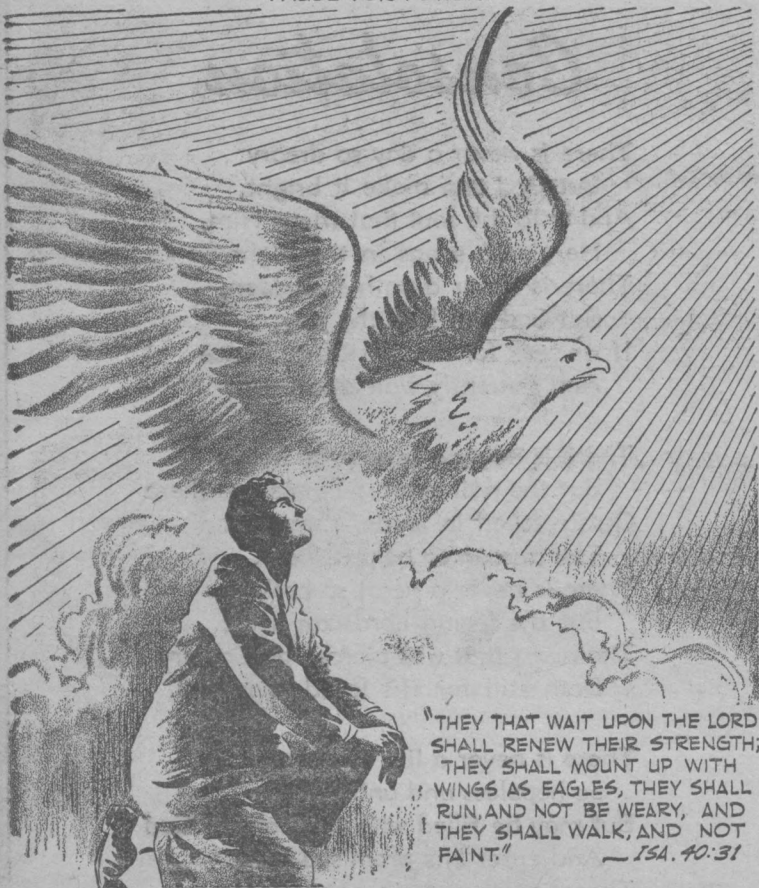
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PAUSE FOR POWER



THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES, THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY, AND THEY SHALL WALK, AND NOT FAINT. — ISA. 40:31

"A Thief In The Night"

(Continued from page 4)
the coming of Jesus Christ is going to be at the darkest period of this world's history. Listen:
"But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." — Mt. 24:37-39.

When Jesus comes, it will be just exactly comparable to the days of Noah. He said in the days of Noah they were marrying and giving in marriage, and they were eating and drinking. I ask you, is there anything wrong with marriage? Is there anything wrong with giving in marriage? Is there anything wrong with eating and drinking? Not a thing. The thing that was wrong about it was that these things characterized the days of Noah. They were just living for the flesh and nothing else. Now the Lord Jesus tells us that as it was in the days of Noah, so is it going to be in the dark days when Jesus comes

back. There were some exceedingly dark days in Noah's times, for we read:
"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." — Gen. 6:5.

Don't tell me, beloved, that it wasn't dark in the days of Noah, for wickedness was great in the earth, and the imaginations of men were only running to thoughts of wickedness and evil.

Notice again:
"The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth." — Gen. 6:11, 12.

Talk about dark days, beloved, these were dark days in Noah's time. They were so dark that violence, and corruption, and sin covered the earth to the extent that even the thoughts of men ran to wickedness continually. Jesus said that as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of God. As a thief comes in the darkest period of the night, the Lord Jesus Christ is going to

come when things are exceedingly dark.

I am not a post-millennialist in any sense of the word. I could never be a post-millennialist, for I could never believe that the world was getting better. I could never in any wise at all subscribe to the idea that this world is getting better and that ultimately it will be so good that Jesus will come back and set up His kingdom. Instead, beloved, as I read in the Bible, and as I read the newspapers, I realize that the days are getting darker. I realize that conditions are getting worse. I realize that so far as this world is concerned we are drifting fast away from God, and the Word of God.

We read:
"Traitors, heady, highminded, LOVERS OF PLEASURE more than lovers of God." — II Tim. 3:4.

This will be a part of the perilous times that will characterize the last days. Look how dark it will be when Jesus comes, for men will be lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.

