

To realize the worth of the anchor we need to feel the storm.

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

Why Baptists Do Not Sprinkle Their Infants

By AUSTIN SORENSON

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NORTH STAR BAPTIST

Bible-believing Baptists accept the Word of God as the final criterion of truth. Traditions and the theories of men have no part in the formulation of their doctrine.

Baptists contend that immersion of believers in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost alone constitutes Christian baptism. There are, however, several denominations that follow the pattern of the Roman Catholic Church and sprinkle infants. Baptists are vigorously opposed to such practice.

Baptism is a matter of light and obedience. "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isa. 8:20).

Baptists do not sprinkle infants for the following reasons: First, because the sprinkling of infants is not to be found in the Scriptures. There is not a single text in the Word of God that commands the sprinkling of infants. Many who nevertheless follow the practice will admit this.

ARGUMENTS FOR SPRINKLING

What arguments do they offer for the sprinkling of infants (called baptism)? First, they say

that the command of Christ to baptize all nations must have included the infants. Then they allude to the Saviour's blessing of little children and His assertion that "... of such is the kingdom of God." Furthermore, they assert the analogy of Old Testament circumcision involving human sponsorship. Finally, they cite the baptism of households in the New Testament. The Augsburg Confession (1530), Article IX, states: "Baptism is necessary to salvation. By (it) the grace of God is offered; and children are to be baptized; who by baptism, being offered to God, are received into God's favor."

Do these arguments constitute valid authority for the sprinkling of infants? A study of a few of their "proof texts" will give the answer. Mt. 28:19, 20 reads: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you..." It is argued that baptism comes first, and then teaching; and that children should be baptized even though they are not old enough to be instructed. But these verses do not allow such an interpretation. The order is "teach," then "baptize." The Greek word "teach," according to Strong's Concordance, (Continued on page 4, column 3)

The Baptist Examiner

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

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WHOLE NUMBER 1375

CHRIST'S RETURN

BY: DEWAYNE AUSTIN, CINCINNATI, OHIO

What does it mean to us and what will it do for us? A proper understanding of the Scriptural teaching concerning the personal, visible, bodily return of our blessed Saviour, the Great God and glorious King (Daniel 2:44, Acts 1:11, Rev. 19:11-16) will help us in our daily Christian living, fortify us for the trying days, put us into His service and crown our efforts for Him with joy and power.

The return and millennial rule of Jesus Christ as God the Son is the culmination of the ages. God the Father in cooperation with God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, Who created this world and all things therein, has

a plan and has been working this plan for almost six thousand years now. The final end of this plan is to have a people to be in His presence who will be like Him and glorify Him throughout the ceaseless ages to come.

Surely we as blood-bought, sin-redeemed people cannot think so lightly of God and His holiness that we could expect to put off living godly, righteously and world denying (Titus 2:12, 13) until we reach that glorious abode of the future (Rev. 22:3-4). As today is the day of salvation for the lost (Ps. 95:7-8); it is also the time, as a child of God, to flee from sin (Heb. 12:1-3) turn and yield your unworthy life to be used in the hands of God for His glory, in the winning of precious souls (Dan. 12:3).

It has always been so, too many want the blessings and rewards of a Christian life without fulfilling the requirements to obtain them.

Like Balaam (Jude 11-13, II Peter 2:14-15, Rev. 2:14) they think that they can serve God and enjoy the rewards of sin at the same time. I believe that Balaam knew God (Numbers 22-25) because he was loyal to God's Word, emphasized the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Spirit of the Lord was upon him, and he had a vision of God. But Balaam cooperated with God's enemies desiring a monetary reward and lost his life and testimony (Num. 31:1-8). Many others, from young people up, desire their reward in this life. They may not be looking for silver or gold as Balaam, but in seeking popularity, pleasure, self, freedom from persecution or the freedom from being considered a fanatic they are turning from the true and living God and helping God's enemies. Those who do so, lose their pilgrim character and fail to walk as the children of God (Continued on page 7, column 4)

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When the Stars Begin to Fall

MESSAGE PREACHED AT 1963 BIBLE CONFERENCE IN ASHLAND, KENTUCKY

Evangelist HAROLD BRUNSON
31 Parker Brunson Drive
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Mark 13:14-27

14 But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not, (let him that readeth understand,) then let them that be in Judea flee to the mountains:

15 And let him that is on the housetop not go down into the house, neither enter therein, to take anything out of his house:

16 And let him that is in the field not turn back again for to take up his garment.

17 But woe to them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!

18 And pray ye that your flight be not in the winter.

19 For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be.

20 And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.

21 And then if any man shall say to you,

Lo, here is Christ; or, lo, he is there; believe him not:

22 For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce if it were possible even the elect.

23 But take ye heed: behold I have foretold you all things.

24 But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,

25 And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.

26 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.

27 And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.

I invite your particular attention to verses 24 and 25. "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken."

This is Jesus speaking. This is what is known (Continued on page 5, column 1)



FILM TO CURB DRUNKEN DRIVERS

The prosecutor in Essex County, New Jersey, has decided to do something drastic about drunken drivers in his county. He plans to film all drunken drivers that appear at police stations. He thinks very few such drivers will fight the charges when they see themselves as others did.

Such a project is bound to be effective; for what driver could successfully deny the charge against him, while viewing such visual evidence?

This plan is certainly in line with God's record of our activities. Several Bible characters remarked about this:

Moses said, "Be sure your sin will find you out" (Numbers 32:23). Job said, "My record is on high" (Job 16:19). David said, "Thou... art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O (Continued on page 8, column 5)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

"CHALLENGING GOD"

"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good. The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the Lord."—Psa. 14:1-4.

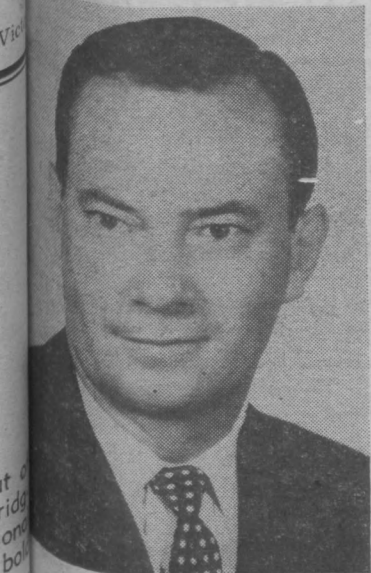
"Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set them-

selves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision."—Psa. 2:1-4.

"And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I

bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?"—Luke 12:16-20.

These Scriptures would indicate that the unsaved continually challenge God. As I think of this, I am reminded of the woman, Mrs. Madalyn Murray, 45 years old, a divorcee, of Baltimore, Maryland, who at the present time is waging war on God. Mrs. (Continued on page 2, column 2)



HAROLD BRUNSON

This message by Bro. Brunson has been printed in tract form, and may be ordered directly from

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JOHN R. GILPIN Editor

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Mrs. Murray was the woman who waged this court battle through to the Supreme Court and won, to the extent that now it is declared unlawful to have a prayer uttered by any individual publicly in a schoolroom. But Mrs. Murray isn't satisfied, for she is waging war now still further on God. She says she won't be satisfied until her "tax-the-church" suit has been settled by the Supreme Court in the same manner. She says that all churches should be taxed just the same as grocery stores, and hardware stores, and any other business. She has that now before the Court, testing the constitutionality of churches being considered, as they have always been considered in America, as tax exempt.

She made the statement some time ago that if she wins her suit, the churches will wilt and die in 40 years. She is very specific about the amount of time that she will give the churches to live if she wins her "tax-the-church" suit that is currently in the Supreme Court.

But that isn't all that she has her eyes set on, because Mrs. Murray doesn't want any chaplains at the Capitol. She doesn't want any chaplains among the Armed Forces. She doesn't want any chaplains in prisons or in hospitals. In fact, she wants every evidence of God removed from the world. So far as money is concerned, she says that the words, "In God we trust," must be stricken from every coin, and that every coin that now carries

SPURGEON'S ANSWER TO AN ENQUIRY

July 14, 1961

Dear Mr. Medhurst,

I am glad that you have been able to write to me and state your feelings. Though my hands are always full, I will ever give me joy to receive such notes as yours.

You ask me a very important question, 'Are you one of God's elect?' Now, this is a question neither you nor I can answer at present, and therefore let it drop. I will ask an easier one, 'Are you a sinner?' Can you say 'yes?' All say 'yes'; but then they do not know what the word 'sinner' means.

