

Time spent in prayer brings death to care.

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

# The Baptist Examiner

Paid Circulation In All States And In Many Foreign Countries

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

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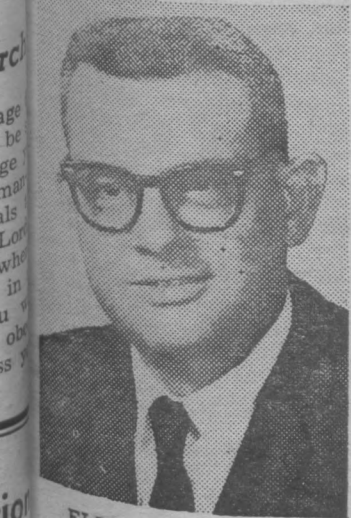
## THE FRED HALLIMAN FAMILY



This is Elder and Mrs. Fred Halliman and their fine family of five children. The above picture was made shortly after Brother Halliman arrived from New Guinea, and by the smiles on all their faces, one can see that it was a happy reunion, after over seven months of separation, with Mrs. Halliman and the children in the states, and Brother Halliman in New Guinea. Brother Fred will be visiting many churches in the next few months time, so make your arrangements to hear him when he visits in or near your community.

Mt. 16:18

Now we've had several references as to the church this morning and last night, and this Scrip-



ELD. DAN PHILLIPS

has been quoted several times. Still it has a great meaning to our hearts. We find here that the Lord

### WHY JOIN ANY CHURCH?

A writer in the Herald of Gospel Liberty thus answers the question, Why join the church? 1. It will please Christ. 2. It is a public confession of Christ before men which He requires of all His disciples. 3. Christ commands His disciples to be baptized and observe the Lord's supper, both of which are properly administered only in the church. 4. The world expects a person coming a Christian to join the church. 5. It will protect against backsliding. 6. It will help forward in the

## NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH AND ITS RELATION TO THE WORLD

PREACHED AT CALVARY'S CONFERENCE 1965

By DAN PHILLIPS  
Bristol, Tennessee

Jesus Christ built a church. We find that it is a church that has been set aside to carry out a specific work. We find that He started this church in His earthly ministry. While He was here, He established this church, and He left it to carry out His great commission. We know that so-called Baptists today are not carrying out the great commission as it should be, but we know that we have the Word of God, to teach us how to carry it out. Christ started the church in His earthly ministry and said the gates of hell would not prevail against it, and we be-

lieve this. We believe it started there and not 300 years ago as some of our modern pastors are teaching.

We can prove its existence by church history right on back to Christ; therefore, it started with Christ, and it shall be here when He comes. His church shall be perpetuated down through the (Continued on page 2, column 1)

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## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

### "THE MESSIANIC RETURN"

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts." —II Pet. 1:19.

Well, beloved, in the light of this text, I want to give you a number of Scriptures that have to do with prophecy—prophecy of the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

There are an awful lot of differences on the part of preachers so far as the second coming of Jesus Christ is concerned. I was just thinking recently of the brethren I have met and known

and associated with, within the last few years, how most of these brethren are premillennial. They believe, and I agree with them, that Jesus Christ is going to come before the Millennium. In contrast, I know one man that says he is a Post-Millennialist, and every time I see him, I look at him to see if that queer look in his eyes is getting any more queer, for I am just a little afraid of the man who says that the world is getting better. I am just wondering if he isn't taking the first step toward Christian Science. The Christian Scientist says that everything is perfectly all right; everything is just lovely;

it is just as rosey as can be. A man ran for the office of school board of recent date, who is a Christian Scientist. I voted for him. I told him when he was making the campaign, "I am for you 100%, because when you get into office, and some problem comes up, you'll just declare that it doesn't exist, and that will solve the whole thing." I said, "Your religion is perfect for this, because it will just solve all the problems, without the problems ever being discussed. Well, the man who is a Post-Millennialist and says that the world is getting better is taking (Continued on page 3, column 3)

## I'm A Missionary Baptist Not A Free-Will Arminian

ELD. JOHN L. STEPP  
Rome, Ohio

"And He said, 'Therefore I said unto you that no man can come unto me, except it were given him of my Father.'"—John 6:65.

I am a Missionary Baptist because I believe the infallible Word of God — that God is Sovereign — that He still rules the heavens and earth with His almighty hand.

I am a Missionary Baptist and not "free-will" because I believe in first, "Total Depravity of Man" second, "Unconditional Election" third, "Limited Atonement" fourth, "Irresistible Grace" and fifth, the "Perseverance of the Saints," so I'm Calvinist all the way.

It has been proven beyond all controversy that "free-will" is nonsense. Freedom cannot belong to will, any more than ponderability can belong to electricity.

If any man thinks that salvation comes through, and by, the free will of man, he knoweth nothing of Grace. This man hath not been taught of God, for that is one of the first principles taught us when God begins with us, that we have neither will nor power but that He gives both. He is "Alpha and Omega" in the salvation of men. We will prove our statements by God's Holy Word:

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death

by sin, and so death passed upon all men for that all have sinned." —Romans 5:12.

Man by his fall into a state of sin, hath wholly lost all ability of will to any spiritual good accom-



ELD. JOHN L. STEPP

panying salvation, so as the natural man being altogether far from good and dead in sins, is not able by his own strength to convert himself nor to prepare himself thereunto.