Go out and ask people on the street, "Do you love the Lord?" and I imagine that most of them would say, "Yes, I do." But you ask them, "When did you go to church last?" and you will find that a few of them went last Sunday, some of them went last month, some of them last year, some of them went to the Xmas and Easter services, and some of them go to funerals. How much do they love the Lord? They are lovers of pleasure more than they are lovers of God.

Notice again:
"For the time will come when they WILL NOT ENDURE SOUND DOCTRINE; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears." — II Tim. 4:3.

I think we are living today in the light of this Scripture, for people don't want sound doctrine. It is so hard to find a church that wants sound doctrine, and it is so hard to find a preacher that will preach sound doctrine. The fact of the matter is, since churches don't want sound doctrine, the average preacher wouldn't even think of preaching sound doctrine because he would think he would offend the congregation that he has.

I tell you, beloved, we need not be surprised at conditions as they exist today. In fact, I am not surprised. As a thief comes in the darkest part of the night, so Jesus is coming at a time when they won't endure sound doctrine; rather His coming will be at a time when they have gotten themselves a teacher that will scratch their itching ears.

I think that is the kind of preacher the majority of folk want today, for they want a preacher that will tickle their fancy. They want a preacher to hang around so that if they die, they can call on him to lie for them at their funeral. Or the average man wants a preacher around so that if he needs to have a wedding, or needs the use of the church in any wise at all, he won't be a stranger, but as far as having a preacher to give him sound doctrine, the average man would rather have somebody to just scratch his itching ears—just tickle his fancy, when he chances to go to church, with a little bit of the Word of God.

Notice again that when Jesus comes things are going to be mighty dark.

"And because INIQUITY SHALL ABOUND, the love of many shall wax cold." — Matt. 24:12.

What is abounding? Iniquity. What is waxing cold? The love of God's people. Now, beloved, it shouldn't be that way. It ought to be just the opposite. When iniquity abounds, it ought to make you love the Lord all the

PRECIOUS BOOK

There's a dear and precious Book, tho' it's worn and faded now,
Which recalls those happy days of long ago;
When I stood at mother's knee, with her hand upon my brow,
And I heard her voice in gentle tones and low.

As she read the stories o'er, of those mighty men of old,
Of Joseph and of Daniel and their trials;
Of little David bold, who became a King at last;
Of Satan with his wicked wiles.

Then she read of Jesus' love, as He blest the children dear,
How He suffered, bled and died upon the tree;
Of His heavy load of care, then she dried my flowing tears
With her kisses as she said it was for me.

Well those days are past and gone, but their memory lingers still,
And the dear old Book each day has been my guide;
And I seek to do His will, as my mother taught me then,
And ever in my heart His words abide.

Blessed Book, Precious Book,
On thy dear old tear-stained leaves I love to look;
Thou art sweeter day by day, as I walk the narrow way
That leads at last to that bright home above.

—M. B. Williams.

more, but it doesn't have that effect upon you. The sad thing is, you rub elbows and brush shoulders with it, and you are thrown with iniquity all the time, and the more you are thrown with it, the colder it makes you become.

I tell you, beloved, when the Lord Jesus comes back to this world again, it will be just like the coming of a thief, for a thief comes in the darkest part of the night, and Jesus is going to come when things are exceedingly dark so far as this world is concerned.

We have another picture as to the darkness of this world when Jesus comes:

"For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together." — Matt. 24:28.

The word "eagle" is the word for "buzzard." Beloved, when you see an old buzzard flying around in the air, you can know there is something dead down below on the ground. When the old buzzard circles around in the air, and floats around in the atmosphere, looking down, there is something dead below him that he is looking for. Beloved, when Jesus comes, this world is going to be just like a rotting carcass. This world's society, morally and ethically, is rotting today. I tell you, it is a mighty dark picture we have so far as this world is concerned when Jesus Christ comes back.

Notice another Scripture as to how dark it is going to be:

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come A FALLING AWAY FIRST, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition." — II Thess. 2:3.

This Scripture says that Jesus cannot come, He will not come,

and shall not come—and let anybody deceive you thinking that He will come—there is a falling away first.

Well, don't we have that falling away today? Don't we have falling away so far as doctrine is concerned? The seminaries and the Bible schools, and Bible colleges aren't standing the Word of God as they go, and the preachers that go from them aren't standing the Word of God as they show. The churches are becoming weaker. The church members are coming less and less indoctrinated. I tell you, beloved, getting to the place that churches are just about the same as social club—not much more than social organization.

