

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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CHALLENGING SCRIPTURAL STUDY OF . . .

THE OFFICE OF BISHOP AND DEACONS

Elder Bob DeVilbis
 Greensburg, Penna.

At the beginning, let us note the definitions from the Greek-English lexicon.

ELDER—"presbuteros." An adjective, comparative of (presbutos), "old"—generally used as substantive, "elder." 1. in age, often trans. "ancestor." 2. elder, in dignity and office, member of the Jewish Sanhedrin; an elder of a Christian church.

PASTOR—"poimen." 1. a shepherd. 2. figuratively, of Christ as Shepherd, and of his ministers as pastors.

BISHOP—"episcopos." 1. one who inspects or superintends. 2. an overseer of a church, a Bishop.

DEACON—"diakonos." A servant, viewed in relation to his work, especially at table; one in God's service, a minister; one who

serves in the church, a deacon or deaconess.

(diakoneo) (the verb form of deacon, "to deke") to serve or wait upon, especially at table; to supply wants, to administer or distribute alms, etc.; especially to SERVE AS A DEACON; of prophets and apostles who ministered the divine will.

Every Christian is a deacon, that is, a servant of the Lord Jesus. The word translated "Minister" in the following verses is the Greek "diakonos" or deacon. Jesus—Rom. 15:8. Paul—Rom. (Continued on page 3, column 1)

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I Want To Let Go

"I want to let go, but I won't let go.
 I am sick, it is true, and discouraged and blue,
 Worn through and through, but I won't let go.

I want to let go, but I won't let go,
 Though joys are all flown, life hath left me alone;
 For bread there's a stone, but I won't let go.

I want to let go, but I won't let go,
 There is work to be done, a race to be run,
 A crown to be won; and I won't let go.

I want to let go, but I won't let go.
 There are battles to fight by day and by night,
 For God and the right, and I won't let go.

I want to let go, but I won't let go.
 I never will yield. What! lie down on the field
 And surrender the shield? No, I won't let go.

I want to let go, but I won't let go.
 Be this ever my song: "Against legions of wrong,
 O God make me strong, "that I may never let go."

—Author Unknown

THE FOOLISHNESS OF PREACHING

Eld. W. E. Midgley
 Winnebago, Minnesota

For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." 1 Cor.

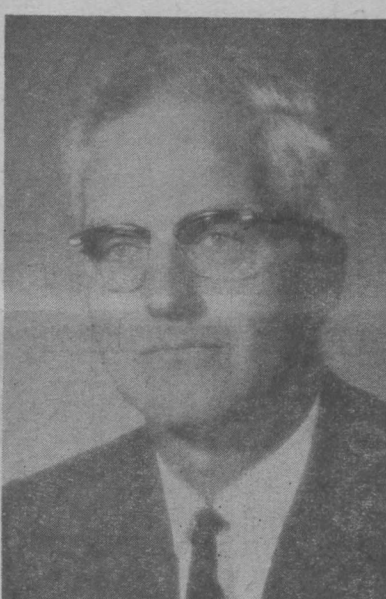
M. Bounds begins his book with these words: "We constantly on a stretch, if not a strain, to devise new methods, new organizations to advance the Church and its enlargement and efficiency in the Gospel. This trend of the

day has a tendency to lose sight of the man or sink the man in the plan or organization. God's plan is to make much of the man, far more of him than anything else. Men are God's method. The Church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men."

A controversy has raged since the beginning of the human race: Who is right: God or man? God created Adam and placed him in the Garden. In the midst of that life, God talked of death for disobedience. Satan in effect intimated "I know better than that" when he questioned. "Yea, hath God said?" Adam may have considered God's way a bit foolish, but he soon learned by bitter experience that the foolishness of God is wiser than men. God's word to Adam was the foolishness of preaching, but he did not pay very much attention until it was too late. He had been deceived by Satan.

There are a number of mysteries in the New Testament. That which is called a mystery is not something we cannot understand. However a mystery is something that no man can reason out. In the Scripture a mystery is something hidden in other ages, but now it is made known by divine revelation. God has revealed all we need to know on any subject called a mystery.

Men have tried to make the church something other than what God revealed. The truth



Eld. W. E. Midgley

God has revealed is contrary to all human reason, wisdom and plans. It is tragic that men do



The Calvary Baptist Church of Ashland, Kentucky gives you a most cordial invitation to attend the Thanksgiving services at eight-thirty o'clock Thursday morning November 25, 1965.

not receive the truth after God has revealed it. Our Lord used the word "church" (ekklesia) some 22 times and always with reference to a local church with organization and assembly. Paul wrote letters to local churches in different cities and three letters to young pastors of local churches (Timothy and Titus).

Many are trying to make the church a great compact visible hierarchy like Romanism, and a number of Protestant bodies, with the exclusive organization of overlords, ecclesiastical courts and other well-greased machinery. These systems of ritual and show are manifestation of human wisdom, even Satanic wisdom, but they are not the wisdom of Him and who said, "My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor my ways your ways."

Then there are those so-called fundamental interdenominationalists who came along with their wisdom for us to consider. They tell us the church is not a compact, earthly hierarchy with its intricate machinery, but the church is an invisible, universal, institution composed of all the saved of all ages and climes. Again, this is human wisdom, but it is not divine wisdom, all our interdenominational friends notwithstanding. Satan already has that kind of organization of spirit beings and forces. In Eph. 3:8-10 Paul was to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ "to make all men see the fellow-

ship of the mystery" once hidden, but now made known, "To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God." One thing is sure in this passage. According to Eph. 6:12 these principalities and powers do refer to evil forces under Satanic control with whom the Christian has to wrestle and war. Further, we must note two things: 1. The word "places" in Eph. 3:10 and 6:12 has been supplied by the translators. 2. This spiritual wick-



CALIFORNIAN LAUDS PASTOR'S WIFE



Elder John Byrd

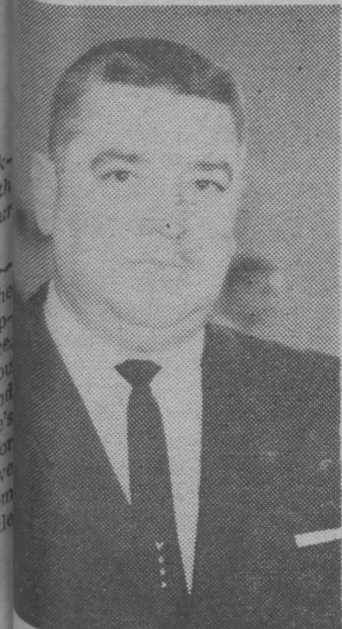
Now, everyone has commented on the conference. Here's mine to put in TBE.

An orchid to you, dear lady. You were the heartbeat of the Bible Conference. You hid very well the tension and the anxiety while day and night you kept going. Almost constantly you gave out with, "How do you do? We're glad to have you. Put it over there. Tell them to wait. No, change places with it. Check on the . . . Entertain the people. We're so glad to share our home with you."

Like a hive of bees you worked. Your husband knew that you would have everything in order when he came home.

(Continued on page 8, column 5)

HOOSIER PASTOR SUPPORTS TBE



Eld. Forest Judd

Brother Gilpin: We are sending you \$25.00 to the support of the Baptist Examiner. We appreciate this very much and also the fact that is being done there at the Calvary Baptist Church. I know of no other paper that reaches all the Counsel of such as this paper does and have met and learned to love of the dear Brethren through this paper. I trust that who have learned to love this as we have, will feel led to the Lord to help in this time.

(Continued on page 8, column 5)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

"THE CHURCH--GOD'S HABITATION"

"In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit."—Eph. 2:21,22.

I need not remind you that a truly New Testament church is the biggest thing there is in the world. I sat one day this past week in meditation thinking about some of the great events that have taken place during 1965, and I am sure that you will agree with me that there have been many outstanding and unusual things that have taken

place this year. However, there isn't a one of those events of this life that can begin to compare with the importance or the magnitude of the organization of a New Testament church. In fact, every true New Testament church that has been brought into existence in 1965 is a more significant event than any other that has taken place this year.

I recognize the fact that there have been a lot of things that have made far greater headlines, and have been considered far more prominently by the world. Take for example the space ex-

ploration program with those flights on the part of the astronauts into outer space. That in the eyes of the world is a marvelous event.