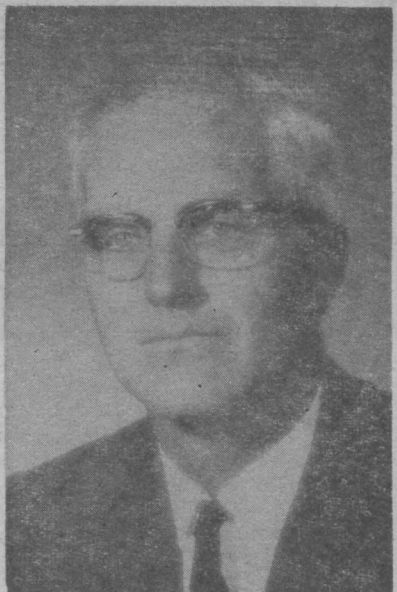
We read: "The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God;" (Continued on page 7, column 4)

## Baptism Is Most Important, Though No Part Of Salvation

WELLIE MIDGLEY  
Truman, Minnesota

Acts 2:38

This famous and well-known passage of Scripture has been



ELD. WELLIE MIDGLEY

variously mistreated by those who teach something other than New Testament salvation. You

may be aware of the fact that Roman Catholics, all Protestants and the Campbellites clearly teach baptismal regeneration. This term is simply defined by saying that salvation is accomplished by water. You will quickly identify the Romanists and the Protestants, but who are the Campbellites? They are the followers of Alexander Campbell. Whether he read Pedo-baptist literature, or where he got his information we do not now bother to inquire, but he taught that salvation could be accomplished through water baptism. His descendants are now in at least three bodies: The Disciples of Christ; The Christian Church; and The Church of Christ. The only difference between the Campbellites and the other two groups (Romanists and Protestants) is in the amount of water used.

I am going to outline our message today by a series of propositions that begin with the word "If." If baptism is essential to salvation, then the Bible contradicts itself. If baptism is essential to salvation, then Jesus, Peter, Paul and others did not know their own mind, and we are left in the very confusing situation that exists among the various brands of baptismal re-

(Continued on page 7, column 1)

### WHAT THE BLOOD OF JESUS MEANS

The life of the flesh is in the blood (Lev. 17:11). The value of the "blood" gives us the measures of the value of "life."

The shedding of blood means the giving of life. This lies at the foundation of human redemption and salvation. Christ shed His Blood and gave His life.

The Divine way of settling the sin question is by substitution — the innocent one dying for the guilty and shedding its blood. The shed blood speaks of the Divine sentence executed, the righteousness and justice of God vindicated.

"Christ died for the ungodly" and bare the judgment of God against sin. He shed His Blood, in (Continued on page 8, column 2)



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JOHN R. GILPIN Editor

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## NOW LOCATED IN ARKANSAS



ELD. HOWARD SHEPPARD

Elder Howard Sheppard, whom we consider a very dear man in the Lord, has moved from Florida to Arkansas to pastor the Fellowship Baptist Church of Taylor, Arkansas.

Brother Sheppard has attended our Conference for the past two years and has been a liberal supporter of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. I need not tell you that I think very highly of him, and that I thank God for him.

I would urge all who live within going distance to visit the church of which Brother Sheppard is now pastor. I know you will be blessed by doing so.

## The Church . . . World

(Continued from page one)  
ages. We know that He had authority to do it . . . that is, to organize it, because He was the Son of God. He took the people that John the Baptist had already preached to, that were saved, and baptized to start His church. He took this group of people and organized them into the First Baptist Church of Jerusalem.

Now, it is not a universal church, that is, it is not all the saved people put together from all over the world. It is the people

concerning whom the Lord Jesus said: "Upon this rock I'll build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

He promises that it will last. In other words, the gates of hell may try to prevail against it, but they shall not overcome it. We know there have been many times that Satan has tried to overthrow the church. Many people have tried to destroy the Word of God. They tried to destroy the church in the Dark Ages, but we find that the Lord Jesus Christ looks after his own.

We notice here that Jesus put the emphasis on "my church." There were several organizations during that time that were no doubt religious, but He says, "Upon this rock I'll build my church," and this is His true church.

All saved people are not in the church. Some will be guests in Heaven. Some people call themselves churches that have not been Scripturally organized, yet are not churches at all, but they are made-made institutions. They are institutions set up by Satan to copy or counterfeit the church that Jesus, built.

As you know, my subject this afternoon is, "The Church and its Relation to the World." I don't know anything I'd rather hear preached on, unless it might be the sovereignty of God. I love to hear these men praise God, and preach on the church that Jesus built.

We find by the study of God's word, that the church is not universal, and everything that calls itself a church is not a church. There are many so-called Baptist Churches throughout the world and especially where I live and, no doubt where you live, that call themselves Missionary Baptists that are not Missionary Baptists at all. They do not support missions; therefore, they are Hardshells in that sense. They are too tight, and too lazy to do a missionary work to start with, and then they have the nerve to hang out a sign that says: "Missionary Baptist Church." I believe that when a church quits supporting missions, and quits carrying out the great commission, it ceases to be a Missionary Baptist Church, or else it is in bad shape and out of order. I thank God for our church, which is a Missionary Baptist Church, that does support missions and carries out the great commission as best as we know how.