A sinner is a creature who has broken all his Maker's commands, despised His Name, and run into rebellion against the Most High. A sinner deserves hell, yea, the hottest place in hell; and if he be saved, it must be entirely by unmerited mercy. Now, if you are such a sinner, I am glad to be able to tell you the only way of salvation, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus.'

I think you have not yet really understood what believing means. You are, I trust, really awakened, but you do not knock at the door yet. I advise you seriously to be much alone, I mean as much as you can; let your groans go up if you cannot pray, attend as many services as possible; and if you go with an earnest desire for a blessing, it will come very soon. Why not believe now? You have only to believe that the Lord Jesus is able and willing to save, and then trust yourself to Him.

Harbour not that dark suggestion to forsake the help of God; remember you turn your back on Heaven, and your face to hell, the moment you do that. I pray God that He will keep you. If the Lord had meant to destroy you, He would have showed you such things as these. If you are but as snoring flax, there is hope. Touch the hem of His garment; and to the brazen serpent.

My dear fellow-sinner, slight not this season of awakening. Up, and be in earnest. It is your soul, your own soul, your eternal welfare, your Heaven or your hell, that is at stake.

There is the cross, and the bleeding God-man upon it. Look to Him, and be saved!! There is the Holy Spirit able to give you every grace. Look, in prayer, to the Sacred Throne of one-God, and then you will be delivered.

I am, your anxious friend,
C. H. Spurgeon

THE LARGEST PRINTING PRESS

Whom do you think owns the largest printing press in the world? The New York Times? Life? Look? No — none of these. In fact it is Jehovah's Witnesses! They have one press that puts out five hundred pieces of false propaganda every second. Eighty-four million books or pamphlets reach this nation every year from that one press!

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Calvary Baptist Church, in a small way, is doing her best to counteract the heresies taught by Jehovah's Witnesses (falsely so-called), and all other heretics of like nature. Our presses are nothing compared with the modern printing marvels such as the one described above. However, we thank God for the privilege we have of sending forth the truth and we urge our friends to continue supporting our written ministry.

sound odd coming from a woman but that bit of Scripture was a bitter pill for me to swallow and could not have been done without the leadership of the Holy Spirit. I was brought up a Campbellite and was thoroughly brain-washed in their misunderstanding of the Scripture. I praise the Lord daily for leading me out of the darkness into His great light. The women are clerks in the churches here, lead in prayer in all the services, testify and wail at the altar. My burden is heavy for the lost here, most of them are in the churches already and will never be saved without the Holy Spirit intervenes.

Pray for those of us who are holding forth the truth.

Yours in Christ,
Mrs. B. C. Cunigan,
Florida

"Challenging God"

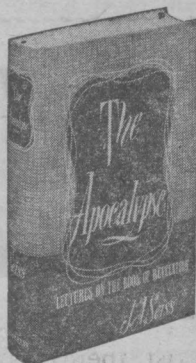
(Continued from page 1)

Murray is the woman who is back of the "school-prayer" decision of the Supreme Court. It was she who brought the suit which resulted in the Supreme Court declaring that it was unlawful to have prayer in the schools.

I am not discussing the merits, or the demerits of this. However, after the Supreme Court said it was unconstitutional to pray in the schoolroom, a teacher in California came into a cloakroom one day, and found four boys down on their knees. She asked them what they were doing, and one of them very pointedly spoke up and said, "We are shooting craps." "Oh," she said, "thank God, at first I thought you were having a prayer meeting."

Now, beloved, I am afraid there is a whole lot more truth to that than humor. I am afraid today that the reaction of that school teacher was pretty generally the reaction of the majority of the people in the world — that they would rather have boys shooting craps than boys praying in a cloakroom.

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those words must be remelted and those words definitely removed from the coinage of the country. She says she never wants to see a cross nor a Bible, nor any symbol of religion in any public place. She refers to the miracles of the Bible and the virgin birth as so much "mumbo jumbo."

Well, I am rather of the opinion that Mrs. Murray has a right to her opinion. I am perfectly willing to give her the right to believe, or disbelieve, as she wishes. The fact of the matter is, this is a free country, and though I would differ with her in a very definite way, I'd give her the right to believe, or disbelieve, as she pleases.

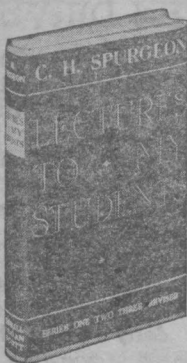
I am really worried because she and the members of her family have been very severely handled several times. I guess you know by now they have received hundreds, and even thousands of letters, of threats against their lives, until finally Mrs. Murray and her family moved to Hawaii some six months ago in order, so she says,

Appreciated Letter

Dear Brother Gilpin,

Some time ago I ordered some books describing the evils of the Southern Baptist Convention. I have forgotten the title but I am sure you know the ones I mean. I was sure I would be able to hold on to at least one copy but they are all gone into the hands of God's children who were sincerely trying to understand what is wrong with their churches. I am enclosing a check for \$10.00 and wish you to send the Baptist Examiner to me for one year and use the rest to send as many of those books as it will pay for, then if there are not enough to fill the need here I will order more.

Also, the crying need here is for Scripture back-up reading matter on women's place in the churches. They have completely taken over in the six different Baptist (?) churches I have attended here while trying to find the one that Jesus built. This may



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MARCH 27, 1965

PAGE TWO

I'd rather lose in a cause that will one day win -- than win in a cause that will someday lose.

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"Challenging God"

(Continued from page 2)

Billy had when he lowered his head and started toward that train. I would say that the anti-God movement that is in the world today—the atheistic, Godless ideology that is in the world today, may for a time flourish, but ultimately it has just as much chance of succeeding as that Billy goat, when he ran down the track and butted his head against the train.

I ask you, when Mrs. Murray and the group that are supporting her are gone, what is going to remain? They can say there is no God. They can declare that the miracles and the virgin birth are but "mumbo jumbo," to use their own terms. They can ridicule the things that you and I believe, and stand for. However, when it is all settled, when Mrs. Murray is gone, and when every one of those who are supporting her die, and are beneath the ground, I ask you, what will remain? I'll answer my own question.

THE BIBLE WILL REMAIN

I insist that when every atheist, every agnostic, and every unbeliever finishes his life's work, this old Book will still be here. I don't know anything that will outlast my soul more than to know that you can't destroy the Bible. Listen:

"FOR EVER, O Lord, thy word shall stand in heaven."—Psa. 119:89

You might go into every library and get out every book that even breathes the atmosphere of the Bible. You might go into every museum and get out the statuary that represents in any wise to the Bible and consign it to the rubbish heap. You might get all the music that breathes the praise of God; and destroy it, so that there is no music that would breathe the praise of our creator. Yet, when you have done all of this, and the name of God is completely forgotten, and the Bible is completely gone, you still couldn't destroy the Bible, because there is a copy on file at

the registry office in the sky, and the Bible itself says, "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven." You just can't destroy this old Book. It will be here when Mrs. Murray is gone. It will be here when all the atheists and unbelievers of this world are gone. I tell you, beloved, you can't destroy the Word of God.

Listen to another verse that will show you the same truth:

"Thy word is true from the beginning; and every one of thy righteous judgments ENDURETH FOR EVER."—Psa. 119:160.

The Word of God doesn't last as long as you are a good boy or a good girl. The Word of God doesn't last as long as things are moving along smoothly in our church. Rather, the Bible says that the Word of God endureth forever.

Listen again:

"For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle SHALL IN NO WISE PASS from the law, till all be fulfilled."—Mt. 5:18.

A jot or tittle is equal to the dotting of the "i" and the crossing of the "t." The Lord Jesus Christ said even to the dotting of an "i" or the crossing of the "t," the Word of God will endure forever.

Notice again:

"Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but MY WORDS SHALL NOT PASS AWAY."—Mt. 24:34, 35.

Mark it down, beloved, this world is going to fade. As much as we love it, it is going to fade. The moon and the sun and the skies are going to be obliterated some of these days. The time is coming when God is going to make over this world. He is going to make over this earth. He is going to make over the heavens. Heaven and earth shall pass away, there isn't any doubt about it. Some things are questionable. Some things we don't know for sure whether they shall come to pass or not. Beloved, this is one thing we know for certain—heaven and earth shall pass away, but this old Book isn't going to pass away.