I am sure that when our minds go back a few days ago to the appearance of the Pope in New York City that this would be considered a marvelous experience in the eyes of the world. It was considered so unusual that the broadcasting facilities of the nation were freely put to the disposal of the "one church" for the portrayal of their religious leader. (Continued on page 2, column 2)

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JOHN R. GILPIN..... Editor

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Our expenses have been greater and our income has not kept pace this year. I am thankful though to have been able to edit this paper. You can show your thankfulness for it, by your offering.

iner—It has brought many articles that would not be found in the many other papers that have been sent to me—I am glad for the wide circulation it has—and for the advertisements you get—which should be encouraging—plus help in other ways... We thank you and commend you for never—letting appear—the liquor or cigarette advertisements—which have disgraced many publications.

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"The Church"

(Continued from page 1)

You can therefore see how much it was considered in the eyes of the world as being a thing of importance.

Then I am sure that some of the things which Mr. Johnson has done within the past year would be considered as unusually important in the eyes of the world. In fact, I am satisfied that in addition to him driving his car 90 miles an hour when he was drunk, that he has done a few other things that would be considered of importance in the eyes of the world, especially in connection with the Ecumenical movement. The fact of the matter is, I know no man that typifies the ecumenical spirit any more than our President. He himself is a Campbellite, his wife and one of his daughters are Episcopalians, another daughter has recently joined the Roman Catholics, he himself has promised to attend the revival meeting that Billy Graham is going to hold in Houston this fall, his press secretary is a Baptist preacher, and of recent date he had a front-line seat by way of his visit with the Pope in New York City. So if you can find any individual that typifies the ecumenical spirit any more than our President, then I would like you to present him this morning.

Now some people think when I mention things like this that I am opposed to Mr. Johnson. I am not; I am for him. In fact, I would like to see the 51st state named Johnson, and I would like to see it located in outer space—the farther outer, the better.

I say, beloved, these things are all considered of unusual importance so far as the world is concerned. The world thinks that these events that take place are of colossal magnitude, but, beloved, the biggest thing that ever took place in all this world was the organization of any Baptist Church.

The Lord willing, I expect to go to a little town in Georgia two weeks from now to assist them in organizing a true New Testament Missionary Baptist Church out of folk that are members of this church here in Ashland. When I do, I am satisfied that all the telecasting companies of the world will not put their facilities at my disposal, and I am sure that it won't make the headlines so far as the world is concerned; but when that new church comes into existence, it will be a bigger, more far-reaching event than any that will take place at any time that day.

LATER

Since preaching this message, your editor has had a wonderful experience with the saints of Griffin, Georgia, in organizing a new church there which is being pastored by Elder Gordon Buchanan. It was a real joy on Sunday, November 7 to be with these folk, having fellowship with them in their homes and in the new church. Truly we thank God for this great experience with these folk and we do pray God's richest blessings on this new church.

I say to you, the biggest thing in this world is the church that Jesus built. He Himself said when He was here in this world:

"I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."—Mt. 16:18.

We have no promise that the gates of hell shall not prevail against these things of the world, but we do have a promise that the church that Jesus built is going to last not for a little while, but forever. Thus I say that the biggest thing in all of the world is a church of the Lord Jesus Christ, and my text would tell

us that the church is inhabited by the Holy Spirit, for it says, "In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit."

I

GOD HAD A DWELLING PLACE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

God's dwelling place in the Old Testament was in the tabernacle. We read:

"And let them make me a sanctuary; that I MAY DWELL among them."—Ex. 25:8.

God had a sanctuary. God had a dwelling place among Israel. God had a dwelling place in the Old Testament, and that dwelling place was the tabernacle.

If you will read the last part of the book of Exodus, and in the book of Leviticus, you will find the picture of the tabernacle very graphically given to us. The courtyard was to be of a certain size, and there was to be a fence some 7½ feet tall all around that courtyard. There was to be a gate at the east end of that courtyard of a certain size, and just inside that gate there was to be a place of worship. There was to be a killing place, a brazen altar where they offered their sacrifices. Just beyond the brazen altar was to be the laver where the priests were to wash their hands and feet after they had officiated at the brazen altar.

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Then came the tabernacle itself, with the four pieces of furniture inside — namely, the golden altar of incense, the table of shewbread, the golden candlestick in the outer holy place, and the inner holy place where the ark of the covenant was, upon which was located the mercy seat, where God met with man in mercy. God told Israel to build this, and God took Moses upon the mountain, and gave to him the directions and the description whereby this was to be built. God even directed Moses as in the selection of the workmen that were to build these various pieces of furniture and the tabernacle.

The Word of God tells us that the tabernacle and these pieces of furniture were not to be built according to Moses' plans, but they were to be built according to the plans that God gave unto Moses. God did not allow Moses any leeway as to the size of these various pieces of furniture, nor did God allow Moses to use his own ingenuity as to what they were to be made of. Neither did God allow Moses to use his own ideas where they were to be put inside the tabernacle, but everything was described in detail as to size and material. How all this was to be constructed, and where it was to be placed, and how it was to be used in the tabernacle was indicated by God. I say, beloved, Moses was not given any leeway at all as to what was to be done, but rather, everything about the tabernacle was to be built according to the plans that God gave to Moses.

When we come near the end of the book of Exodus we find that it says:

"... according to all that the Lord commanded him." — Ex. 40:16.

"... as the Lord commanded Moses."—Ex. 40:19.

"... as the Lord commanded Moses."—Ex. 40:21.

"... as the Lord had commanded Moses."—Ex. 40:23.

"... as the Lord commanded Moses."—Ex. 40:25.

"... as the Lord commanded Moses."—Ex. 40:27.

"... as the Lord commanded Moses."—Ex. 40:29.

"... as the Lord commanded Moses."—Ex. 40:32.

Notice if you will, God has already given the instructions as to the building of the tabernacle and the various pieces of furniture, and the worship which they are to partake of. Now it has all been done, and when it is surveyed, eight times God tells us in His Word that everything was done as the Lord commanded Moses. Beloved, what happened? Just as soon as all of God's plans and purposes had been worked out, and carried forth to perfection, and Moses finished the work, we find that God moved in. Listen:

"So Moses finished the work. Then a CLOUD COVERED the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle."—Ex. 40:33,34.

They did everything according to God's commands; they did everything as God planned; they did everything that God told them to do, and when it was done, God put his stamp of approval upon it. When it was all built according to His plan, a cloud came down and the glory of God filled the tabernacle.

Now when did God take up His residence? When was it that God took up His abode in the tabernacle? It wasn't when God told Moses on Mount Sinai how to build the tabernacle. It wasn't when Moses started to build it. It wasn't when the work was partly completed. But when everything was done—when it was completed according to the direct plans of Almighty God, it was then that the Spirit of God came down and the Lord took up His residence, and the glory of God filled the tabernacle.

Notice, God's glory filled the place and God Himself came down to dwell, when they did according to the plans that God had given unto Moses. I say, be-

loved, God had a dwelling place in the Old Testament in the days of Moses. He took up His residence in the tabernacle, and He dwelt there with Moses and with the children of Israel.

II

GOD HAD A DWELLING PLACE IN CHRIST'S DAY.

What was true in that instance was likewise true in Jesus' day, for God had a dwelling place on earth in Jesus' day, and that dwelling place was in a New Testament church.

Jesus speaks of His church as an institution for the first time when He says:

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."—Mt. 16:18.



No one ever loses by giving to the Lord's work. He will gain both in this world, and especially in the world to come. God blesses the person who is 100 per cent for the Lord. Help the Lord's work with an offering to THE BAPTIST EXAMINER this Thanksgiving!

Here Jesus was talking about His church. This church had been built according to the plans of Almighty God. God gave the plans. There was never anything in this world that equalled His church. There was never anything in this world the like of His church. There was never anything that could compare with the church that Jesus built when He was here in this world.

When the Lord Jesus Christ was here, He put into that church the ordinances which it was to carry out. He put into that church everything that that church was to believe by way of doctrine. When He gave to that church His commission, He told them what they were to do so far as the carrying out of His work to the end of the world was concerned, and when they did it, it was all done according to the plans of Almighty God. Beloved, that became God's dwelling place on earth in the days of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let's notice how it was that God put His stamp of approval upon this:

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were ALL FILLED WITH

(Continued on page 5, column 1)

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

NOVEMBER 20, 1965

PAGE TWO

Some people think they have dynamic personalities because they're always exploding.

Bishops And Deacons

(Continued from page one)
15:16, Timothy — I Tim. 4:6, are all called deacons. However, there is a vast difference between our personal deaconship to Jesus Christ and the OFFICE OF A DEACON in the New Testament church! We are going to study the OFFICE OF A BISHOP and the OFFICE OF DEACONS in the Word of God.