Jesus left the Missionary Baptist Church here and gave it the commission to "go into all the world and preach the gospel." So it's not a universal church and these institutions that have been set up without authority, are not New Testament churches but just other organizations, no better than a lodge as far as I am concerned. We know that God is not honored in them, and we as Baptists should not affiliate nor have any relationship with them whatsoever. We should separate ourselves from these heretics.

I don't even associate or fellowship with unsound Baptists, much less the Protestant movement. I thank God that He has showed us the truth and left us a way that we might know the true church . . . that we might know and hear and listen to the doctrines they preach and stand for. We can know the right church that Jesus left here because it preaches the Bible in its fullest; that is, the whole counsel. I believe that the Catholic church and all her protestant daughters are the gates of hell. There was a man that lived in Bristol in the early 1900's who wrote a book about the gates of

## This Week's Chuckle



hell. I never really understood what this verse of Matthew 16:18 meant, in relation to the gates of hell, until I read this book.

If you would stop to consider, and study the Word of God, you would see that the denominations that exist in our world today that have come out of Rome, are or could be, the gates of hell. Why? Because they believe that baptism has something to do with salvation. If you deceive a man into thinking that he is saved by being baptized, or any other type of works such as a mourner's bench, or by decisionism, then that is the gates of hell. Some have altar calls that all the Christians might come and pray around the altar so that someone might be saved. Some believe that you must be baptized in order to be saved. Some believe that you must be sprinkled in order to be saved. Some believe that you must do good works to inherit the kingdom of heaven. These are the gates of hell.

They are deceiving organizations. They teach the wrong way to salvation. We, as sound Baptists, should separate ourselves from these people. We should preach and teach against such. We are living in a day where if you say something against the Methodists or the Presbyterians, they will quickly jump down your neck and say, "I wouldn't talk about other churches." I don't talk about other churches. I talk about these false or erroneous denominations that call themselves churches.

In many ways we should be a separated people. We should separate ourselves from the world. I don't believe that the Catholic organization and her Protestant daughters are to be recognized as a church much less a New Testament church. We should separate ourselves from these — not unionize with them. It is the trend today, on Easter, that the Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, and the Lutherans come together and meet at some graveyard up on a hill, and have a sunrise service, or an Easter union service. This is not pleasing to God. He says for us not to be unequally yoked together with unbelievers.

They do not believe the Word of God in its fullness. They would rather accept tradition. They destroy many parts of the Word of God; therefore, we should separate ourselves from all these union services.

The Bible says, in Ephesians 5:25, that Jesus loved the church and gave himself for it. I believe the Bible teaches that a church is a baptized body of believers that have been set aside to do a specific work for the Lord Jesus Christ — That is to preach, teach, baptize, and carry out the great commission. Jesus gave himself for the church and all that would ever believe and be saved — those that are being saved and those that will be saved. I believe that this is the greatest organization in the world.

The greatest opportunity that we, as Christians, have, is to be a member of a Missionary Baptist Church, and the greatest opportunity that a preacher can have is to be a pastor of a New Testament Missionary Baptist Church. I think it is even greater than the office of the Presidency. I would rather be a member or pastor of a New Testament church than any other organization in this world.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

APRIL 1, 1967

PAGE TWO

Let us be a separate people. The Bible says, "Be ye separate saith the Lord."

Ephesians 3:21 tells us that Christ receives His glory through the church. We should not preach anywhere unless we have been sent or commissioned by a New Testament church. In other words I don't believe in free lance operations. I don't believe that a pastor has authority to baptize anybody as Mister Luce did when he baptized Alexander Campbell without church authority. I believe that under the authority of the church, we can baptize them.

Jesus receives His glory through the church. The Bible tells us in Titus 2:14 that we are to be a peculiar people. You know there are many people that claim to be Christians that are very peculiar, but not in the sense that Christ would have them to be. We are different from those that are not saved. We love the Lord. We love the church, and we obey the Word.

I work on a construction job as a welder by trade. I come upon all classes of people of different denominations, and so-called Baptists, that believe different things — that are always ready to give you an argument when you mention the Word of God in any form. There are many of them that claim to be saved and many of them have a great testimony, but I find very few who would be pleasing to God. They cuss, lie, cheat, steal, are very filthy in their conversation, and this is not pleasing to God. In fact, they wouldn't even do this around their homes. We find that we are to be a separate and a peculiar people. I think most of you are grounded in the doctrines of grace and the truth about the New Testament church. I wonder how you believe and preach at the church where you pastor or attend. I wonder how you conduct yourself at home and when you are around other people away from home. I believe we are to be a separate people.

I don't believe in going to movies. I have never been to one since I have been saved, and I don't allow my children to go there. I personally think it is a waste of time and money. If you have money to put there, put it in the church of the living God. Put it where it can do some good. Did you ever think how much time of the Lord's you can lose while watching a two hour movie? I heard, or read of one preacher, who was invited to visit a friend, and when he got there, the friend was not at home. The preacher said, "I have wasted so much of the Lord's time."

How much time do you waste of the Lord's when you go to movies? How much of His money do you spend? And while you are there, you are watching these ungodly movie stars who do not care to shed a wife or a husband as I would my clothes. Many have several wives and husbands, and they are ungodly in their daily lives. God is not pleased in you as a Christian person watching these people put on an act.

The Bible says in II Corinthians

6:14: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers."