I tell you, beloved, it thrills my heart when I walk out at night and look up into the sky, and see the moon as it takes its place as the guardian of the night, and I see the stars as they file out one by one as sentinels of the evening. I look up and I see how the beauty of God is expressed there within the sky, and I say, "Thank you Lord, for the reminder that some of these days the moon, and the stars, and the sky will be no more, but when they are gone, thank God, the Book will still be here."

Notice another Scripture in this respect:

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible by the word of God, which LIVETH AND ABIDETH FOR EVER. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away; But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."—I Pet. 1:23-25.

How long, beloved? Forever. How long is forever? It just means eternally. It just means without cessation. Yes, beloved, Mrs. Murray is waging her war today against God. She is challenging God. She says that everything in this Bible that even hints at the miraculous is nothing but (to use her words) "mumbo jumbo," but when Mrs. Murray is gone, this old Book will still be here. You can challenge God all you want to, but this Book will still be here.

We read again:

"For as the rain cometh down,

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and the snow from heaven, and returneth not hither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and IT SHALL PROSPER in the thing whereto I sent it."—Isa. 55:10, 11.

God's Book is going to last. It is going to have its purpose. God is going to use it, and He is going to bring to pass everything as pleaseth Him. The Old Book is going to accomplish just exactly what God wants.

As the poet has said:

"Last eve I paused beside the blacksmith door,
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
Then looking in, upon the floor,
I saw
Old hammers, worn with beating years of time.

'How many hammers have you had,' said I,
'To wear and batter the anvil so?'
'Only one,' said he,
'The anvil wears the hammers out, you know.'

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MARCH 27, 1965

PAGE THREE

And so I thought, the anvil of God's Word,
For ages skeptic's blows have beat upon it;
And though the sound of falling blows was heard,
The anvil is unhurt, the hammer's gone."

What is going to remain when Mrs. Murray is gone? The Bible will still remain.

II

THE CHURCH THAT JESUS BUILT WILL REMAIN

Some people would talk about a universal invisible church, composed of all the saved of Protestantism. Others would talk about a universal visible organization composed of all the faithful of Catholicism. Beloved, when I talk about a church, I am talking about a local institution, the kind Jesus Christ built, and the kind to which He promised perpetuity, when He said: "I will build my church; and the GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL against it."—Mt. 16:18.

Beloved, when Mrs. Murray is gone, the church is still going to be here, for Jesus said, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Notice again:

"Unto him be glory in the church by Jesus Christ THROUGHOUT ALL AGES, world without end. Amen."—Eph. 3:21.

Notice, the church is going to last throughout all ages, world without end. Just be certain of one thing—the church will always be here.

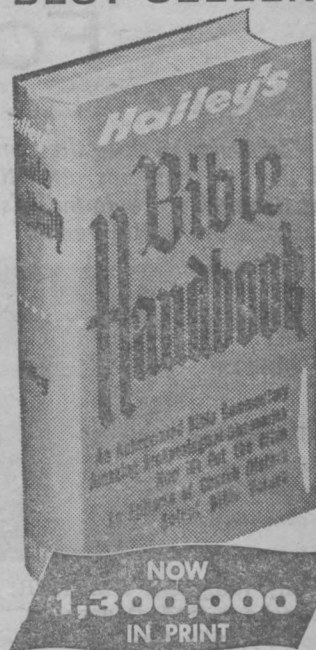
Every once in a while somebody will say, "Brother Gilpin, doesn't it make you feel awful badly to know that you are in the 'minority'?" No, beloved, I can't say that it does. I have been that way so long that I have gotten used to the feel of it. Of course I long for the time to come out yonder in the future when I get to Glory. In this world I am pretty much in the minority so far as the church is concerned, and it looks like I am getting to be more and more in the minority as the days go by, because there are more and more people who believe in the theory of the universal invisible church. But I want to tell you this, I have a conviction that the church that Jesus built, which is a local institution, will be here throughout all ages, world without end. When I get to the place that I don't believe that, I'll just take my pen knife and cut out Ephesians 3:21 from the Word of God, because I don't need it in the Bible if the church isn't going to exist forever.

Notice another Scripture which tells us the same thing:

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

To whom did Jesus give this commission? Beloved, any man with common sense knows that He gave it to His church. He didn't give it to the disciples, as individuals, because they

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couldn't live but a little while, but He gave this commission to some organization that was going to be in existence throughout all ages. I contend that He gave it to the church, and if He did, He gave that church a promise that He would be with that church through all the days.

I am ready to grant that sometimes it looks like things are pretty bad for us. It looks sometimes like we are losing ground. I can remember the time when we used to have a dozen Baptist preachers that came to our Fellowship meeting on Saturday night. I look around tonight and there are four of us here tonight. There may be reasons why some of the others are not here tonight. I am sure that that is true; however, in the main, I notice that we never have over six or seven that attend our Fellowship meetings anymore on Saturday night.

Well, I ask you, are we losing ground? Are we failing? Is there a time coming when even these preacher brethren are going the way of the big church? Is there a time coming when they will turn their backs against the truth, and side against us, and stand with the universal invisible crowd? I don't know. I don't think so. I think God will give them grace to stand, but I don't know what the future holds in store for any of us. However, I do know one thing—in spite of everybody that turns his back against the truth, the church is going to be here, world without end.

Sometime ago I read an article entitled "Twelve Rules to Kill a Church." They were all good ones too. One of them said, "Don't come," another said, "when you do come, come late." Another one said, "Sit on the back seat." Another one said, "Don't tithe." Every one of them (Continued on page 6, column 5)

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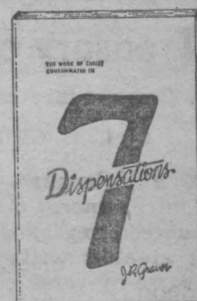
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The Baptist Examiner FORUM

"In Luke 15 does the parable of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son refer to lost people or to the backslidden Christians who are found? Is this possibly an application of the 'Law of Double Reference?'"

ROY
MASON

Radio Minister
Baptist
Preacher
Aripeka, Florida



In my judgment NEITHER! Preachers find it easy to "go to town" with this parable—especially the prodigal son part, so ignoring what Jesus was trying to teach, they make the prodigal to be a lost sinner. But if so, he was already a son. It's pretty good Scripture to use in order to try to prove the "universal fatherhood of God."

Why did Jesus give this parable — for it is all one parable. He gave it to rebuke the critical religionists who seemed to think that they had a corner on the Kingdom of God. From verses 1 and 2 we learn that publicans and sinners came to hear Jesus and he had some of his meals with them — probably as a guest. He was railed upon by the religious highbrows for paying attention to these sinful classes of humanity, and he told these stories in justification. The Pharisees are portrayed by the sulky son who had a mad spell when his father welcomed the return of the prodigal. The point is, all men are creatures of God's creation, and those who consider that they are in right relationship to God ought to be glad when those who have gone far from him, are led to come into right relationship with God.

There are applications that can be made from this parable of three stories, in preaching to the lost, but care should be exercised, especially in dealing with the prodigal, or else one will degenerate into the error of "universal Fatherhood."

E. G.
COOK

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BIBLE TEACHER
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A backslidden Christian is not lost by any means. The Lord knows just exactly where to thrust in the rod of chastening in order to flush His backslidden child out of the brush. The backslidden Christian is still under the protective hand of God. Lot was so glued to this old wicked world that he had to be literally pulled loose from it, Gen. 19:26, but God told him that He could not destroy Sodom until he was out of it, verse 22.

In Luke 15, however, the sheep,

the coin and the son were all lost. Verse 14 tells us that the Son was not only lost, he was dead. That is, he was dead in trespasses and in sins, Eph. 2:1. If you desire to see the trail this son followed on his way to the far country (deep in sin) look at Rom. 1:21-32. Then if you would like to get a glimpse of him while in this far country, look at Rom. 3:10-18.

This man began to be in want when the Holy Spirit opened his eyes to his spiritual poverty. And in verse 16 no man gave him anything because when this situation arises only Christ and Him alone can satisfy. This three-fold parable seems to set forth the work of each member of the Trinity in bringing the lost into the fold.



JAMES
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RADIO SPEAKER
and MISSIONARY
Kings Addition
Baptist Church
South Shore, Ky.

The lost sheep and the lost piece of silver definitely are referring to lost people. Both parables refer to the lost being found and to the joy in heaven when a sinner repents.