1. The office of a Bishop.
A bishop must be VIGILANT — he is the watchman over the church. Heb. 13:17—"Obey (peitho — passive voice: to yield to persuasion, to assent, to listen to,



We are thankful unto the Lord that THE BAPTIST EXAMINER continues to go forth with the message of God over the world. By God's grace and your help, it will continue to go forth with increasing circulation and effectiveness. This Thanksgiving, remember THE BAPTIST EXAMINER when you pray and give.

to obey) them that have the rule over you (lit. your chiefs, or leaders) and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls as they that MUST GIVE ACCOUNT."

I Peter 5:2,4—"Tend (poimaino to feed a flock; be a shepherd of, to tend, to cherish; to rule, to govern) the flock of God, taking the oversight (be a bishop) thereof willingly. And when the chief shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory."

A Bishop is an EXAMPLE — "of good behaviour."

I Peter 5:3—"Neither as being LORDS over God's heritage (lit. neither exercising lordship over possessions) but being ensamples (patterns) to the flock." Note: A Pastor is not to be a DICTATOR forcing others to obey. He is to be a leader of God's sheep.

II Tim. 2:24—"And the servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle unto all, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing (lit. child-training, or disciplining) them that oppose themselves, if peradventure God will grant them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth." Remember, the Lord said, "My sheep hear my voice, and they follow me." If the under-shepherd speaks with the voice of the Chief Shepherd, God's sheep will follow him! (and the goats will go, "But...but...but...").

I Tim. 4:12—"Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example to the believer in word, conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith and in purity."

I Cor. 11—"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."

A Bishop is an INSTRUCTOR — "apt to teach."

Titus 1:7,9-11:2:1—"A bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God, holding fast the faithful word, as he hath been taught, that he may with sound doctrine both to exhort and convince the gainsayer (lit., that he may encourage with sound teaching, and to convict those who speak against, contradict, oppose, deny) for many are unruly (lit, insubordinate) and vain talkers and deceivers, whose mouths must be stopped."

Eph. 4:11,12 — "And he gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists and some pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the body of Christ."

The Bishop is a RULER.

Luke 12:42 — "Who is that faithful and wise steward (lit, house manager) whom his Lord shall make ruler over his household (therapeia—service, hence, servants, household) to give them their portion of meat in season. Blessed is that servant, whom when his Lord, when he cometh, shall find him so doing." The Pastor is to manage the church, he is to "care for the church." He is the "house manager" placed over the church and the deacons to rule in the place of the absent Master. A deacon who is insubordinate and rebellious, a vain talker, is acting contrary to the WORD OF GOD, regardless of what the constitution says. God made the Pastor the leader—"therefore, let every soul be subject to the higher authority, for there is no authority but of God. Whosoever resists the authority resists the ORDINANCE OF GOD: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation (condemnation)."

Titus 1:5,7 — "Ordain Elders in every city... for a Bishop must be..." Note that an elder and a bishop are the same.

I Tim. 5:17,18 — "Let the elders that rule well (prohistami—to preside over, to rule, 2. to give attention to) be counted worthy of double honor, especially those that labour in the word and doctrine, for the Scripture saith, thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the grain, and the labourer is worthy of his hire." An Elder's main business and calling is to preside over or rule the church. If he rules well and also is a good preacher, he should be honored double. Hiscox NEW DIRECTORY FOR BAPTIST CHURCHES, says, "A Pastor should be well and generously supported as to his salary, according to the ability of the church he serves. Few things exhibit the essential meanness of human nature — Christian human nature even — than for a people to stint and crowd a pastor down to the smallest pittance while they have an abundance, or live in affluence."

I Thess. 5:12,13 — "We beseech you brethren, to know them which labour among you and are over you in the Lord (prohistami—preside over, rule) and admonish you, and esteem them highly in love for their works' sake."

Acts 20:17,28 — "From Miletus, having sent to Ephesus, he called for the elders of the assembly (and said to them). Take heed therefore unto yourselves and to all the flock over which the HOLY GHOST hath made you overseers (Bishops), to feed (poimaino—to feed, tend, cherish, rule, govern—or Pastor) the church of God which he hath purchased with his own blood." Note here we have three words, Elder, Bishop and Pastor applied to the same men. But they are not called deacons! The Pastor is the leader; to care for the flock, to guide the church. He is put there by the Holy Spirit, and as long as he is right with the Word of God, you had better follow him!

II. THE OFFICE OF DEACONS.

Note that the office is always in the plural; it is always the case that more than one deacon is needed. God in I Tim. 3:1-13 speaks of the bishop in the singular—he, him, his. The deacons are spoken of in the plural—they, their, them. That ought to mean something.

The apostles were the first officers of the church.

Chosen by Christ to be witnesses of the resurrection, Acts 1:8; 10:39.

Taught new Christians God's ways, Matt. 28:16-28; Acts 2:42.

Dispensed alms and provided for feeding the believers, Acts 4:34,35.

Acted as pastors of the Jerusalem church until the office of elders appeared. "The identity of the office of bishop and presbyter (elder) being thus clearly established, it follows that the presbyterate is the HIGHEST PERMANENT OFFICE in the church, and that every faithful pastor of a flock is successor to the Apostles in everything in which they were to have any successors." Hiscox, p. 89.

The next office appearing was that of deacons.

Dacons were appointed to the physical ministrations to free the apostles to pray and minister the word, in short, the spiritual duties attendant to their office. Dacons were appointed by the apostles to the tasks given them by the apostles, and worked under them.

Dacons were to busy themselves with distributing money and dispensing food to the needy,



In trying to show your thankfulness to God this year, why not remember our publishing work with a worthy offering?

the relief of widows and the serving of tables (diakoneo—to serve or wait table). A plurality was needed, business acumen and administrative skill was necessary, not to run the church, nor make its decisions, not to run the apostles, but to run errands of mercy. We might today turn to the deacons the money and property affairs of the church as rightly falling within the limits of their God-given tasks. Theirs is an office of physical ministry: a deacon who does anything else in FULFILLING HIS OFFICE is out of order.

Steven did miracles, Phillip preached the Gospel and baptized, but these activities had nothing to do with their office of deacon. Praise God if our deacons can preach, teach, witness, or lead singing. But these things do not devolve to them by virtue of their office.

The elders.

First mentioned in Acts 11:29; 30—"The disciples... determined to send relief to the brethren which dwelt in Judea; Which also they did, and sent it to the ELDERS (compare Acts 4:35) by the hand of Barnabas and Saul."

Acts 14:23 — "When they had ordained them elders in every city, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord." Paul and Barnabas, in their missionary church-planting, copied the pattern already in practice in Jerusalem and Antioch by ordaining elders to rule, oversee and pastor the churches

which they founded in foreign lands. NO MENTION IS MADE OF DEACONS!

We have noted that the office of Deacons was created to meet an emergency condition in Jerusalem — care of widows and dependent believers. Eph. 4 lists five "gifted men" given to the church; apostles and prophets (which ceased with the completion of the New Testament) and Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers — to edify and perfect the saints. But no mention of deacons is made for the caring for of the SPIRITUAL needs of the church.

Acts 15 shows us the first Church Council. Note that a group came from Antioch to the APOSTLES and ELDERS about a problem.

v. 4—"They were received of the CHURCH and the APOSTLES and ELDERS—no mention is made of deacons at all.

v. 6 — "The APOSTLES and ELDERS came together to consider this matter."

v. 19—James, who appeared to be the leader of the church, ie, the Bishop, or Pastor, gave his recommendation of what should be done.

v. 22 — "Then pleased it the APOSTLES and ELDERS with the WHOLE CHURCH..." EVERYBODY had a vote in the matter.

v. 23 — They wrote letters, "The APOSTLES and ELDERS and BRETHREN send greeting." Not a mention of the DEACONS in the whole business. Why? Because it was none of their official business!

The deacons have no more say than any other member of the church in transacting of its business. The church is a corporate body and must act as a BODY. No person or group of persons can run the church! The pastor is not to be a dictator, "building his way through." The church must recognize and respect his authority as God's servant, placed over the church by God Himself to superintend and oversee the work of the local church, to minister to the spiritual needs of the members and to give them an example of Godly Christian living to follow. In this realm he is Bishop (overseer), Pastor (shepherd) and Elder (example) to the church.

Dacons are placed in office to give counsel to the church as to how to conduct its business. They are not to act as the church in making decisions which rightly belong to the church as a CORPORATE BODY. Their job is to recommend to the church what financial and physical things should be done. (In the dispensing alms, secrecy is naturally understood to be best for the administration of this gentle and brotherly ministry... This the deacons do as falling to them by virtue of their office). Churches should follow the counsel of their deacons, as the direction of wise men whom God leads in their ministry to the church. The Pastor and the Dacons are both SPECIALISTS — the one in the field of the SPIRITUAL and the other in the realm of the MATERIAL.