How many people that are believers in Christ, that are dedicated to the church, would caught in a movie? I hope there would not be many. They are unequally yoked there. They are not a separate person. They sister quit a church once because she caught her pastor going to a movie house. Did you know every time you go to the worldly places that you are being watched by sinners? Did you know that every time you go out of line, there is someone watching your life? They are ready to accuse the brethren. They are watching every step you make when you go to the picture show. You are a stumbling block in front of God's people in front of sinners, rather, are not pleasing to God.

Well, you may say I'm a fanatic, but I've got some convictions and I think they are right. You've got some time, study the Word of God. Do something for God. Visit the sick! Pray! Don't pray like we ought to. Brother Gene Hensley preaches eight times a week, and know how he does it and — but that is what we ought to — preach the Word of God. We've got a door open and we and pray and do everything we can for the glory of God. We ought to do everything we can for the glory of God. Bible says, in Matthew 5:16, your light so shine before men that they may see your works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Why don't have a light if you hide it in ungodly places. Light doesn't mean much. I can hardly see the flame. I rate yourselves from the world. You know the church is to separate.

We are not to celebrate Christmas either. Fifty per cent of so-called Christians believe in Christmas, Santa Claus, and have you. Have you ever stopped to consider that this was pleasing to God? Did you know that when the wise men they gave gifts to Christ, one another? You waste money you use on presents people don't need. You buy a shirt, and it's usually too small, too little, or too loud, can't use it anyway. The money is wasted when you lay it all away. You could take this money and give it to a New Testament church somewhere, so that the Lord Christ might be glorified in our church. We don't have a tree in our home, and we don't believe in Santa Claus. I lost a dear boy in 1955. He was nearly eight years old. I did tell him there was a Santa Claus. My baby, now, will know there is a Santa Claus. I'm telling her. You work twelve months out of the year and then you buy those \$25 worth of toys and Santa Claus brought it to you. Santa Claus gets all the money. (Continued on page 3, column 1)

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# Fred And Karen Roberts De-Planeing At Mt. Hagen, New Guinea



This picture was made of Brother and Sister Roberts as they were leaving the plane upon their arrival at Mount Hagen.

ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"

We are supposed to be a separated people, and look, and act like a Christian. Christlike! How Christlike are you? We ought to check into these things. Baptists do not believe in Easter, Christmas and all of these things.

Baptists shouldn't be found in these lodges of today. They are commanded not to be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. Every lodge has unsaved people, and you are unequally yoked with them. One of several binding laws of the Masonic lodge for the second degree or fellow-craft obligation, which binding myself, has the following penalty: "Binding myself under no less a penalty than that of having my left breast torn open, my heart plucked out and given as a prey to the wild beasts of the field and the fowls of the air . . ."

Would a person take an oath like this to become a member of a Baptist church? They would not. Then some men love the lodge better than the church.

May God help us in all things to be separated from the world.



## "Messianic Return"

(Continued from page one)  
an awfully long leap in the dark, toward Christian Science.

Then I know a number of brethren who are called A-Millennialists — this is, they don't believe in either Premillennialism or Post-Millennialism. They don't even know whether there is going to be a millennium or not. I think just now of a fellow that talks like that. In the light of Revelation 20, that fellow needs to have his head examined. That is what I tell every A-Millennialist that I meet, that he needs to have his head examined — that he needs to have a good psychiatrist look him over, when he says he is not certain there is going to be a millennium.

Then there is a fourth group, the Pro-Millennialist, who does not want to take a stand any place. He says, "I am a Pro-Millennialist. I am for it when it gets here."

Now that is a good way to compromise, and not take a stand on any position. I would say, that in a sense, we are all Pro-Millennialists, because every one of us is for it when it gets here. But I would like to say also, beloved, that I am a Premillennialist, all the way from the top of my head to the sole of my feet, and I have no apology to make for it. I believe the doctrine of Premillennialism runs through the Word of God, and it is to be found from the first part of Genesis to the last part of the book of the Revelation.

With that in mind, let me ask some questions and give you God's answers. The Bible says we have a sure word of prophecy, and I want to give you something that is sure — that you can hold on to.

I

WERE THERE TWO COMINGS OF CHRIST PROPHESED IN THE BIBLE?

We read:  
"So Christ was ONCE OFFERED to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he APPEAR THE SECOND TIME without sin unto salvation."  
—Heb. 9:28.

I would say, beloved, that the two comings of Christ prophesied in the Scriptures are both mentioned in this one verse — "Christ (Continued on page 4, column 4)



This picture is of Brother and Sister Roberts just after they had come off the plane and were about to enter the airport building.

## The Church . . . World

(Continued from page two)  
or your hard work. Some old man gets all the credit! It's a foolish thing. Santa Claus! Christmas! Did you ever read the tenth chapter of Jeremiah? You read it, and tell me what it means. Then tell me that you're a God-fearing Christian. You know, Christmas wasn't celebrated in churches until 300 years after Christ left this earth. Any good encyclopedia will tell you that Christmas wasn't observed in churches until 300 years after Christ. The Sunday before Christmas, I preach my Christmas message only I take an hour to do it. I do not observe Easter at all.

We preach a sermon against Easter.

I believe in preaching the resurrection of Christ several times a year instead of once a year, and I don't believe that Easter is a Bible term, anyway. It's mentioned only once in the Bible in Acts 12:4, and in the original Greek, it meant "passover." Tell me what Easter has to do with Christ anyway. The rabbits and eggs don't have anything to do with the resurrection.