Everything about the parable of the prodigal son shows it to be an entirely different teaching. If this parable were teaching that the prodigal son represented the lost sinner, then the lesson would be that the lost person has to take the first steps when the Father will come and meet him. No. This parable is a lesson about the backslidden Christian.

AUSTIN
FIELDS

PASTOR,
Arabia Baptist
Church
Arabia, Ohio



"Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him. And the Pharisees and Scribes murmured, saying, this man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them."—Luke 15:1, 2.

The Pharisees and Scribes were murmuring because of Christ's attention to publicans and sinners, and as a result of their murmuring he gave the parable of the lost sheep, lost coin, and the lost son. In this parable the Lord is not warning us against backsliding, but is vindicating himself for receiving sinners. Therefore the parable has no reference to backslidden Christians but does refer to the elect among the fallen race

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN . . . ?

Why are you weeping so, My child?
Why are your eyes so filled with tears?
Is it because the road is long and dark
And nowhere does the light appear?

Are you convinced that all your pain
And all your suffering you go through
And all the anguish of your soul
Are only borne by you?

Have you forgotten that your Lord
In love once said: "Come unto Me"?
"The cross you bear I'll gladly share
And My salvation you shall see!"

This poem was written to encourage a missionary nurse who was forced to leave Africa to return to America due to a serious illness contracted in the tropics.

Or do you think that I don't know
And felt the ravages of sin
When sinners nailed Me to the Cross,
And all was very dark within?

For you, My child, all this was done;
For you I gave My life, My all,
And should I leave you now alone
And fail to hear you when you call?

Oh trust in Me; be not dismayed,
Your Lord does know what's best for you,
And one day you will understand
And share my endless glory, too!

of Adam. The elect are to be found among those who are sinners and who acknowledge that they are sinners.

In each part of this parable there is something lost — lost sheep, lost coin, and lost son. A backslider is never referred to as a lost person.

"Turn, O blacksliding children, saith the Lord; for I am married unto you."—John 3:14.

If the backslider is a lost person, then the Lord would have used a different word than married when he referred to them. He would have used the word divorce or separated from them, but he did not use the word divorced. Rather He stated that He was still married (united) to the backslider. The backslider is one who has lost the joy of salvation because of sin in his life. David was a backslider but he was not a lost person.

"Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation." — Ps. 51:12.

For further proof that this parable refers to lost sinners, and not erring saints, is the statement of the father concerning the son.

"Bring forth the best robe and put it on him." — Luke 15:22.

If this son was an erring saint then all that he must needs do is confess his sin, and the joy of salvation, would have been restored.

"For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." — Luke 15:24.

No backslider could ever be referred to as dead, or lost, therefore the parable is an exposition of the work of the trinity in the realm of the salvation of the lost. The shepherd which is Jesus Christ gives His all for the lost sheep. The woman which is the true church indwelt with the Holy Spirit sweeps her house, this world in which she lives, for the lost coin. The father, which is God the Father, welcomes home those for whom the Son gave His all, those that the Holy Spirit seeks out amid the rubbish of this world and commands that a robe be given them, a ring for the finger, and shoes for their feet. Thus the parable pictures a complete salvation through the work of the trinity.



Sprinkling

(Continued from page one) means "to become a pupil," "to disciple, i.e., enroll as a scholar." The qualifications of a disciple are "the ability to hear, believe, receive, and be taught." This excludes all infants. Babies do not become disciples. Let's keep the Divine order: disciple, baptize, teach.

Mk. 16:15, 16 does not teach infant baptism. The argument that babies are "creatures" and hence are to be baptized is weak indeed. Verse 16 reads: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." This portion of Scripture plainly teaches that a

person is to believe, and then as a believer, be baptized. But the argument is given that babies can believe. Mt. 18:5, 6 is given as proof. However, the Bible declares that faith must be active and not passive. The apostle Paul declared that salvation consists of a heart belief accompanied by a mouth confession. See Rom. 10:8-10. No infant is capable of heart belief or a mouth confession of Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. The Scripture nowhere declares that the Holy Spirit places faith in the heart of an infant or that infant sprinkling is a means of grace. No sponsor or human intermediary can take the place of an individual to exercise personal faith.

Perhaps the favorite argument to support infant baptism (so-called) is Mk. 10:13-16 (Christ blessing the little children). I agree with Spurgeon who said: "Certainly never was a text so strained and disdained to pay what it never owed; never man so racked to confess what he never thought; never was a pumice-stone so squeezed for water which it never held." Young children were brought to Christ that He might "touch them." Nothing is said of baptism, nothing is said of water, nothing is said of godfathers or godmothers, nothing is said of the sign of the cross. There is no water in this text, but "Jesus only." If these brought children to Christ to be baptized, certainly they brought them to the wrong person, for Jn. 4:2 says: "... Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples." But someone may say: "Perhaps they brought the children to be baptized by the disciples." Let Spurgeon answer once again: "If they (the disciples) had been in the habit of baptizing infants, would they have rebuked the parents for bringing them? If it had been a customary thing for parents to bring children with such an object, would the disciples, who had been in the constant habit of performing the ceremony, have rebuked them for attending to it? Would any Church clergyman (who practices this) rebuke parents for bringing their children to be baptized?" The Lord Jesus had a wonderful opportunity to commend infant baptism, but He did not. To be logical, the sacramen-

talists should permit infants partake of Communion. Why permit infants to be baptized and not permit them to sit at Lord's table? The answer is obvious — infants do not have discernment" (I Cor. 11:29).

The baptism of households in the New Testament is considered an argument for the sprinkling of infants. A close study of households, as found in Acts 14, 15; Acts 16:30-34; I Cor. 1 will reveal that they were believing households. Often times servants were included in household. Many Baptist ministers have baptized complete households without baptizing infants. In every case of household baptism in the New Testament baptism was administered to those who were old enough to

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called "brethren" — a name given only to believers (Acts 40), those who were old enough to add to "themselves to ministry of the saints" (I Cor. 16:15), and those who were enough to "believe," "receive," and "confess."

Circumcision has no validity as a basis for the sprinkling of infants. Jesus Christ did not speak of circumcision as an initial rite to church membership. Baptism did not take the place of circumcision. The apostle Paul spoke of the circumcision of the heart. (Continued on page 5, col. 1)

MARRIED VESSELS

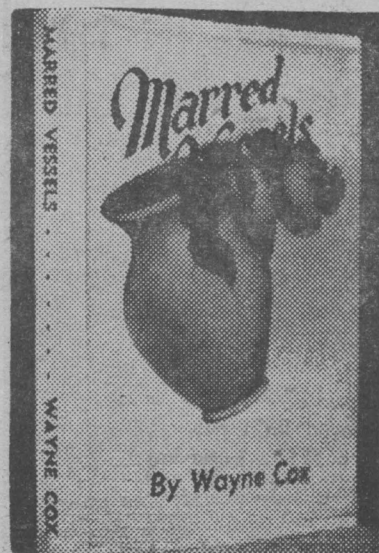
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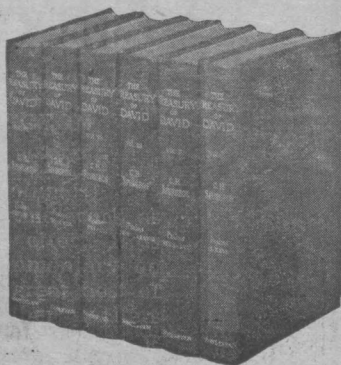
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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MARCH 27, 1965

PAGE FOUR

When The Stars Begin To Fall

(Continued from page one)
the Olivet Discourse. He is teaching on the end of the end, when time shall be no longer when all prophecies concerning His Second coming shall have been fulfilled and when every starry-decked heavens above our heads are going to go crazy in their orbits and the stars in all their galaxies are going to fall to earth like misspent satellites.

The time is coming when kindergarten cut-throats will no longer look up into the night and

"Twinkle, twinkle little star,
How I wonder what you are,
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky."

The time is coming when little children will repeat this poem again because these angels declare the stars are going to fall and give the Word of God.

The time is coming when lonesome lovers are seduced by hundreds, maybe thousands of angels will no longer look up at a star and

"Star light, star bright,
The first star I see tonight,
I wish I may, I wish I might,
Have the wish, I wish tonight."

The time is coming when lovers will not look at the stars in the heavens above because according to God's Word will one day fall to the earth.