The deacons are not to assist the Pastor in the spiritual care of the church. Theirs is strictly a material ministry. Baptist Tradition says that the Dacons are to assist the Pastor, and that Trustees (is there a chapter and verse?) are to care for the material things. "The Baptists do not have elders," we are told, "the deacons take the place of elders." GOD SAYS DEACONS ARE TO "DEKE" — NOTHING ELSE!

The Pastor is the spiritual leader of the church. The size of the membership makes necessary in many churches the addition of elders who are truly "Assistant Pastors" whether full-time workers or not) to work with the Pastor. Remember, some of the N.T. churches had as many as 10,000 to 25,000 members and a plurality of elders was very much needed. Nonetheless, one man is

to be the leader, under God. Moses, Joshua, Nehemiah, Noah and others are examples of God's way of getting things done. Every board of Elders, every Deacon Board, every Church needs God's man to do God's job. If God has given you His man, love him, pray for him, and FOLLOW HIM!

A man cannot be an elder and call himself a deacon and hold to a constitution which describes his office in the words of I Tim. 3:8-13 and be anything but a hypocrite! If he is an elder, then he is a Pastor; if he is a Deacon then he has an office which deals with the material ministry of the church. He ought to be either a leader or a follower — he cannot be both.

I Tim. 3:10 says, "Let them use the OFFICE OF A DEACON." Not the office of a Bishop! Pastors are to rule, Dacons are to "deke." Chaos and grief come when the order is reversed. Ecc.



Many are the blessings each of us have received from the Lord. "What shall we render unto the Lord for all of His benefits?" Why not show your appreciation to the Lord by sending an offering to help us publish His precious, life giving Word?

10:7 — "I have seen servants upon horses and princes (rulers) walking as servants on the earth." Dacons are not to rule over Pastors, God says, and WE OUGHT TO OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MAN. Read carefully the revolt of the Levites against Moses in Numbers 16-18.

The reward of a Deacon: I Tim. 3:13 — "They that have used (served) well the OFFICE OF A DEACON purchase to themselves a good degree." To receive reward, we must be faithful in the office to which God has appointed us. Faithful service in material things is just as worthy of faithful service in the spiritual things. NO REWARD IS GIVEN MEN WHO INTRUDE INTO ANOTHER OFFICE THAN THEIR OWN.

Foolishness

(Continued from page 1)
edness is in "high places" in 6:12 and "heavenly places" in 3:10. "Heavenly" and "high" are the translation of the same Greek word. Therefore, the same evil forces and the same sphere of the ethereal atmosphere are involved in both passages.

The "principalities and powers" of both Ephesian passages must mean the invisible spirit forces of the god of this age who has the most compact organization of super-lords, called "the rulers of the darkness of this world," at work to defeat God's purposes and plans. It is not the wisdom of God to say the church is an invisible, universal organization of spirit forces. Satan has an invisible, universal compact organization of spirit forces to (Continued on page 4, column 3)

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

NOVEMBER 20, 1965

PAGE THREE

The Baptist Examiner FORUM

"Is it alright for women to teach children in Sunday School?"

AUSTIN
FIELDS

PASTOR,
Arabia Baptist
Church
Arabia, Ohio



unless it was a different occasion. In 1st Timothy he is instructing the women concerning the assembling of themselves with the men, and here he very definitely tells the women that they are to remain in silence, and that they are forbidden to teach. But in Titus the Apostle is speaking concerning the women outside the church, and Paul goes so far as to tell the women what they are to teach.

If a woman were to teach in a Sunday School with men present, would not it be in violation of I Tim. 2:12, where Paul states, "I suffer not a woman to teach? How can a woman be an instructor in the church and still remain silent. How can a woman remain silent and still speak?"

Furthermore I have never read in the New Testament where a woman ever taught a group of people while in church capacity. I read where a woman told a group of men about the Lord Jesus Christ, but she was not in church capacity when she told them. See John 4.

The only way in which I could give an affirmative answer to this question, would be to separate the Sunday School from the church. But as of now I have not been able to separate the church from the Sunday School, for the church selects the women teachers and assigns them to certain classes. Thus it is not separated from the church.

Now I know that what I have written is contrary to the teaching of the majority of Missionary Baptists, but until someone gives me more proof than what I have, I must contend that women are not permitted to teach in Sunday School. Neither am I writing this as a bone of contention, but rather I am simply expressing the conviction of my heart.

JAMES
HOBBS

Rt. 2, Box 182
McDermott, Ohio
RADIO SPEAKER
and MISSIONARY
Kings Addition
Baptist Church
South Shore, Ky.



"There is nothing, absolutely nothing, in the Scriptures against women teaching Bible classes composed wholly of women or children, so long as they do it in subjection to the church, the pastor, and their own husbands. Those who would forbid women to teach women and children are simply adding to the Word of God." A Systematic Study of Bible Doctrine by T. P. Simmons.

I couldn't think of a better way to say it than by the above quotation. It is true that a woman is not to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man. "But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence." I Tim. 2:12. It is also true that older women are to teach the younger.

"The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, TEACHERS OF GOOD THINGS. Titus 2:3.

Taking the Bible as a whole, we see that women have certain restrictions but they also have certain obligations. When we hold them from fulfilling their obligations or when we permit them to do what they should not do we

sin.

"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17.

ROY
MASON

Radio Minister
Baptist
Preacher
Aripeka, Florida



It would certainly seem so. I Titus 2:3-4 the command is given for the older women to teach the younger women to "be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, etc." If they are commanded to teach other women, then how foolish it would be to question the propriety of their teaching children in Sunday School.

That they are NOT to teach men is specifically stated in I Tim. 2:12. Some have taken this verse and have for their own purpose chopped it in two, and have made it to read, "I suffer not a woman to teach." Such mutilation of the Scripture in order to carry a point is wicked.

Bro. Cook's article did not arrive in time. It will appear next week.

Foolishness

(Continued from page three) fight the Gospel and the saints. Satan had his organization in existence long before God revealed the truth of the church to the Apostle Paul. This theory of the invisible, universal church is a figment of the imagination produced by the vagaries of human philosophy as a tool to deceive the very elect.

When we read of a church in the New Testament it is neither a universal, visible hierarchy, nor a universal, invisible institution. It was the local church at Corinth to which Paul wrote, "It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." God's wisdom and God's power have been seen in the perpetuity of Baptist churches through the centuries. Satan's compact organization of spirit forces, (Jesus called it the gates of hell) all the powers of the old Roman Empire, the last mistress of the world, and the compact ecclesiastical organizations called churches have spent their unified strength and combined powers to destroy these independent little democracies. Only the infinite wisdom and omnipotent power of our sovereign God could prevent these three great forces from accomplishing their aim and objective.

Blessed be God, the Baptists live on! Satan and his rulers of darkness, temporal Rome with her fagots and armies, ecclesiastical Rome and her daughters with their intrigue, councils and conspiracies have been unable to stamp out the Baptists. I believe it can be said that three worlds have been forced to know and to confess the manifold wisdom of God. The way God has preserved and perpetuated these Baptist churches, without any centralized control and with only a simple statement of faith, has demonstrated God's mighty power and revealed His matchless wisdom. God chose local churches as His method for the evangelization of the world. After men disobey God and run away from their local church responsibility, they will be heard to "peep and mutter" that the church has failed.

God has never fought the devil with fire. God has never matched force with force. God has never raised any armies to defend His truth. Baptists have been persecuted and hunted into the caves and dens of the earth, but Baptists have never been persecutors. God's method of preserving the Baptists has always been by a

Book, the Baptist Book, the Bible, the innerrant Word of the Living God. God's Book and God's Spirit have preserved the Baptists and Baptist churches since the days of the Apostles. We find one historian who tells us that in the days of the Reformation the Lutheran persecution of the Baptists was equal to the Roman persecution of the Baptists in everything except extent.

Romanism will blossom and reach its power and glory where ignorance abounds and force has sway. Some Protestant groups seem to thrive on education. Other Protestants and various groups live on the cult of emotionalism. But Baptists, whether under bitter persecution or not, will multiply and grow wherever the Bible is read, preached and obeyed. Bound neither by creeds, tradition, oaths, ritual nor centralized ecclesiastical authority yet the rank and file of our fundamental Baptist churches are more nearly one in faith and practice than any other people on earth. We recognize that some have departed from the faith and practice of the Bible. This departure leaves them ineligible to be called either fundamental or Baptist.