If we would only stop and think, we would be a separated people and not keep Christmas and Easter! The average church is getting so worldly, and the world so churchy, that you can't tell the difference!

II Corinthians 6:14 says: "Be

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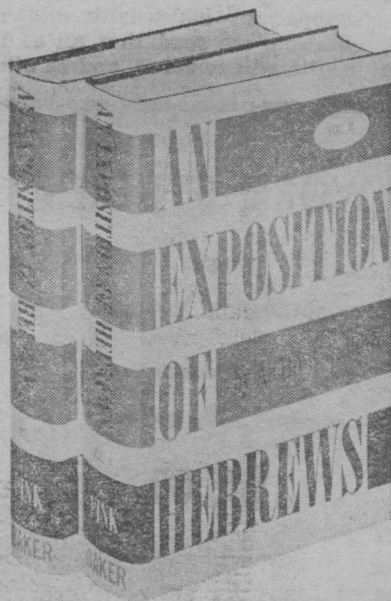
THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

APRIL 1, 1967

PAGE THREE



This picture is of the Roberts' the first Sunday they were on the Mission. They are seen here with some of their new found friends. In the background can be seen our house. It does not take much searching in all three of these pictures to note one thing outstanding in them all, i.e., the happy smiles upon the faces of them both. These smiles and the happiness and contentment that they suggest can be seen each day on these two. They are happy in their new location and deserve your prayerful support.—Fred T. Halliman.



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## The Baptist Examiner FORUM

Please explain Psalm 37:25 in view of the fact that Lazarus (Luke 16:19) was a beggar. Is this Lazarus a brother to Martha?

ROY  
MASON

Radio Minister  
Baptist  
Preacher  
Aripeka, Florida



The difficulty here probably comes from the questioner considering Ps. 37:25 in the light of a PROMISE from God. It is not a promise from God that the "seed of the righteous" shall never beg, rather it is an observation on the part of David that HE HAD NEVER SEEN SUCH. Besides, in the case of Lazarus of Luke 16:19, it is quite possible that his parents were not righteous people, therefore he might not have qualified as "the seed of the righteous." In Ps. 37 the righteous and the wicked are being contrasted, and the great truth that is being presented is that God watches over his own—that he does not forsake his people.

I am quite sure that the Lazarus of Luke 16 was NOT the same as the brother of Mary and Martha. The name was a common name, and there were doubtless many called by that name. The Lazarus who was the brother of Mary and Martha seems to have had plenty. The language would lead us to believe that he had his own tomb, and that was not true of beggars.

JAMES  
HOBBS

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RADIO SPEAKER  
and MISSIONARY  
Kings Addition  
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South Shore, Ky.



First let me direct your attention to Verse 16. "A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked." You will see that the righteous does not consider material things of importance. Verse 19 tells us that even in time of famine the righteous shall be satisfied. All the way through I get the impression that there is a deeper spiritual meaning than physical bread. Regardless of our lot or condition we will be filled with the bread of life.

Let me remind you that David, who wrote this Psalm under the

leadership of the Holy Spirit, begged bread from Ahimelech when he was running from Saul (I Sam. 21:1-6). This was done while he "... behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the Lord was with him." (I Sam. 18:14)

The verse in Psalm 37:24 is talking about a righteous man falling. "Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand." This certainly doesn't mean that while we are walking along the road if we slip and fall we can expect the Lord to catch us and keep us from falling.

I take verse 25 to mean that whatever happens in this life the Lord is with us and comforts and feeds us with the bread — Jesus Christ. We do not need to beg for bread — He gives all that is needed.

As to the question about Lazarus — I find no indication that the Lazarus of Luke 16 is the same as the Lazarus who was a brother of Mary and Martha.

AUSTIN  
FIELDS

610 High Street  
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In Ps. 37:25 David is speaking of his own experiences, though there might have been instances of some who received their bread by begging as was the case of Lazarus, yet David had never observed any such cases during his lifetime. Though David's words are oftentimes contradicted by other men's experiences, it is no more than what happens in all the cares and concerns of the natural life.

It cannot be denied, that many of God's children have sometimes been reduced to a season of great want. Many have been like Job, stripped of everything. Some like the favorite son of Jacob (Joseph) have been placed in prisons. Others like Elijah and Lazarus brought to the place of asking for a morsel of bread. Though afflictions and poverty were the lot of many of God's saints, yet they were never forsaken, or utterly cast down, for the Lord upheld them with His hand.

In the case of Job who was stripped of his wealth and his children, we read that all of his wealth was restored, and 12 other

children were born to him. Joseph whose life was stained by a prison term was later lifted to be Prime Minister of the land of Egypt. Lazarus who was brought to the place of beggary, we find later housed in Abraham's bosom and was comforted.

Thus we can say that God never forsakes His children, even though they are brought low in this life they eventually will be raised to a place of honor by Him who is their Shepherd. A man may fail as far as worldly goods are concerned, but thanks be unto our God, he will not be utterly cast down, for he is still upheld by the mighty arm of Him who is the sovereign over all flesh.

"As thou hast given Him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given Him."—John 17:2.

From this verse we can gather that our Lord has the power to dress His children in riches or in rags. Therefore if we are in riches or in rags, we must be content, that it is in accord with the will of Him who has power over all flesh. Lazarus, whose condition was a condition of want, was such, in order to fulfill the will of God. God used this man to manifest to us all, that our afflictions, which are but for a moment, "worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."—II Cor. 4:17. See Rom. 8:18.