I am saying to you, beloved, that Christ cannot return, and there is a falling away, and falling away will take place before Jesus Christ comes back. A thief comes only in the darkest part of the night, and Christ's coming will be the darkest things are the darkest possible for us to imagine, and only then, will the Lord God come back to this world.

III

A THIEF COMES TO TAKE AWAY SOMETHING OF YOURS

When a thief comes to your house, he is looking for your money, your clothing, your silver, or at least something that has value. Yes, beloved, a thief comes to take away something of value. Listen:

"Watch therefore: for you know not what hour your Lord will come. But know this, that if the good man of the house known in what watch the thief would come, he would have wakened and would have closed the door." — Matt. 24:42-43.

(Continued on page 7, column 2)

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

SEPTEMBER 19, 1964

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Dependable...



When you think of a St. Bernard, your mind naturally goes to helping a child by the seaside, or else by bringing help to lost skiers in the Swiss Alps.

Yet the word "dependable" has another meaning also. It is the word that characterizes THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. In the face of modernism, Arminianism, unionism, feminism, and universal churchism, you can always count on TBE as being dependable so far as the truth of God's Word is concerned.

We are living in a day when in many religious circles God has been taken out of Christ, the Spirit out of the Word, the water out of the baptism, the blood out of salvation, and the fire out of Hell. We are glad in the face of all the attempts of religious heretics to be able to stand faithfully, by God's grace, for His Word. We invite you to have a part in our ministry because we believe TBE is dependable . . . and that is the dog-gone truth.

God Reigns

(Continued from page 5)
he heard the bombardment and knew that the battle was on, and yet he did not move. His officers and generals begged him to go, pleaded with him, but he did not move. He was twice tried by the French Council of War,

and he was charged with having deliberately betrayed France and Napoleon. He denied it. He said he was a true Frenchman and was loyal to Napoleon, but he said he could not explain why he didn't go. I know. God is the answer.

And the German generals say they do not know why they ceased firing for forty-seven

hours. The Bible answers. "Thus sayeth the Lord concerning this wicked king, he shall not come into this city. By the way that he came, by the same way shall he return. He shall not come into this city, saith the Lord, for I will defend this city to save it." And Germany lost.

HE GIVETH SEED TIME AND HARVEST

By the spring of 1917 the German scientists had solved the problem of growing food and grain, and perfected it as it had never before been perfected in the history of the world. They announced that Germany would have the potato crop of all time; that they had put in each potato hill that which would kill every enemy of the potato under ground and above ground. And how the potatoes of Germany grew. When those uncounted acres and miles were in blossom, lo, a blight heretofore unknown swept the potato fields of Germany, and in a day they were scorched, scabbed, shrivelled as though fire-swept, and hungry Germany learned the bitter truth uttered by Napoleon. "An army travels on its belly, and will not travel when the belly is empty." A mutiny broke loose in the army that forces the abdication of the Kaiser and brought the armistice. Ludendorff, in his history of the war, says that it was the failure of the potato crop of 1917 that lost Germany the war.

That same spring, though we started with the coldest and wettest spring for years, nevertheless, we raised such a bumper crop of potatoes and wheat and everything, that we were able to feed ourselves and the allies. Verily "He giveth seedtime and harvest." "He sendeth the early and the latter rains," and also the blight. One of the plagues of Egypt spread death to the growing crops. The record is, "And there remained not any green thing throughout the land of Egypt." It is according to the Book; "There shall be neither earing nor harvest." "I will make their harvest a heap of ruin and they shall beg in the harvest." And Germany cried in the very words of the Scripture, "The harvest is passed, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." The Book speaks of God as a God who forgetteth not. "He is the same yesterday, today and forever." And Germany lost because God is the God of the seed-time and the harvest.

"HE MAKETH THE CLOUDS HIS CHARIOTS."

The world recognized that Germany was superior in the air, and yet the world knows, and Germany conceded, that she was worsted in the air the last few months of the war. The head of the aerial service explained this by saying: "The Allies did not have superior airships nor fighters, but it was the accursed clouds that defeated us. Nearly every time when we had a bevy of the enemy's ships in a pocket ready to take them, one of those accursed clouds would be hanging handy by and would envelop them as thick as a blanket, and the devil himself couldn't find them, and they would escape at their leisure. It was the accursed clouds that did it." He spoke by the records. "My clouds shall curse them in that day, saith the Lord." Many of our boys who were in the air service report the same thing—"that just when they were in a tight corner, a cloud, coming from nobody knew where, canopied them, cloaked them as a tent." "A cloud came upon them to hide them." "The Lord hath covered His with a cloud."