Other religious groups with their ecclesiastical courts and centralized governments are unable to explain or understand our Baptist unity and faith. Though a few groups of churches have defected the overwhelming majority of our Baptist churches the world over are sound at heart and one in faith on the great historic truths of God's Word. The secret of our unity is found in the fact that we are all reading the same Book, and obeying that Book. Each of our churches in this state has its own statement of faith. Yet taken together there would be very few differences, and only minor at that, in our doctrinal position. Thus we are preaching the message of this Book. This message is foolishness to the world of unbelieving men.

Again, we want to remind you that our text declares, "It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." God has demonstrated His wisdom to kings, councils, hierarchies and ecclesiastical courts through independent Baptist democracies in His choice of preaching for the spread of His truth. From time to time I have mentioned the various groups in history before the Reformation and how God had sustained and multiplied those Bible-believing groups. Those groups owe much of their historical success to preaching. They addressed the people in their own language. Their sermons were filled with Scripture passages. By the 12th century these groups had acquired an influence that left a non-preaching priesthood powerless in the conflict. The Dominican and Franciscan orders were founded in the early part of the 13th century for the express purpose of sending out public preachers. Fearful scenes of conflict, persecution and inquisition followed as Rome demonstrated that she is ever the relentless enemy of truth, light and freedom.

The wisdom of this world magnifies schools and institutions, social services, money and organizations. I was utterly amazed to find Conservative Baptist missionaries using institutionalism and the interdenominational mission station idea when I came to Minnesota a few years ago. Let me clarify that statement by saying that the missionaries came home and told of these things.

But the Bible says "it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." Baptists thrive and new churches are established when they depend upon the preaching of the Gospel in pulpit and pew alike. We are co-laborers together with God. Likewise, the pastor and people must be co-laborers together in this great preaching ministry. Preaching and teaching the Bible are God's two chosen agencies for the salvation of the lost and the

edification of the saints. The church that sets its pulpit to one side, declares to the world that it no longer believes in the power of preaching, or in the wisdom of God.

Some churches are lodged to death; some are clubbed to death; some are organized to death; some are starved to death in the midst of their bake-sales; some are entertained to death; some are sung to death, but not with Gospel songs; some are hugged to death by the world; some are unionized to death by all kinds of religionists; some are lectured and ritualized to death; but you never heard of a Baptist Church being preached to death. Baptist churches thrive and prosper by the preaching of the Word of God. Satanic wisdom puts an emphasis on organization and show. Worldly wisdom puts an emphasis on educational institutions and social services. But God's marvelous grace and manifold wisdom puts the whole emphasis upon preaching the Word.

The theme of our text is illustrated many times in the Bible. Noah was a preacher of righteousness who proclaimed that God was going to judge the world with a flood of water. He believed his own preaching and built the ark, though it had never rained in history heretofore. The antediluvians thought that since it had never rained, that fogey old preacher was beside himself. The wisdom of this world is contrary to the



Let your thanksgiving really be with giving this year. If you believe in the ministry of this paper, we invite you to share its responsibilities.

wisdom of God and eight souls were saved from that flood.

To whom is this preaching foolishness? It is not foolish to God who ordained it; nor to Christ who commanded it; nor to the Holy Spirit who uses it. It is not foolish to anyone in Heaven because no one is in Heaven who was not saved by preaching. There is a human instrumentality somewhere in every soul that ever gets saved. All in Heaven believe and know that the greatest thing is the preaching of the Gospel. This that souls might be saved. This preaching is not foolish to those of us who are now saved from sin. We have a hope we did not have before. Sin has been broken. (Continued on page 8, column 4)

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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PAGE FOUR

"The Church"

(Continued from page 2)

THE HOLY SPIRIT, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."—Acts 2:1-4.

Just as it was in the Old Testament when they built the tabernacle according to God's plans and came down and dwelt within that tabernacle, and the glory of God overshadowed that tabernacle, so it was when the church was built and the ordinances were placed within it, and the commission was given whereby that church was to carry the Word of God unto all the world, and it was on the day of Pentecost that they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

I am saying to you, beloved friends, the Holy Spirit moved as a permanent guide on the day of Pentecost. To be sure, the Holy Spirit had been dwelling

Lord Jesus Christ in His church, so in the days of the Apostle Paul, the Holy Spirit was dwelling in the same place — in the church that had been built according to the pattern that had been given them by God, and had been brought into existence by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Notice a similar Scripture:

"And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD, as God hath said, I WILL DWELL IN THEM, and walk in them; and will be their God, and they shall be my people."—II Cor. 6:16.

I ask you, where was His residence in the days of the Apostle Paul? It was in the church. Just as it was in the Old Testament that God's dwelling place was in the tabernacle, and as it was in the days of Jesus that His dwelling place was in the church, so it was in the days of the Apostle Paul. Beloved, God had a dwelling place in Paul's day, and that dwelling place was in a New Testament church.

IV

GOD HAD A DWELLING PLACE IN JOHN'S DAY.

The reason I mention these individuals in particular is because Paul was a link back to the first church that was built, and John was the last one of the twelve original apostles. So I mention Paul and John especially, that you might see that the church in Paul's day was the dwelling place of God, and that in John's day the church was still the dwelling place of God.

We read:

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the SPIRIT SAITH UNTO THE CHURCHES; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."—Rev. 2:7.

Notice, the Holy Spirit is working in the church, and He says, "You listen to what the church has to say." Beloved, the Holy Spirit is there within the church, and He gives His message through His church.

So I say in the days of the Old Testament, God had a dwelling place with Israel in that tabernacle; in the days of Jesus God had a dwelling place in His church; in the days of the Apostle Paul He was still in His church; and in the days of John, the last of the twelve apostles, the Holy Spirit was still residing in the church, and He said, "If you want to hear, then listen to what the Spirit says to His churches," which would show us that the church was the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.

Now, beloved, I can't cite you any Scripture beyond John, but I believe this to be true, that what was true then is still true today — that is, the Holy Spirit still resides in His church today. I come back to the book of Matthew and hear the Lord Jesus Christ say:

"That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."—Mt. 16:18.

Beloved, if He built His church, and if He promised that church that nothing would ever cause it to come to an end, and if He dwelt in His church when He was here in the days of His flesh, surely God is still in His churches, to which He promised perpetuity, and to which He has guaranteed that nothing shall hinder or cause then to fail, even to the end of the age.

Notice again:

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

Beloved, that church is going to last throughout all ages — that is, it is going to last throughout all time, and the Holy Spirit says "Amen" to this statement.

V

AND TODAY.

Now, notice: God has always

had a place of dwelling. In the Old Testament He dwelled in the tabernacle, and in the New Testament He dwelled in the church. Beloved, He is still dwelling in His church. He still has His residence in that church which He promises shall exist throughout all ages, world without end.

If that be true, then the Holy Spirit doesn't reside today in the PTA, and He doesn't reside in the schools. I think it would be a mighty fine thing if a lot of school folk would realize that the Holy Spirit does not reside in the PTA and the school. Of recent date, in the printing shop we have had five jobs representing PTA organizations. I have talked to some of those individuals representing those PTA organizations, and some of those people have in mind that their organization is just about on a par with, or maybe a little above Jesus' church. One of them was honest enough to admit that she thought the PTA organization was the greatest organization in all the world. I tell you, beloved, the Holy Spirit had His residence in the church, and He still has His residence there, and He does not reside in a PTA, nor in any school.



Thanksgiving ought to mean the giving of money as well as thanks. We covet your gift for the furtherance of our ministry through this paper.

Neither does the Holy Spirit reside in the Red Cross. I am ready to grant that I have a high regard for the Red Cross organization. I have an exceedingly warm spot in my heart for the work which the Red Cross does in disasters all over America and abroad. But, beloved, the Holy Spirit isn't in the Red Cross, the Holy Spirit never was in the Red Cross, and the Holy Spirit will never be in the Red Cross. God said that the Holy Spirit was going to reside in His church, and that His church was going to last, world without end.

I go further and say that the Holy Spirit doesn't reside in the Jaycees, nor in the Rotarians, nor in any of the rest of these social service clubs. Now I have a high regard for the Jaycees. I think they accomplish a great deal of good. So far as a worldly organization is concerned, I think they

accomplish much from a civic standpoint, for which people should give praise. Though that be true, the Holy Spirit doesn't reside in it; it is all the work of the flesh.

I say, then, beloved, everything that the Jaycees do, everything the Red Cross does, and everything the PTA does is all the work of the flesh. The Holy Spirit doesn't work in them, the Holy Spirit never resides in them, but the Holy Spirit resides in His church.