This Lazarus is not the same one who was a brother of Mary and Martha. The brother of Mary and Martha belonged to a richer class of people than the one in Luke 16. The rich man in Hell requested that Lazarus the beggar be sent back to preach to his five brethren, which request was denied, on the basis that if they would not hear Moses and the prophets neither would they hear one though he rose from the dead.

Also the Lord raised another Lazarus, thus giving proof that man will not listen or heed one though he rose from the dead. The Jews at the resurrection of Lazarus became busy trying to put to death all those who followed him. The Lord proved without a shadow of doubt, that miracles and spectacular events, are of no avail unless they are preceded by the quickening power of the Holy Spirit. Men are so depraved that even a resurrection from the dead will not cause them to look to Jesus who is the Lord of all miracles.

E. G.  
COOK

701 Cambridge  
Birmingham, Ala.  
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In this Scripture before us David is setting forth the fact that we see in Heb. 13:5. We are to be content with what we have because our Lord says, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." And in Phil. 4:19 we read "My God shall supply all your need." There is quite a difference between our desires and our need.

I readily admit that the question before us presents a real problem. In fact, it presents a seeming contradiction. But we know that contradictions are foreign to God's precious Word. So, with a prayer on our lips that we may not be permitted to cause any of our Lord's saints to err, and that He will guide our thinking that it may be to His glory we humbly present our views.

In Luke 16:20 this Lazarus is called a beggar. But let us not jump to conclusions. The word "beggar," like so many other words, has more than one meaning. In Luke 16:3 the steward

who has been deprived of his stewardship says, "to beg I am ashamed." Here this word "beg" is from a form of the Greek word AITEO which simply means to ask for, or to plead for something. Then in Mk. 10:46 and Lk. 18:35 we see the blind man begging. This word is from PROSAITEO which means to ask earnestly. These two Greek words give us the definition of begging that we are more familiar with. In fact, very few people know that it has any other meaning. But the word "beggar" here in Lk. 16:20, 22 comes from PTOCHOS which is an adjective which describes one who crouches or one who is covered down in the presence of another. It is true that this one who was covered down by his being in the presence of the rich man desired to be fed some of the rich food from the rich man's table. But we have no reason to say this Lazarus did not have the food God had promised him. Still this old fleshly nature of ours craves some of the delicacies from the rich man's table. I do not believe Lazarus was pleading for food to keep him from starving to death.

If there were a thousand men named Lazarus I would say that this Lazarus stands one chance in a thousand of being the brother of Martha and Mary. I see nothing to indicate that he was or that he was not their brother.

### "Messianic Return"

(Continued from page three) was once offered to bear the sins of many," as a first coming, and "unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation," as the second coming. I say, beloved, there are two comings prophesied in this same verse of Scripture.

I believe that Jesus Christ came to this world. I go back and read the story of the wise men following the star all the way to Bethlehem. I read how the angels came down and sang on the night of His birth. I read how the shepherds bowed down to worship Him. As I look at all this, I say that is the first coming of Jesus Christ.

Then I look out yonder to the future, and I don't know when it is going to take place, except that prophecy is a sure thing, but I know He is coming back a second time. Both advents are prophesied in the same Scripture.

II

### DOES THE OLD TESTAMENT PREDICT TWO ADVENTS?

A man asked me this question just a few days ago. He said, "I want to know definitely, does the Old Testament predict two advents?"

Let me say this before I read to you from the Word of God; I am convinced that the Old Testament predicts the second coming. Out of all the prophecies of the Old Testament that relate to the Lord Jesus Christ, about one-third of them have to do with the first coming of Christ, and

about two-thirds have to do with the second advent of Christ. I will give you two Scriptures that show you that the Old Testament prophesied the two Messianic advents. The first advent is prophesied when we read:

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel."—Isa. 7:14.

Then we have the prophecy of the second advent. Listen:

"Thus saith the Lord; I am turned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the Lord of hosts, the holy mountain."—Zech. 8:3.

I say, beloved, Isaiah 7:14 which prophesies the first advent has been fulfilled, but Zechariah 8:3, which prophesies the second advent, has not been fulfilled.



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Isaiah 7:14 was fulfilled the first time that Jesus Christ was born a virgin conceived, and bore a son, and when He was born, He was called Emmanuel. But that second advent hasn't taken place yet. Jerusalem is not called a city of truth today, and neither is the mountain on which Jerusalem is built, called a mountain today. Some day it will take place. You can be sure of one thing, just as a virgin conceived and bore a son, one day Jerusalem is going to be called the city of truth, and on that mountain upon which Jerusalem is built, is going to be called a holy mountain in that day.