This introduction let me tell you that the stars we see should remind us of one Person and that Person is Jesus Christ. This is the Psalmist meant in Psalms 19, verse 1, he said, "The heavens declare the glory of the Lord, and the firmament sheweth his handy-work." And I will prove to you right now in the introduction that every star should remind of Jesus Christ.

In the 24th chapter of Numbers, verse 17, the first time Jesus is called a star in the Bible. The writer said: "I shall see him, and now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: shall come a STAR out of Jacob, and shall rise out of Israel, and he shall be the corner stone of Moab, and destroy all the corners of Sheth."

And again for the word STAR. In the 24th chapter of Matthew in verses one and two we have this reading: "Now when Jesus came in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King, behold, there came wise men from the east unto Jerusalem, saying, Where is that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen HIS STAR in the east, and we come to worship Him."

And would tonight with all of my heart that star which shone over Bethlehem's roof some two thousand years ago could shine in this auditorium tonight, could shine over a vast number of people and that the expression in every heart could be with men of old, WE HAVE COME TO WORSHIP HIM," because He truly is worthy of worship.

In chapter 1, verse 19, listen for the word "We have also a more sure word prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye have hearkened, as unto a light that shineth in a darkness, until the day dawn, and the DAY of the Lord is in your hearts."

In Revelation chapter 2, verse 28: "And I will give unto the morning STAR." And if you will read the earlier verses you will learn that the STAR promised here to give every believer the morning star.

In Revelation the 22nd chapter, verse 16, we have this reading: "I Jesus have sent my angel to testify unto you these things in the book of the prophecy. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning STAR."

I affirm in the introduction that the stars should remind us of Jesus. One of these days the stars that are from His fingertips, the stars that are in the heavens above are going to fall to earth. There is coming a day when it will be too late for men, women, boys and girls out for the mercy of God.

Hurriedly, four things: First, **Practical Facts About the Stars.** Second, **Prophetic Fate of the Stars.** Third, **Paralyzing Force of the Stars.** And Fourth, **The Precious Finale After the Stars Have Fallen.**

I. PRACTICAL FACTS ABOUT THE STARS

First of all God made the stars.

Gen. 1:16: "And God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also."

Second, He not only made the stars, but my Bible teaches me that God numbered every one of them and that He also gave every star in all their galaxies a name.

He numbered them and knows them by name. You say I want Scripture, here it is:

Psalms 147, verse 4: "He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names."

We know a little about Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, and Pluto, Venus and some of the others but somewhere out yonder in outer space in the exosphere where man has never penetrated with his most powerful telescopes there are galaxies of stars that have never been beheld by the eyes of men. And the God who set them there numbered every one of them and gave them a name.

Third, He not only did that but He ordained the course that each star was to follow.

Our scientists can tell you about the various orbits of the known stars but God knows about the orbit of every star because He set them in the heavens and ordained the orbit that every star was to follow. Judges chapter 5, verse 20: "They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses (or in their orbits) fought against Sisera."

If you will read Judges the 4th chapter, verse 2, you will find that Sisera had plagued the children of Israel for twenty long years and yet when God got ready to dethrone this king the very stars in the heavens above fought from heaven in their courses as God ordered. The Bible states it, I simply believe it. Known only to Him are the great hidden secrets!

"When my eyes behold the stars this heart of mine is made to wonder.
This poor mind of mine just cannot grasp their array.

But the hand that spilled them there all across the wide heaven,
Had a plan when He placed them that way.

Known only to Him are the great hidden secrets,
I'll fear not when my flame shall dim,
I know not what the future holds, but I know who holds the future,
It is a secret known only to Him."

This is one of God's secrets revealed in His Word and God's people by faith ought to believe the Word of God.

II. PROPHETIC FATE OF THE STARS

First, the stars are going to withdraw their shining.

In the book of Joel, chapter 3, verse 15, we have this reading: "The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining."

Joel, chapter 2, verse 10: "And the stars shall withdraw their shining."

Now here are two plain statements from the Word of God that the stars are going to withdraw their shining, and these verses substantiate the introduction that one day people will not look at twinkling stars because one day they are not going to shine anymore.

And then they are going to be darkened or they are going to burn black.

Solomon knew all young people were star gazers, and you young people might as well confess it tonight that in your puppy love and in your real love you will have to admit the stars sometimes find you looking at them. Solomon knew this and this is why in Eccl. 12:1 and 2 he said this, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them."

Now listen: "While the sun, or the light,

or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain."

Here Solomon says one day the very stars that lovers gaze upon in the heavens above are going to be darkened and burn black. Here is the reason I believe people in America should be more interested in the God of space than the space gods some of them worship in this world.

They are going to be darkened and then they are going to fall to the earth.

Revelation chapter 6, beginning with verse 12: "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places."

Here in the book of Revelation we learn emphatically the stars of heaven shall fall to the earth. Now stay with me right here. A lot of our scientists say when the various stars begin to fall they will burn out somewhere in space because of a radiation belt or some other technological, scientific, aero-dynamic explanation they try to give to explain away the Word of God. God says they will fall to the earth! I don't care what an aero-dynamic explanation says! I don't care what technological explanation says! God's book says the stars, after they have withdrawn their shining and after they have burned black, will fall to the earth. This I believe! One of these days the very earth is going to be pulverized by falling stars from heaven.

III. PARALYZING FORCE OF THE STARS

The first thing that is going to happen is the earth is going to quake.

I go back to Joel, chapter 2, verse 10. It says, "The earth shall quake before them." I quoted it to you a few moments ago from Revelation 6:12, 13, and 14 that connects the severe earthquakes with the falling of the stars. If you have ever talked with someone who has been in a place where there has been an earthquake, you know what a terrible feeling you have when the earth begins to quiver under you, when walls begin to crack, and when windows begin to break! When the stars fall this earth is going to start cracking open!

The verse also says that the paralyzing force of the stars will cause the heavens to tremble.

Now I think in this jet-age we can understand this a little more than we used to because every time a jet reaches mach one or the speed that breaks the sound barrier, there is a terrible repercussion in the heavens and the very atmosphere above begins to tremble when a jet airplane breaks the sound barrier. In fact one of them came over the town of Jacksonville, Texas last year and did over a \$1000 worth of damage as it broke the sound barrier. We have some aircraft I am sure that could not only go mach one but mach two and possibly we have some that could go mach seven or eight.

I am talking about manned aircraft! When the sound barrier is broken the heavens begin to tremble. And when the stars start falling to the earth, the very heavens are going to rumble and roar like ten million jet airplanes that have broken the sound barrier at the same time.

I am glad in that day I will be safe in the arms of Jesus Christ. The earth will quake, the heavens will tremble, the sun will be burned black, the moon shall become as blood.

IV. THE PRECIOUS FINALE AFTER THE STARS HAVE FALLEN

First, after the stars have fallen to the earth a resurrection shall have taken place.

For in the cemeteries the body of every person who is a child of God has the seal and the promise of the Spirit of God that his body will not be left forever in the grave, but every Christian one day is going to rise to meet the Lord in the air. 1 Thess. 4:16 through 18: "For the Lord himself shall descend from

heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

Brother, when the stars have fallen, the first resurrection shall have taken place and God's people, living and dead, will be in the presence of Jesus Christ.

Second, another part of the precious finale is that a righteous Saviour shall be exalted.

In the book of Philippians, chapter 2, verses 9 through 11, the Bible says: "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Man doesn't do that today. But the time is coming, after the stars have fallen, when a righteous Saviour will be exalted by every person who has been washed in His precious blood.

I have a daddy in heaven. I have a little brother in heaven. I have hundreds of friends in heaven; but the greatest of all, I have a Saviour in heaven. Now when the stars have fallen, my Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, is going to be the one who will receive the most exaltation, the most honor, and the most glory, because when the stars have fallen, Jesus will be given His rightful position as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Third, another part of the precious finale when the stars shall have fallen a reunion is going to take place.

Do you believe that? Oh, I have had a lot of blessings this week. I have had a lot of wonderful blessings this past week. As Mrs. Lonnie Myrick has played for Timothy I went back to the first five years I preached the gospel and I remembered how her only sister, Jane, played for me in three revival meetings. She was just as vibrant, just as exuberant, just as spiritual, just as dynamic, just as lovable, just as wonderful a Christian girl that has ever lived.