I go further and say that the Holy Spirit isn't in the Catholic Church. You can turn to Revelation 17 and can read the story of an old whore, that is nothing else but a picture of Catholicism. Whenever you read it, then I ask you if you believe that the Holy Spirit is residing in such an organization. I say to you, beloved friends, the Holy Spirit has never touched the Catholic Church, side, edge, nor bottom, but rather, the Word of God would indicate that this church described in Revelation 17 is eventually to come to an end. Listen:

"And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall HATE THE WHORE, and shall make her DESOLATE AND NAKED, and shall EAT HER FLESH, and BURN HER WITH FIRE."—Rev. 17:16.

Beloved, we have a promise that He is going to make His Church to last, but He never promised that Rome is going to last. He never promised that Roman Catholicism is going to endure. Instead, He tells us she is going to come to nought. I tell you, she will come to nought because she is in the flesh. She will come to nought because all she has ever done has been a fleshly work from beginning to end. The Holy Spirit doesn't reside in Roman Catholicism.

I say also that the Holy Spirit doesn't reside in Protestant Churches, and I will tell you why He doesn't — He never started them. Listen:

"But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up."—Mt. 15:13.

Beloved, He never planted these organizations that are called Protestant Churches. Rather they have all come into existence long since the day that Jesus took up His residence in His Church. They all came into existence as a result of some man who couldn't get along, or who couldn't agree with the church of which he was a member, and the result was that he pulled off and started an organization of his own. They were separated from the true church which Jesus Christ built, and thus they have not the Holy Spirit.

It may be that they have some great buildings. It may be that they have great organizations. It may be that they look great in the eyes of the world. Beloved, the day is coming when all these Protestant organizations are coming to nought, just the same as the old whore in Revelation 17 will come to nought. I tell you, the Holy Spirit doesn't live in them, the Holy Spirit doesn't reside in them, and the Holy Spirit never was in them.

I'll go one step further and say that the Holy Spirit isn't in all so-called Baptist Churches. Now, listen: When Jesus was here in the days of His flesh, after He left, where did the Holy Spirit take up His residence? And what organization has the Holy Spirit? Beloved, it is that group that has an unbroken chain of continuity, from that first church right down to the present time. Anytime you break the chain, from then on it has been the work of the flesh, and not the work of the Holy Spirit. That is why we believe in a linked chain so far as churches are concerned through the ages. I don't think that a man can go out in his own strength and gather a little group of people and

say that they are a church. He can't do it, because if he does, he is starting in his own strength and has thus separated himself from his own church. I believe that every church should be organized from another church — that each church should perpetuate all other churches down through the ages. I am satisfied



Will you make glad and thankful our hearts as you with thanksgiving share with us your bounty?

that He put the Holy Spirit into the church that He built, that the Holy Spirit had His residence in that church, and that the only church that has the Holy Spirit dwelling in it today is a Baptist Church that has an unbroken line of continuity back to the days of the Lord Jesus Christ — back to the time when the Holy Spirit was placed in the church.

Last night the power went off here in Ashland, and some of you probably found your electric clocks one hour off schedule this morning. We did ourselves. Our

(Continued on page 6, column 5)

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PAGE FIVE

Thanksgiving

Living by faith has ever been the course of God's people. This is how they live by faith. There is no law, no association, no convention, and no ecclesiastical machine back of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. We are not the servants of an ecclesiastical machine; if we were, it would back us. We are the servants of God and His people; thus we depend on Him and His elect for support. Are you one who is blessed by this paper? What have you done to show your interest in THE BAPTIST EXAMINER'S future?

them individually and work with them as a church, but the Holy Spirit takes up residence within that church, having filled them, He is to be found in all Truth. Beloved, just as God had a dwelling place in the Old Testament, God had a dwelling place in the days of the Lord Jesus

III

GOD HAD A DWELLING PLACE IN PAUL'S DAY.

When we come to the experience of the Apostle Paul, we find that God had a place where He dwelt. My text says, "In whom also are built together for HABITATION OF GOD through the Spirit." Beloved, the Holy Spirit inhabits His church. God had a dwelling place in the tabernacle in the Old Testament, and just as God had a dwelling place in the days of the

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"FIFTY YEARS IN THE CHURCH OF ROME"

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

The Sabbath afternoon after the three drunken priests nailed their unsigned, unsealed, untestified, and consequently null sentence of excommunication, to the door of our chapel, the people had gathered from every part of our colony into the large hall of the courthouse of Kankakee City to hear several addresses on their duties of the day, and they unanimously passed the following resolutions: "Resolved, That we, French Canadians of the County of Kankakee, do hereby decide to give our moral support to Rev. C. Chiniquy, in the persecution now exerted against him by the Bishop of Chicago, in violation of the laws of the church, expressed and sanctioned by the Councils."

After this resolution had been voted, Mr. Bechard, who is now one of the principal members of the Parliament of Canada, and

ing destroyed the prosperous congregation of Chicago by taking away from them their splendid church, which they had built at the cost of many sacrifices, and giving it to the Irish population, and having discouraged the worthy population of Bourbonnais Grove in forcing on them drunken and scandalous priests, wants to take you away from among us, to please Spink, the greatest enemy of the French population. They even say that the bishop, carrying iniquity to its extreme bounds, wanted to interdict you. But as our church cannot, and is not willing to sanction evil and calumny, we know that all these interdicts, based on falsehoods and spite, are null and void.

"We, therefore, solicit you not to give way in presence of the perfidious plots of your enemies, and not to leave us. Stay among us as our pastor and our father, and we solemnly promise to sustain you in all your hardships to the end, and to defend you against our enemies. Stay among us, to instruct us in our duties by your eloquent speeches, and to enlighten us by your pious example. Stay among us to guard us against perfidious design of the bishop of Chicago, who wants to discourage and destroy our prosperous colony, as he has already discouraged and destroyed other congregations of the French Canadians, by leaving them without a pastor, or by forcing on them unworthy priests."

The stern and unanimous determination of my countrymen to stand by me in the impending struggle is one of the greatest blessings which God has ever given me. It filled me with a courage which nothing could hereafter shake. But the people of St. Anne did not think that it was enough to show to the bishop that nothing could ever shake the resolution they had taken to live and die free men. They gathered in a public and immense meeting on the Sabbath after the sham excommunication, to adopt the following address to the Bishop of Chicago; a copy of which was sent to every bishop of the United States and Canada, and to Pope Pius IX.

"To his lordship, Anthony O'Regan of Chicago — We, the undersigned, inhabitants of the parish of St. Anne, Beaver settlement, seeing with sorrow that you have discarded our humble request, which we have sent you by the four delegates, and have persisted in trying to drive away our honest and worthy priest, who has edified us in all circumstances by his public and religious conduct, and having, contrary to the rules of our holy church and common sense, struck our worthy pastor, Mr. Chiniquy, with excommunication, having caused him to be announced as a schismatic priest, and having forbidden us to communicate with him in religious matters, are hereby protesting against the unjust and iniquitous manner in which you have struck him, refusing him the privilege of justifying himself and proving his innocence.

"Consequently, we declare that we are ready all times as good Catholics, to obey all your orders and ordinances that are in accordance with the laws of the Gospel and the Church, but that we are not willing to follow you in all your errors of judgments, in your injustices and covetous caprices. Telling you, as St. Jerome wrote to his bishops, that as long as you will treat us as your children, we will obey you as a father; but as soon as you will treat us as our master, we shall cease to consider you as our father. Considering Mr. Chiniquy as a good and vir-

tuous priest, worthy of the place he occupies, and possessing as yet all his sacerdotal powers, in spite of your null and ridiculous sentence, we have unanimously decided to keep him among us as our pastor; therefore praying your lordship not to put yourself to the trouble of seeking another priest for us. More yet; we have unanimously decided to sustain him and furnish him the means to go as far as Rome, if



God's people have so much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. No doubt, THE BAPTIST EXAMINER is one of the things you have of the Lord for which you are so thankful. If so, you can express your appreciation to the Lord and the paper by helping to keep it in the mails with an offering.

he cannot have justice in America.

"We further declare that it has been dishonourable and shameful for our bishop and for our holy religion to have seen, coming under the walls of our chapel, bringing the orders of the prince of the church, a representative of Christ, three men covered with their sacerdotal garments, having their tongues half paralyzed by the effects of whiskey, and who, turning their backs to the church, went to the house and the barn of one of our settlers and there emptied their bottles. And from there, taking their seats in the buggies, went toward the settlement of L'Erable, singing drunken songs and ballooning like wild Indians. Will your lordship be influenced by such a set of men, who seem to have for their mission to degrade the sacerdos and Catholicism?"