III

### DID JESUS HIMSELF PREDICT HIS RETURN?

Yes, Jesus surely promised to return, for He said to His disciples:

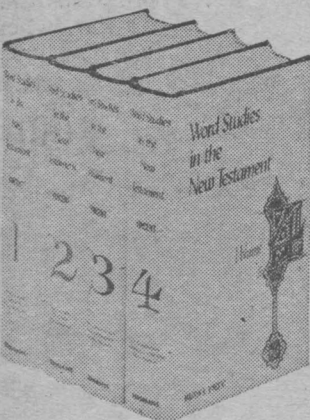
"Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have said this to you." (Continued on page 5, column 1)

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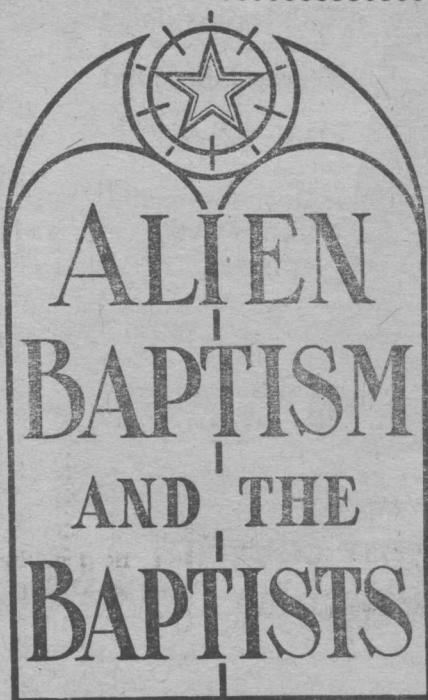
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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

APRIL 1, 1967

PAGE FOUR





# Why I Want To Attend Your 1967 Bible Conference

(LABOR DAY WEEKEND)  
SEPTEMBER 1-2-3-4)



WILLIAM J. CRIDER

Tabernacle Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Just a line to say "Hello" and to tell you why I want to attend the Bible Conference of the Calvary Baptist Church. First, because I am always in need of the spiritual food which I get there. Then, the fellowship with

God's people is always a great blessing. To meet old friends is like Psalm 133.

Then, to meet and make new friends is always to be desired. The preaching of the Word is the need of the age.

## "Messianic Return"

(Continued from page four)  
I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I WILL COME AGAIN, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also."—John 14:1-3.

Those disciples were troubled and heartbroken. You have had that experience in life when you were troubled, and burdened, and you didn't know which way to turn. You have had the experience in life when your heart was torn with pain, and you wondered just what you ought to do. That was the experience of the disciples. Oh, how troubled and grieved they were, and how their hearts ached that night when Jesus Christ delivered the message of this 14th chapter of John. They knew of His going away. They knew He was soon to leave them. They knew right then that He was within the shadow of Calvary. They knew that their Master was going to be taken from them, and they were grieved. Their hearts were broken. Their hearts ached as they contemplated His going away, and Jesus comforted them with the promise of His second coming.

I tell you, beloved, the greatest promise for a heart that is grieving and broken, and troubled is the promise of the second coming of Jesus Christ, since the word of God said, "If I go, I will come again." Thank God, He is coming back!

## IV DID THE APOSTLES EXPECT CHRIST TO RETURN?

The apostles expected Christ to come back again, for we read: "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation."—II

Pet. 3: 3, 4.

Notice, Simon Peter said, "You can be certain that we have a promise of His coming. We believe He is coming, but there are going to be a lot of scoffers in this world. There are going to be a lot of worldly Baptists that are not going to be looking for His return."

Beloved, there are plenty like that today. They are going to be scoffing and saying, "Why didn't He come? He said He was coming. We have waited 2,000 years and He has not come yet. We doubt if He is ever coming." Simon Peter said, "You just remember this, while there are going to be scoffers and mockers, and while there are going to be worldly Baptists that are not going to believe the truth — just remember that we have a promise of His coming, and He is coming back someday."

Listen again:

"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."—I Thess. 4:16, 17.

Did the apostles expect Christ to return? Certainly, Paul did, for he said, "He is coming back, and the dead in Christ are going to rise first, and then those of us who are alive are going to be caught up to be forever with the Lord in the air." Yes, beloved, the apostles expected Christ to return.

Notice again:

"So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he APPEAR THE SECOND TIME without sin unto salvation."—Heb. 9:28.

"For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also WE LOOK FOR THE SAVIOUR, the Lord Jesus Christ; Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his

glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself."—Phil. 3:20, 21.

Yes, we have a pretty vile body. We go to the drug store and bring back a few things that maybe, look good, and smell good, yet in spite of these, it is still a vile body. Some of these days, it is going to be changed, for Paul says we are looking for the Saviour. We are looking toward Heaven. We are looking for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, and He is going to change this vile body, and fashion it, like unto the body of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I ask the question, did the apostles expect Christ to return? They certainly did. I have read the words of the Apostle Paul as he wrote the book of Hebrews, and as he wrote to the church of Philippi, and as he wrote to the church of Thessalonica. I have read to you the words of the Apostle Peter. Furthermore, I could likewise read you a dozen or more Scriptures, to show you, that the apostles believed in the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

V

## DO THE JEWS BELIEVE IN THE COMING OF THE MESSIAH?

Do you know what an Orthodox Jew does every morning before he does anything else? Before he starts his day, or anything else, he repeats a simple sentence. Listen:

"I believe with a firm faith in the coming of the Messiah, and although He tarry, yet will I wait for Him to come."

You say, "How does a Jew believe in the second coming, when he doesn't even believe in the first coming?" One day I was talking to a Jewish merchant, and I referred to the second coming of Christ. He said, "I believe that. What you call the second coming, is what I am looking for, by way of the first coming." He said, "You think He came 2,000 years ago, but I know He is coming some of these days."

Yes, beloved, the Jew believes in the second coming of the Messiah, for we read:

"For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie; though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry."—Hab. 2:3.