Then one day I remember receiving a letter saying that Jane, the girl who had played for me in the meetings, would not live through another day and night. Sure enough the next letter that came said this fine Christian girl, nineteen years of age, (who had played for me in three revival meetings, and who had played in literally dozens of others for other preachers) in God's sovereignty, in God's benevolence, God's mercy and God's wisdom, had been snatched from the walks of men.

And when I see Mrs. Lonnie Myrick play, I see Jane; but the time is coming when the precious finale takes place when we both shall see Jane, when you will see mother, when you will see daddy, when you will see brother, when you will see sister, when you will see every person who is a believer in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

You talk about shouting on the hills of glory—it is going to take place for the people of God when the stars have fallen.

"The stars shine over the earth,
The stars shine over the sea,
The stars look up to God,
The stars look down on me.

The stars shall shine for a thousand years,
A thousand years and a day.
But God and I, shall live and love
When the stars have passed away."

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Sprinkling

(Continued from page 4)
Rom. 2:29), not the washing of the body.

has nothing to do with If Christ had meant He could have said, baptism and of the Lord did not mean regeneration. Christ going to Nicodemus, an infant. Just as man physical birth through so he must experience

a spiritual birth by the Spirit (Jn. 3:4-7).

Baptists do not sprinkle infants because such a practice is not to be found in the Scriptures.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

Second, Baptists do not sprinkle infants because the immersion of believers is taught in the Word of God. The Greek word "baptizo" means "to dip," "to immerse," "to submerge." Dr. A. T. Robertson, whose reputation as a Greek scholar is unquestioned,

challenges: "A man today who argues that 'baptizo' means 'to sprinkle,' or 'to pour,' throws suspicion on his scholarship and is on the defensive."

Let the Scriptures speak for themselves: Mt. 3:6: "... baptized ... in Jordan, confessing their sins" (Repentance preceded baptism).

Mt. 3:16: "... Jesus, when he was baptized ... went up straightway out of the water ..." (This surely is not sprinkling). Jn. 3:23: "And John also was baptizing ... because there was much water there ..." ("Much water" is not necessary for sprinkling).

Acts 2:38-41: "... repent and be baptized ... then they that gladly received his word were baptized ..." (Babies do not gladly receive the Word).

Acts 8:36-39: "... they came unto a certain water ... what doth hinder me to be baptized? ... if thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest ... and they went down both into the

water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water ... went on his way rejoicing" (None of these conditions exist when a baby is sprinkled. The candidate requested baptism, the baptism was by immersion). (Continued on page 7, column 1)

"FIFTY YEARS IN THE CHURCH OF ROME"

By Charles Chiniquy
From "Fifty Years In The Church Of Rome"

"Father Chiniquy," he said, "this is the sweetest claret you ever drank." And before I could utter a word, he had filled my large glass with the wine, and drank his own to my health. Looking at the bishop in amazement, I said, "What does this mean, my lord?" "It means that I want to drink with you the best claret you ever tasted." "Do you take me for a comedian? and have you called me here to play such a strange comedy?" I replied, with lips trembling with indignation. "I did not invite you to play a comedy," he answered. "I invited you to lecture on temperance to my people, and you have done it in a most admirable way, these last three days. Though you did not see me, I was present at this evening's address. I never heard anything so eloquent on that subject as what you said. But now that you have fulfilled your duty, I must do mine, which is to treat you as a gentleman, and drink that bottle of wine with you."

"But, my lord, allow me to tell you that I would not deserve to be called or treated as a gentleman, were I vile enough to drink wine after the address I gave this evening." "I beg your pardon for differing with you," answered the bishop. "These drunken people to whom you spoke so well against the evils on temperance, are in need of the stringent and bitter remedies you offer them in your teetotalism. But here we are sober men and gentlemen, we do not want such remedies. I never thought that the physicians were absolutely bound to take the pills they administer to their patients." "I hope your lordship will not deny me the right you claim for yourself, to differ with me in this matter. I entirely differ from you, when you say that men who drink as you do with your priests, have a right to be called sober men." "I fear, Mr. Chiniquy, that you forget where you are, and to whom you speak just now," replied the bishop. "It may be that I have made a blunder, and that I am guilty of some grave error in coming here, and speaking to you as I am doing, my lord. In that case, I am ready to ask your pardon. But before I retract what

I have said, please allow me to respectfully ask you a very simple question." Then taking from my pocket-book his printed address, and his public and solemn promise never to drink, neither to offer any intoxicating drinks to others, I read it aloud, and said: "Are you the same Bishop of Detroit, called Lefebvre, who has made this solemn promise? If you are not the same man, I will retract and beg your pardon, but if you are the same, I have nothing to retract."

My answer fell upon the bishop as a thunderbolt. He lisped some unintelligible and insignificant explanation, which, however, he ended by a coup d'etat, in saying: "My dear Mr. Chiniquy, I did not invite you to preach to the bishop, but only to the people of Detroit."

"You are right, my lord, I was not called to preach to the bishop, but allow me to tell you that if I had known sooner, that when the Bishop of Detroit, with his priests, solemnly, publicly, and with their right hand on the altar, promised that they would never drink any intoxicating drinks, it means that they will drink and fill themselves with those detestable liquors, till their brains shiver with the poisonous fumes, I would not have troubled you with my presence or my remarks here. However, allow me to tell your lordship to be kind enough to find another lecturer for your temperance meetings. For I am determined to take the train to-morrow morning for Chicago."

There is no need to say that, during that painful conversation, the priests (with one exception) were as full of indignation against me as they were full of wine. I left the table and went to my sleeping apartment overwhelmed with sadness and shame. Half an hour later, the Bishop was with me, conjuring me to continue my lectures, on account of the fearful scandals which would result from my sudden unexpected exit from Detroit, when the whole people had the assurance from me, that very night, that I would continue to lecture the two following evenings. I acknowledged that there would be a great scandal, but I told him that he was the only one responsible for it by his want of faith and consistency.

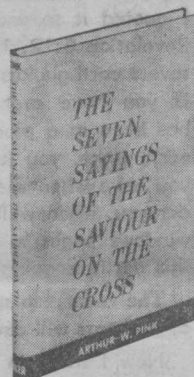
He, at first, tried to persuade

me that he was ordered to drink, by his own physician, for his health; but I showed him that this was a miserable illusion. He then said that he regretted what had occurred, and confessed that it would be better if the priests practiced what they preached to the people. After which, he asked me, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forget the errors of the bishops and priests of Detroit, in order to think only of the good which the conversion of the numberless drunkards of that city would do to the people. He spoke to me with such earnestness of the souls saved, the tears dried, the happiness restored to hundreds of families, by temperance, that he touched the most sensitive chords of my heart, and got from me the promise that I would deliver the other two expected lectures. He was so glad, that he pressed me on his bosom, and gave me, what we call in France, *Le baiser de paix* (kiss of peace), to show me his esteem and gratitude.

When alone, I tried to drown in sound sleep the sad emotions of the evening; but it was impossible. That night was to be again a sleepless one to me. The intemperance of that high dignity and his priests filled me with an unspeakable horror and disgust. Many times, during the dark hours of the night, I heard as if it were a voice saying to me, "Do you not see that the

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bishops and priests of your church do not believe a word of their religion? Their only object is to throw dust in the eyes of the people, and live a jolly life. Do you not see that you do not follow the Word of God, but only the vain and lying traditions of men in the Church of Rome? Come out of it. Break the heavy yoke which is upon you, and follow the simple, pure religion of Jesus Christ." I tried to silence that voice by saying to myself: "These sins are not the sins of my holy church; they are the sins of individuals. It was not the fault of my holy church if this bishop and his priests are drunkards and worldly men. Where will I go if I leave my church? Will I not find drunkards and infidels everywhere I may go in search of a better religion?"