"We conclude, in hoping that your lordship will not persist in your decision, given in a moment of madness and spite; that you will reconsider your acts, and by these means avoid the scandal of which your precipitation is the cause.

We then hope that, changing your determination, you will work to the welfare of our holy religion, and not to its degradation, into which your intolerant conduct would lead us, and that you will not persist in trying to drive our worthy pastor, Rev. Charles Chiniquy, from the flourishing colony that he has founded at the cost of the abandonment of his native land, of the sacrifice of the high position he had in Canada; that you will bring peace between you and us, that we shall have in the Bishop of Chicago not a tyrant, but a father, and that you will have in us not rebels, but faithful children, by our virtues and our good example. Subscribing ourselves the obedient children of the church.

Theophile Doris, J. B. Le-moine, N.P., Det Vanier, Oliver Senechall, J. B. Belanger, Basileque Al-lair, Camile Betourney, Michel Allair, Stanis Gagne, Joseph Grisi, Antoine Allain, Joseph Al-liard, and five hundred others."

This address, signed by more than five hundred men, all heads of families, and reproduced by almost the whole press in the United States, fell as a thunder-clap on the head of the heartless destroyer of our people. But it did not change his destructive plans. It had just the contrary effect. As a tiger, mortally wounded by the sure shots of the hunters, he filled the country with his roaring, hoping to frighten us by his new denunciations. He published the most lying stories to explain his conduct, and to show the world that he had good reasons for destroying the French congregation

of Chicago, and trying the same experiment on St. Anne. In order to refute his false statements, and show more clearly to the whole world the reasons I had, as a Catholic priest, to resist him, I addressed the following letter to his lordship:

"St. Anne, Kankakee County, Ill., Sept. 25, 1856. Rt. Rev. O'Regan: You seem to be surprised that I have offered the holy sacrifice of mass since our last interview. Here are some of my reasons for so doing.

"1st. You have not suspended me; far from it, you have given me fifteen days to consider what I should do, threatening only to interdict me after that time" if I would not obey orders.

"2nd. If you have been so ill-advised as to suspend me, for the crime of telling you that my intention was to live the life of a retired priest in my little colony, sooner than to be exiled at my age, your sentence is ridiculous and null; and if you were as expert in the JURE CANONICO as in the art of pocketing our money, you would know that you are yourself suspended IPSO FACTO for a year, and that I have nothing to fear or expect from you now.

"3rd. When I bowed down before the altar of Jesus Christ, twenty-four years ago, to receive the priesthood, my intention was to be the minister of the Catholic Church, but not a slave to a lawless tyrant.

"4th. Remember the famous words of Tertullian, NIMIA POTESTAS, NULIA POTESSES! For the sake of peace, I have, with many others, tolerated your despotism till now; but my patience is at an end, and for the sake of our holy church, which you are destroying, I am determined with many to oppose an unsurmountable wall to your tyranny.

"5th. I did not come here, you know well, as an ordinary missionary; but I got from your predecessor the permission to form a colony of my emigrating countrymen. I was not sent here in 1851 to take care of any congregation. I planted my cross in a wilderness. In a great part, with my own money, I have built a chapel, a college and a female academy. I have called from everywhere my countrymen—nineteenth of them came here only to live with me, and because I had the pledged word of my bishop to do that work. And as long as I live the life of a good priest I deny you the right to forbid me to remain in my colony which wants my help and my presence.

"6th. You have never shown me your authority (but once) except in the most tyrannical way. But now, seeing that the more humble I am before you the more insolent you grow, I have taken the resolution to stand by my rights as a Catholic priest and as an American citizen.

"7th. You remember, that in our second interview you forbade me to have the good preceptors we have now for our children, and you turned into ridicule the idea I had to call them from Canada. Was that the act of a bishop or of a mean despot?"

"8th. A few days after you ordered me to live on good terms

with R. R. Lebel and Carthage though you were well acquainted with their scandalous lives. Twice you threatened me with suspension for refusing to come a friend of those two scoundrels! And you have so made a fool of yourself before the four gentlemen I sent to be witnesses of your iniquity and my innocence, that you have acknowledged before them one of your principal reasons for turning me out of my colony was that I had not been able to make peace with two priests whom you acknowledged to be depraved unworthy priests! Is not that passing wickedness and tyranny of anything recorded in the best pages of the most daring tyrants? You want to punish an exile a gentleman and a priest, because he cannot agree to become the friend of two public rogues! I thank you, Bishop O'Regan, to have made that public confession in the presence of unimpeachable witnesses. I do not want to advise you to be prudent in what you intend to do against the reputation and character of the Bishop of St. Anne. If you continue to pronounce me as you have done a few weeks, and to tell the people what you think fit against me, I have awful things to tell of your injustice and cruelty. As Judas sold our Saviour to His enemies, so you have sold me to my enemy of L'Erable. But be certain that you shall deliver up your victim as I like.

"For withdrawing a suit which you have instituted against my honour, and which you shall certainly lose, you drag me out



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my home and order me to land of exile, and you cover iniquity with the appearance of zeal for the public peace, just as Pilate delivered his victim to the hands of their enemies to make peace with them."

(To be continued)

"The Church"

(Continued from page 5) clock was one hour off schedule this morning because of a planned electrical interruption last night for some repairs. It was being made by the electric company. Though I was not and didn't know anything about it, for one hour there was no electricity in our part of the house and though my house is a modern electric home, it was absolutely dead last night because the power had been cut off. When the power was off, our house was absolutely dead, and yours was absolutely dead.

Back yonder our Lord took His residency in His church, established the church. He gave the church according to the will of Almighty God. He gave the church the ordinances that were to carry out all through the ages. He gave the church a commission that it was to carry out the church marching orders that it was to obey throughout all ages. Then the Holy Spirit took up His residence on the day of Pentecost, and that time on He has had (Continued on page 7, column 1)

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

NOVEMBER 20, 1965

PAGE SIX

West Coast Friend Writes Us

Bro. Gilpin:
I was no less than amazed after the TBE Forum of October when the question discussed was: "The book of Psalms written for Jews, or was it also for the church of the Lord Jesus?" Out of 4 writers, none named the New Testament as telling us to use the Psalms 5:19, Colos. 3:16, and 5:13! (Our church has the Psalms to music, which is from on prayer meeting at 8:00.)

Lord bless you all!
Yours in Christ,

Doug Dolly
Seattle, Washington

"The Church"

(Continued from page six)
In a New Testament church, whenever a church is organized, it has to come out of a stream that has come through the years if it is to have any power. When you walk off and start an organization of your own, you call it a church, and you may have a big building, but so far as the church is concerned, you have no organization, without the Holy Spirit residing there. The Holy Spirit resides in His church, whenever you get away from the church, you are getting away from that power which God



are friends of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER who could pay a centire obligation and miss it. This would be a fine way to show your gratitude for His goodness, by thus taking us of our burden, or at least part of it.

within the first church. I was telling me recently he had been going to a house where he had been attending Sunday School and singing services. After they had services for some period of time they started calling them church. He said that they came out of any church, sort of grew up there. "Now we have church much as any organization in the world." I said to him, the day you started, started without any power. Even if you have done, has the work of the flesh, and you shall do will be of the flesh. You don't have the Holy Spirit because you

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were started separate from the Holy Spirit. He has His residence in His church, and when you get away from the church and do anything apart from the church, your work is absolutely devoid of any spiritual power."

Beloved, that is why it is that we believe so strongly that everything that is done ought to be done in the name, and under the authority of a New Testament church. The church has the Holy Spirit residing within it, and anything that is done apart from the church is done without the power of the Holy Spirit, and without the sanction of God through the Holy Spirit.

VI

THEREFORE . . .

Having said this, I say to you that the Lord places His pastors. Since the Holy Spirit is in His church, then He places pastors in the church to guide the church. Listen:

"And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the HOLY SPIRIT HATH MADE YOU OVERSEERS, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."—Acts 20:17,28.

This was the experience of the Apostle Paul when he came to Miletus. He was attempting to sail by the city of Ephesus, but for some reason best known to God, from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church. Notice, he didn't send for the deacons, nor for any laymembers, but he sent for the preachers, and he said to them,

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over the which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."

Who is the overseer of the flock? Beloved, it is the pastor of the church. The individual who pastors a church is the overseer of the flock. The Holy Spirit doesn't make any mistakes. Jesus started the church, the Holy Spirit came unto the church, and He is the powerhouse of the church. He is the one that places the preachers there as overseers. The Holy Spirit that makes the preacher to be overseer over the flock is the same Holy Spirit that empowers the church.