When the children of Israel were caught with the sea on the left side, the high mountains on the right, and the army of Pharaoh behind them — every way closed up — they cried mightily to God, and God dropped a thick

cloud between them which to the Egyptians was a block wall, but to the Israelites was like an "aurora borealis." All the night the Israelites by the light of that cloud beheld Jehovah with His spade divinely made, digging, digging, throwing up the waters till He had uncovered the pavement of the sea, and the children of Israel passed through dryshod, while all the time the Egyptians battered their heads against the wall of that cloud. "A cloud between them." "He rideth upon the clouds." "The clouds are His." "The clouds are the dust of His feet." "He maketh the clouds His chariot." One hundred and sixty-two times the Bible speaks of God's doings and dealings with the clouds. Germany was beaten on the sea, beaten on the land, and beaten in the air, because, "Behold the sea, the earth, and the sky, they are Mine, saith the Lord." Germany ventured on the wrong reserve and lost.

"THE FOOL HATH SAID 'NO GOD'"

"Those that the gods would destroy they first make mad." In those early days of the war Germany could easily have cut through to the Channel ports and had England at her mercy. But blinded and maddened like a mad and blind bull the Germans struck for Paris. They never reached the Channel ports, later to which they paid the price of nearly two million men; for Germany knew she must have the ports of the English Channel to win the war. Six weeks after she began the war she might have possessed every foot of the Channel, but mad and blinded she plunged Paris-ward, for the Kaiser must have his "Christmas dinner in Paris." The only possible explanation is — Germany was mad. "Let them alone," saith the Lord. "They are the blind leading the blind and both fall in the ditch." Mad and blinded she struck for Paris and that gave England time to get between the Channel and the enemy, and there she stood for four long years with her back to the wall, and Germany lost.

The armistice happened at the eleventh hour of the eleventh month 1918. The eleventh verse of the eleventh chapter of the eleventh book of the Bible is at least more than suggestive — "Forasmuch as this is done of thee, O king, and thou hast not kept my covenants and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant." (I Kings 11:11). If ever that was done to any nation and any ruler, it was done to Germany and the Kaiser.

Through the battle of Marathon, 490 B.C., God settled that Grecian civilization should not

go under the battle of Tours, A. D. 732, God settled that Europe should be Christian rather than Saracen. Through the battle of Hastings, 1066, God settled that Anglo-Saxon civilization should not perish from the earth. Through the battle of Waterloo, 1815, God settled that Europe should not become the slave of a military despot.

Through the battle of Gettysburg, 1863, God settled that America should no longer continue half-slave and half-free, but all free. Through the Great War, 1914-18, God settled that the hands of the clock of civilization should not be turned back a thousand years by the blood hand of the Hun.

Germany's doom was sealed when she turned from Christ Krupp, from the cross of Calvary to the iron cross.

The day after the great earthquake and fire at San Francisco a newsboy was showing a dame the way through and a man the way through and they walked, the lad philosophized — "It took men a long time to put all this stuff up, but God tumbled it over in a minute. So mister, 'taint no use for a nation to think he can lick God."

Oh, ye nations of the earth, 'taint no use for a nation to think it can lick God.

England, France, Italy, Japan, America, leaders of the new order and of the new day, your only hope for national immortality is in finding which way God is going, and go that way. 'taint no use for a nation to think it can lick God.

The cross points the only way out for the nations. It is Christ or chaos for the world. "Vox populi, vox Dei?" No, never! The rock on which Germany was wrecked. It is "Vox Dei, vox populi!" the voice of God is the voice of the people.

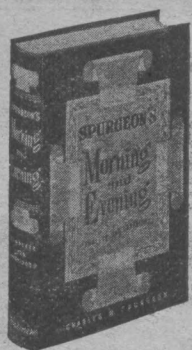
And now we are in the age of democracy. There is no hope of a democracy than of an autocracy, save as it is founded on theocracy. Before all, before all, beneath all — God. The government must be upon His shoulders. — "The Biblical Recorder."

He Wanted Action

(Continued from page one)
it is usually some of these people who either start it, or it along after it gets started. They are the ones who know the trouble with the church is that it needs a new preacher, a Sunday school superintendent, not the man for the job. Or, a class leader does not handle the job right. Of course these will not take responsibility for themselves, but they certainly "threaten to move out when the roof leaks."



"THE GRASS WITHERETH, AND THE FLOWER THEREOF FALLETH AWAY: BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURETH FOR EVER."



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