The dawn of the next day found me feverish, and unable to get any rest in my bed. Hoping that the first fresh air of the morning would do me good, I went to the beautiful garden, covered with fruit trees of all kinds, which was, then, around the episcopal residence. But what was my surprise to see the bishop leaning on a tree, with his handkerchief over his face, and bathed in tears. I approached him with the least noise possible. I saw that he did not perceive me. By the motion of his head and shoulders, it became evident to

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PAGE SIX

ONE THING THEY ALL HAVE IN COMMON



"THE GRASS WITHERETH, AND THE FLOWER THEREOF FALLETH AWAY: BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURETH FOR EVER."
— 1 PETER 1:24, 25

me that he was in anguish of soul. I said to him: "My dear bishop, what is the matter? Why do you weep and cry at such an early hour?" Pressing my hand convulsively in his, he answered: "Dear Father Chiniquy, you do not yet know the awful calamity which has befallen me this night?" "What calamity?" I asked. "Do you not remember," he answered, "that young priest who was sitting at your right hand last evening? Well! he went away, during the night, with the wife of a young man, whom he had seduced, and stole four thousand dollars from me before he left." "I am not at all surprised at that, when I remember how that priest emptied his glasses of beer and wine last night, I answered. "When the blood of a man is heated by those fiery liquors, it is sheer absurdity to think that he will keep his vow of chastity."

You are right! You are right! God Almighty has punished me for breaking the public pledge I had taken never to drink any intoxicating drinks. We want a reform in our midst, and we will have it," he answered. "But what horrible scandal! One of my young priests gone with a young wife, after stealing four thousand dollars from me! Great God! Must we not hide our face now, in this city?" I could say nothing to alleviate the sorrow of the poor bishop, but to mingle my tears of shame and sorrow with his. I went back to my room, where I wept a part of the day, to my heart's content, on the unspeakable degradations of that priesthood of which I had been proud, and about which I had such exalted views when I entered its ranks, before I had an inside view of its dark mysteries.

Of course, the next two days that I was the guest of Bishop Lefebvre, not a single drop of intoxicating drink was seen on the table. But I know that not long after, that representative of the

pope forgot his solemn vows continued with his priests, drinking, till he died a most miserable death in 1875.

(To be continued)

"Challenging God"

(Continued from page 8)

were good rules. Every one of them would produce some results. I read all twelve of them and I thought, you can put all twelve, and put all twelve into effect, but even you can't kill His church. I will cause Jesus said, "I will my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." I say to you, Mrs. Murray, cause lots of trouble now, others like her may challenge God, but when they are gone, the church is still going to be there.

THE LORD JESUS WILL STILL REMAIN

It thrills my heart to think that you can't destroy the church, but there is something that thrills me even more than that is the fact, that the Lord Jesus Christ can't be destroyed. He is going to last.

We read:

"For I am the Lord, I CHALLENGE NOT."—Mal. 3:6.

"Every good gift and perfect gift is from above, cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."—James 1:17.

So far as God is concerned, God is so constant and so changeable that there is no variableness with God. Not even the slightest change in the shadow that is cast by the sun. You tell me that the church is going to have the crowd is going to have the beloved, this text says that is so changeless that He even cast a shadow in turn.

Notice again:

"I and my Father are one." (Continued on page 8, column 2)

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fact that there is no harm in these things.

Yes, a belief in the soon return of Christ would put fire into the soul and actions of everyone of us who have been redeemed, both young and old. We would set our affections on things above not in the passing fancies of this world (Col. 3:1-3, I John 2:15-17). We would realize that we have been saved and are serving a sovereign God to whom we will have to give an account one day soon (II Cor. 5:10). Therefore, knowing the terror of the Lord, we would be seeking the salvation of the lost and the fulfillment of God's will in our lives.

Yes, praise God, our Saviour is returning. Are you ready for His coming again? Have you repented of sin and trusted Him as your own personal Saviour? Have you committed your life into His service and are you seeking to get others to know Him as a result of your life and testimony? Only by doing these things will your life be filled with joy and power. I am ready for His coming. Are you?

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carry out a church program in the name of the Lord! Hence, such churches have no spiritual power. These churches are not interested in evangelism because salvation (to them) is found in baptismal font or catechism, not through the proclamation of the Gospel. Evangelistic meetings are taboo. Such churches oftentimes suffer from "dead orthodoxy," with very little passion for the lost. The church has lost its message if salvation is found in infant baptism.

INFANT SPRINKLING DOES MUCH HARM SALVATION IS PERSONAL, NOT INSTITUTIONAL

Salvation is found in a Person, in the blood of Jesus Christ. All the water in the world cannot wash away sins, whether it be the holy water of a sacramental church or the muddy water of the Mississippi River. We are saved not by water, but by blood.

"The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day.

And there may I, though vile as he, wash all my sins away."

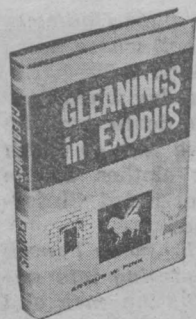
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Second Coming

(Continued from page one)
ought to walk.

Young people especially seem to ask that question, "What harm is there in it?" Those who ask such a question put themselves among the ungodly. Ungodliness is to be unlike God. Do people ask, "Is there any harm in going to Church — having family prayers — reading the Bible — witnessing for Christ or believing in the returning of the Lord?" No; and why? Because it is an evident

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mised to do for them what they cannot do for themselves" (See Eze. 18:20).

Fifth, infant baptism had its origin with the Roman Catholic Church, a system that is a combination of paganism, Judaism, and Christianity. Martin Luther no doubt was a good man, but don't forget that he was in the Roman Church. Although he broke from Rome, he carried some of their doctrines into the new movement. Many Protestant churches still have some striking similarities to Roman Catholicism. God's Word warns us to "... come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues" (Rev. 18:4). Baptists will have no part with ceremonies that have their origin with men.

Finally, infant baptism is a curse to the church. It causes churches to be filled with unsaved members, church members on their way to hell. Imagine unsaved people trying to

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Sprinkling

(Continued from page 5)
tion, the baptism brought joy to the heart of the candidate).

1 Cor. 6:3, 4: "... baptized into death ... buried with him by baptism into death ... raised up with him ... (A beautiful picture of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ! Sprinkling of infants is not true to this picture).

1 Cor. 6:5 "... planted in the death of his death, we shall also in the likeness of his death ... (To plant means more than sprinkling or pouring).

1 Cor. 1:14-17: "... I baptized you ... for Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel ... (gives a death-baptismal regeneration). 2:12: "Buried with him in baptism ... risen with him ... (See also Rom. 6:3, 4). No man or group of men have a right to change the symbolism of Christian baptism.

Second, infant baptism is not found in the Scriptures; therefore, it is adding to the Word of God. Note the warning of Rev. 22:18: "... If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book." Most of the arguments for infant baptism come from some of the early church fathers, not from the Bible.

Again, the sprinkling of infants is a perversion of the plan of salvation. It is grace — plus. It is grace and a so-called sacrament. It is a denial of the finished work of Christ on the cross. Nowhere in the New Testament is salvation obtained through ceremony. Incidentally, it is estimated that eighty-five per cent of all criminals may have been subjected to infant baptism. Salvation is not found in a ceremony or any sacrament, but through the blood of Christ and a personal acceptance of Him as Saviour. Fourth, infant baptism gives men a sense of false security. There are thousands of church members who are resting on infant baptism for the salvation of their immortal souls. They have never been "born again" nor

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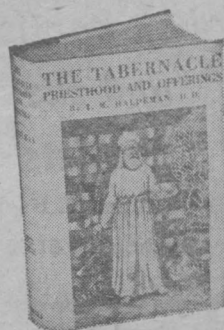
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"Challenging God"

(Continued from page six)
John 10:30.
"But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works; that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him."—John 10:38.
Every verse in the Bible that tells us that God is unchangeable, and that God does not fluctuate, is talking about Jesus Christ, because Jesus said, "I and my Father are one." Beloved, when you read about the God of the Old Testament, you are reading about the Jesus Christ of the New Testament, for God and Christ are one.
Listen again:
"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and FOREVER."—Heb. 13:8.
What is it materially and physically that remains the same. I don't know anything that you can talk about that remains the same. You'll never again

have this same crowd assembled in a church service. In all probability, you could never get again this same individual group of people together. Things just don't remain the same materially. But, beloved, Jesus Christ remains the same — yesterday, today, and forever. The man who challenges God is a fool, so the Bible says. The man that will stand up and blasphemously and arrogantly speak against the things of God, will find ultimately that the Bible will still remain, the church will still remain, and Jesus Christ will still remain.

IV GOD'S PLANS WILL STILL REMAIN

God's plans will still remain when Mrs. Murray is gone. The plans of God will still remain, and the plans of God will go on to an ultimate completion and conclusion, just exactly like God purposed before the foundation of the world.

We read:
"Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, THOU ARE GOD."—Psa. 90:1, 2.