Notice again:

"And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are OVER YOU in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves." I Thess. 5:12,13.

Here is a passage which says that that individual which has been put over you by the Lord—that individual which labors among you, who is over you in the Lord, and who admonishes you, you are to esteem that one very highly in love for his work's sake. I tell you, beloved, the position of a pastor is an honored position because the Holy Spirit puts the pastor in the church, and He tells the people of the church that the pastor who labors among them is to be esteemed and loved by the church.

Listen again:

"Let the ELDERS THAT RULE WELL be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward." I Tim. 5:17,18.

Notice, this Scripture tells us that the elders that rule well are to be counted worthy of double honor, especially if they labor in the Word and doctrine. The man who is pastor of a church, who is the elder of a church—that individual who tries and strives to uphold the doctrines and the Word of God—that individual is to be counted worthy of double honor.

Do you see the position that God puts the pastor in, in a church? The Holy Spirit lives in



"AND JESUS ANSWERING SAITH UNTO THEM, HAVE FAITH IN GOD."—MARK 11:22

His church, and the Holy Spirit puts the pastor in the church.

Notice another Scripture:

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets, and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."—Eph. 4:11,12.

Notice this: God puts the pastor in the church through the Holy Spirit who indwells the church, for one purpose—that

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind."—I Pet. 5:2.

Beloved, this tells us that the business of the pastor is to feed the flock, and that He is to give you nothing but the Word of God.

Personally, I have done that, and I thank God that it has been my privilege to do so. I thank God for the privilege He has given me to pastor this church and to "feed the flock of God which is among you."

Notice another Scripture that you might see the exalted position that the pastor is given so far as the church is concerned:

"OBEY them that have the RULE OVER YOU, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."—Heb. 13:17.

Now the word "rule" doesn't mean to rule as a dictator, and I don't think any man can ever say that your pastor is dictatorial so far as this church is concerned. I don't think anyone can ever say that we have taken a dictatorial attitude. But it does say that the pastor is to rule the church. How does he rule? He rules in that he supervises the work of the church, in that he plans the work of the church, and in that he teaches. When I stand up here to teach you, I, in a sense, rule over you, as I teach you the Word of God. Listen again:

"REMEMBER them which have the RULE OVER YOU, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation."—Heb. 13:7.

Beloved, you are to remember them which have the rule over you. You are to listen to what your pastor has to say. As long as God gives you a pastor, you are to listen to your pastor above anybody else in all of the world. Your pastor's word is to be accepted above anybody else's word, always and at all times.

You say, "Brother Gilpin, I don't believe in the pastor having too much authority." Well, the Holy Spirit and you are defi-

nately different. The Holy Spirit was put in the church after the church had been planned and planted; the Holy Spirit puts the preacher in the church; the Holy Spirit wrote this Bible, and He says to the members, "Obey them that have the rule over you." You are to listen to what your pastor has to say.

Notice again:

"SALUTE ALL THEM that HAVE THE RULE OVER YOU, and all the saints."—Heb. 13:24.

Years ago, a man said, "I know, Brother Gilpin is against me, because I spoke to him on the street the other day and he never even spoke to me." Beloved, if my life depended on it, I would have to swear in the presence of my God that I never even saw him. As I walk along the street or as I go about my work every day, I usually have my mind on something else. I am usually planning a message, or I am working on TBE in my mind as I do some half-dozen other things. Beloved, I never saw the man. But suppose I had seen him? Suppose I had seen him and purposely by-passed him, and had purposely refused to speak to him? Even if I had, I would have done him no wrong. Do you know who had done the wrong? He had, because the Word of God says, "Salute (Continued on page 8, column 1)

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PAGE SEVEN

"The Church"

(Continued from page 7)

all them that have the rule over you." There is not a passage in the Bible that says the preacher is to seek out somebody to speak to him, but there is this passage which tells us the individual is to speak to the preacher.

I read this to you this morning that you might see how the Holy Spirit works in His church. He has His residence in the church, and He puts His preacher in the church that the preacher could carry on the work of the Lord,

and through that preacher He guides the church into the truth. Listen:

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, HE SHALL TEACH YOU ALL THINGS, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."—John 14:26.

Beloved, the Holy Spirit guides one into the truth. He took up His residence in the church; He has kept His residence in the churches down through the years; He has put each pastor in the church in order to carry on the

work of the church, and He teaches through that pastor the Word of God, in order that you can be guided into all truth. Listen again:

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."—John 16:13.

Somebody may say, "It doesn't make any difference to me what is preached, I am going to do what I want to do." I tell you, beloved, it is going to make a lot of

difference when you stand in God's presence whether you listen to a God-called preacher or whether you listen to somebody that is trying to teach you on the outside. It is going to make a lot of difference.

We read:

"He that is of God HEARETH GOD'S WORDS: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God."—John 8:47.

Several years ago, when I was preaching at another church here in Ashland, a man got up and stomped out of the church building. He said that he didn't care what the Bible said, he wouldn't believe it.

I tell you, beloved, God established His church; God put the Holy Spirit in His church; and He has been in all true churches every day since, down to the present time. He puts the pastor in the church to teach the church, and through that pastor He guides the church into the truths of the Word of God; and when an individual says, "I am not concerned about the Word," let us remember that the Bible says, "He that is of God heareth God's words."

I have a very definite conviction that the Holy Spirit still works in His churches today. He still puts His preachers in the church, and He tells them what to preach.

Beloved, I want you to see this truth: the Holy Spirit dwells in the church; He has always dwelt in the church; He shall always dwell in that church until the day when Jesus comes again into the world and takes the church from the world. While we wait for that day, He has placed his pastors in the church, and the pastors are to be recognized and their word is to be considered above the word of anybody else. I say to you today, the Holy Spirit has His way of carrying out His work, and it is our business to listen to what God says to His church, through the preachers whom the Holy Spirit has placed there.

May the Lord bless you.

Foolishness

(Continued from page 4)

up in our lives and we love the Lord now because we are on our way to Heaven. Preaching is God's one ordained method of evangelization and indoctrination. To whom is this preaching foolish? To the ungodly who resist God and rebel against God. If you are among those who are consistently against God's preachers, you will see the day when you will realize that foolishness has been on your side and not on the side of the people of God. Do you know why preaching the Word of God is foolishness to you? Paul clearly tells us, "The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God for they are foolishness unto him." You do not despise the preacher, the natural man in you despises the preaching. Except you repent of your sin, you will eternally perish.

I want to draw one closing illustration from the Scripture. A young man in ancient Egypt could have been the most learned man in all the land. He could have been the military general of all the army. He could have been the prime minister of the empire. He could have lived in a great palace with all the treasures of Egypt at his disposal. But one day Moses walked out of the royal palace and stood with the people of God. "Moses, you are the most foolish man in all Egypt. You have cast your lot with that bunch of slaves. What a fool you are!" But Moses looked for the real pay-day in the future. Where are the treasures of Egypt today? Where is that great empire of the past?

But now, where is Moses? One day Jesus took Peter, James and John up the mountain side, and Moses and Elijah appeared to them. God was at the death-bed of Moses and kissed him to sleep on Mt. Nebo. God had spoken face to face with Moses many

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times before that experience on Mt. Nebo that day of long ago. But we never read of God speaking to any of that crowd in Egypt. God spoke to Pharaoh only through Moses. The Egyptians are lost souls in hell. But Moses is in glory. Who was the fool?

I say to you today with all the force of my being, "Flee from the wrath to come." It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. When the flood came only eight souls were saved. When Jesus comes again, only the saved will go to Heaven.

Hoosier Pastor

(Continued from page one)

there in Ashland in prayer and ask that you would remember us and the work here in Indianapolis to the Lord. I want to mention again how very much we enjoyed the Bible Conference this year and that we are looking forward to another good time next year if it is the Lord's will.

In His service,
Elder Forrest S. Judd,
Westbrook New Testament
Baptist Church,
Indianapolis, Indiana.



With gratitude in our hearts may we thank and praise God this year as never before for all His benefits, remembering that Thanksgiving should mean "sharing." Are you sharing your material substance with those who carry on in the cause of Christ? Today, be thankful and share.

Pastor's Wife

(Continued from page one)

Everything was in place. Everything was in order and on time. The food was delicious and the drinks refreshing. The whole atmosphere was hospitable.

I know a lot of people did a lot of things to make the conference a success. As I viewed the total situation my impression was, "An orchid to you, Mrs. Gilpin, for a wonderful conference."

John Byrd,
California

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
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PAGE EIGHT

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