Go back the farthest you can into everlasting and go out the farthest to everlasting yet to come, and all in between from everlasting to everlasting, God is, and God remains. The plans of God go on. His purposes just continue. Those plans and those purposes are going to continue in spite of every opposition on the part of man.

Notice again:
"Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world."—Acts 15:18.

Everything that is taking place is a part of God's plans, and if God hadn't wanted it to come to pass, He would have prevented it, and would have circumvented it, and would have kept it from coming to pass. We worry a lot. We complain and fret a lot when things go contrary to us, but if God didn't want it that way, God would have had it some other way. God is on His throne, and God is "running the show." Everything that is taking place is according to God's eternal purpose, and everything has been fixed by God before the foundation of the world. God is going to continue, and God's plans are going to prevail, and they are going to ultimately come to pass.

Let's go back to the Old Testament and study one incident.

There was a man by the name of Sennacherib, who was the king of Assyria. He had a general by the name of Rab-shakeh. Those two came against the Jewish people to destroy them. The Word of God tells us that they drew their army up around the city. The people inside the city were scared to death. They knew they were no match at all for this Assyrian army. The Assyrian soldiers would shout to the watchman on the wall and

say, "Come on down. Surrender. You know you have no chance. You say you are depending upon your God, but your God is no better than the gods of other nations, which we destroyed."

What a challenge for Almighty God! What a challenge to the Jehovah of the Bible, for a man to say that the God of the Bible is no more than the gods of the heathen nations! Hezekiah, the man of God, went into the temple and spread the matter before the Lord. He said, "What they say is true in that they have destroyed the nations, and they have destroyed these other gods, but, Lord, you are different from the gods of the nations. Lord, we are depending upon you." The Word of God tells us that the next morning when Hezekiah looked out, those folk from the Assyrian camp hadn't yet approached, and when they sent some messengers out a little later, they found the flags still blowing in the breeze, the tents standing, and all around, death had fallen over all the Assyrian camp. There were 185,000 dead Assyrians there, their horses were dead — everything was dead. Apparently one man got away unharmed — old Sennacherib. He went back home and went into his temple to talk to his heathen god, as to why they had lost so ingloriously. While he was talking to his helpless, worthless heathen diety, his own boys slipped up behind him and killed him. His god was so powerless and so worthless it couldn't even protect him.

I'll tell you, beloved, it just doesn't pay to challenge God. It just doesn't pay for a person to take the attitude Mrs. Murray is taking. It just doesn't pay for any individual to fail to realize that God is a sovereign God.

I turn to the New Testament and I find a man by the name of Saul who challenged God. Listen:

"And cast him out of the city, and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul."—Acts 7:58

This was on the day when they stoned Stephen to death, and the people that stoned him to death laid down their clothes at the feet of Saul. Saul hated Christians, for we read:

"As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison."—Acts 8:3.

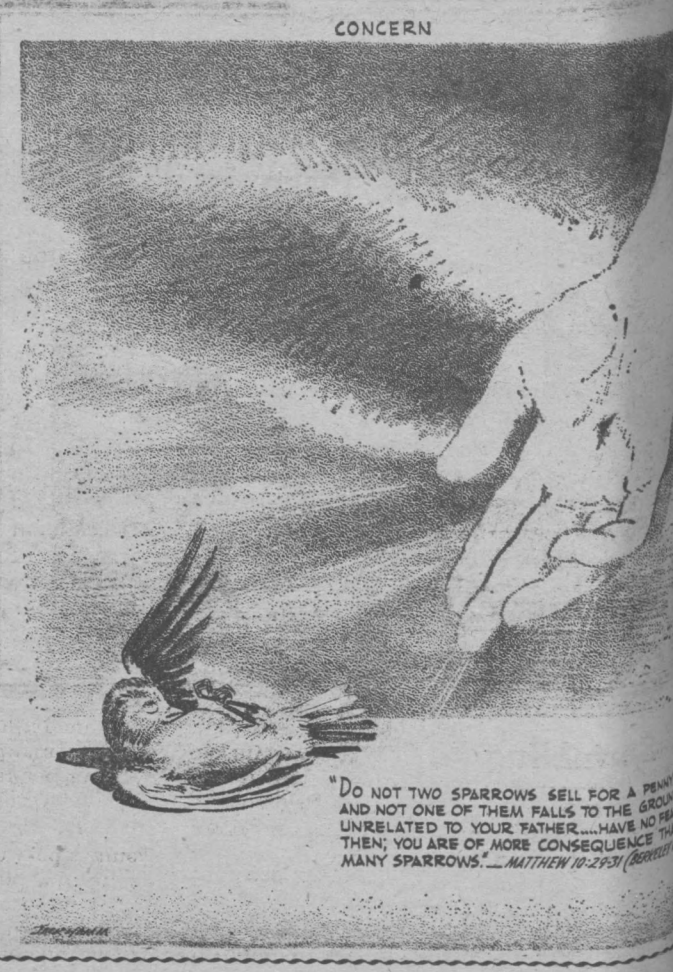
Look at Saul. He holds the garments of the individuals that stoned the first man who became a martyr after the death of Jesus. He made havock of the church at Jerusalem. He caused individuals to be brought to prison, and he committed them into the jail house.

Notice again:
"And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest."—Acts 9:1.

The Word of God says He was breathing out threatenings against the disciples. Literally, he was belching his slaughter against the disciples. He asked permission that he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. The Greek says "that he might drag them bound to Jerusalem." Beloved, here is a man that is challenging God.

Beloved, out there on the road to Damascus a light shined down from heaven, and Saul fell to the ground. You remember when he got up, the first thing he said was, "Lord." It just took one ray of light to make him blind, and one ray of light to cause him to see. The one ray of light that caused his natural eyes to become blind, was the one ray of light that caused his spiritual eyes to be opened, so that he cried, "Lord."

We read:
"Who was before a blasphem-



er, and a persecutor, and injurious; but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief."—I Tim. 1:13.

Notice, beloved, God knows how to handle the individuals that challenge Him. He is planning to prevail. It was His plan that Sennacherib's army would be destroyed and that Sennacherib himself died before his idol god in his home city. It was His plan that Saul be saved, and God saw to it that it came to pass. Beloved, the plans of God are all going to be completed and every one of them is going to be fulfilled, and God's purposes are going to come to pass just exactly like God has planned.

CONCLUSION

In closing, may I say that God has a plan for everything. Those plans can't be destroyed. Things just don't happen to the children of God. They are a part of a wonderful plan. The troubles, sorrows, the reverses, and the problems are but strokes of the great Sculptor's hand. When some dread accident strikes you, and you fret and demand why it has happened, remember, it was not an accident. Beloved, it was planned. When persecution and tribulation come down like a storm, and when friends disappoint you, and you stand all alone, bewildered and forlorn it is but God's plan.

I say to you, beloved, when Mrs. Murray is gone, and when all the atheistic challengers of God are no more, the Bible will still be here, the church will still remain, Jesus will still be here, and God's purposes and plans will all prevail, and will all have been completed in God's time.

I'd ask you to remember that God can save Mrs. Murray. God saved Paul, and God can save Mrs. Murray. I have found myself talking about her so much during the

past few months that I try to remember to pray for her often. Beloved, what a blessing it would be if God were to reach down and save that rebellious, hard-headed devilish woman. God saved and God can save her. Listen:
"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord; thy sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."—Isa. 1:18.

There isn't anybody beyond the reach of God. Oh, might we pray that God would save her. Others. There may be some here tonight who is ignorant and atheistically blind, going contrary to God. If so, might it not be God to save you tonight for Jesus' sake.

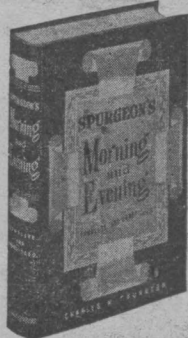
May God bless you!

Drunken Driver

(Continued from page of Lord, thou knowest it altogether) (Psalm 139:3, 4).

The drunken driver who killed himself on film (as other him) had better admit the price he paid for his sins.

In like manner, it would be sheer folly for anyone to think of his sinfulness before God. He had a perfect record of wrong motive, thought, word, deed. It is the part of wisdom to admit the sin, and then avail oneself of the provision God has made for sinners. For Christ has frankly forgives all who repent, their faith in the crucified and glorified Savior. "Who believeth in him shall receive mission of sins" (Acts 10:43). Now.



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