This was what God said to the Jew in the Old Testament. He said, "Though He tarry, wait for Him, because He will surely come." Yes, the Jew is expecting the coming of the Messiah.

VI

## HOW WILL HE COME?

How did God manifest Himself in the Old Testament? When God wanted to manifest Himself, how did He do it? Beloved, you will rarely find God manifesting Himself, in any way, except upon the clouds. Listen:

"And the Lord DESCENDED IN THE CLOUD, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord."—Ex. 34:5.

"The burden of Egypt. Behold, the Lord RIDETH UPON A SWIFT CLOUD, and shall come into Egypt; and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it."—Isa. 19:1.

In the Old Testament whenever we have any record of any manifestation of God, it is God appearing in, or on, the clouds. I ask the question, how will He come? Beloved, He will come again to this world just exactly the way that God appears in the Old Testament — He will come in the clouds of Glory.

Notice again:

"Behold, HE COMETH WITH CLOUDS; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him; and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen."—Rev. 1:7.

"Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth; behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."—Mt. 24:26, 27.

Some may say, "If He comes, He is coming out in the desert. Go out there, and you will find Him." Another may say, "He has already come and is keeping Himself in a secret chamber. If you can be in there, you will find Him." No, beloved, the Word of God says that just like the light shineth out of the east unto the west, in such a manner the Lord Jesus Christ is going to come in the sky.

Every once in a while when I have an opportunity to be outdoors, I look up to see a big fleecy cloud floating overhead, and when I do, I say to myself, "My Jesus may be on that one." Many a time I have said that to myself, but that cloud has passed by, and I realized that He wasn't on that one. Yet some of these days, there is going to be a cloud in the air that Jesus Christ is going to be on. How will He come? I say, beloved, He will come in the clouds.

Sometime ago I was flying from Huntington, W. Va., to Louisville, Ky. It was an exceedingly cloudy day. On the earth, looking up, you were looking constantly at dark clouds, but when I got up in the air, the pilot got above the clouds, and we were flying over the top of them. Looking down, they appeared like snow banks. It looked like you could step out of the plane right on to a snow bank — just mountains, and hills of snow. As I sat there in the plane traveling, I remembered this text of Scripture that He is coming in the clouds. Some of these days when the clouds are mighty dark to us — some of these days when the clouds will become exceedingly dark in this world, we will find that there is a bright side, a light side, to that cloud, with the Lord Jesus Christ coming on it.

VII

## WHEN WILL HE COME?

I can't tell you when He is going to come, for He is going to come unexpectedly. We read:

"Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour AS YE THINK NOT the Son of man cometh."—Mt. 24:44.

I ask you, do you think He is coming before I finish this sermon? "No." Then watch out; He might do so, because this text says, "In such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

Notice again:

"Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments lest he walk naked, and they see his shame."—Rev. 16:15.

Does a thief tell you when He is coming to your house? If he did, would he be a thief? If he were to send you word, and say he was coming to steal what you had, he would never become a thief, because you would be there watching for him. You would

prevent him from doing so. A thief comes unexpectedly. Jesus said, "I come as a thief in the night."

Listen again:

"For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh AS A THIEF in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."—I Thess. 5:2,3.

Mark it down, beloved, His coming is going to be unexpectedly. I can't tell you when Jesus is coming. Nobody knows when He is coming. But I know one thing — it is going to be at an unexpected time.

Listen to another Scripture that shows us the same truth:

"But of that day and that hour KNOWETH NO MAN, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father."—Mark 14:32.

Nobody knows when He is coming. Lots of brethren have set a time for Him to come, but they have only been proven foolish because He didn't come. I remember several years at Louisa, Kentucky, there was a union evangelist who held a revival meeting. While the revival was going on, He overdid himself, and promised that the Lord Jesus Christ was coming back at 6:00 o'clock on Tuesday morning. Everybody in town and roundabout, was scared that the Son of God was going to come. At 6:00 o'clock Tuesday morning, everybody was up. The folk that hadn't gotten up before 10:00 every morning prior to that time were all up at 6:00 that morning to see the Lord Jesus Christ come. But He didn't come. Well, the preacher was in a jam, so he announced that since Christ didn't come that morning, he would have to take the matter to God in prayer, and see wherein He had failed, or wherein He had erred in understanding. He came back immediately, and said it would be Thursday morning. There was such a similarity in the "T" of Tuesday and the "T" of Thursday that he had misinterpreted. It would be Thursday morning at 6:00 so he said. Everybody was sorta let down that the Lord Jesus Christ didn't get there Tuesday morning, but they were anxious to know about His coming on Thursday morning. Most everybody was ready when Thursday morning came, but there were some devils — some young sons of Satan, who decided that the Lord wasn't coming, and that they were going to have some fun at the same time. So they got two big blacksmith anvils, and went up on the hill where the old Civil War fort used to be, and they filled those anvils with powder and shot them off on Thursday morning at 6:00. Well, beloved, those few that weren't awake, soon awakened that morning at 6:00. Well, that broke up the revival, and the preacher didn't even preach on Thursday night. He had to leave town in disgrace. He set a time for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, and was proven a liar, whereas

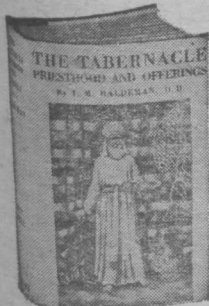
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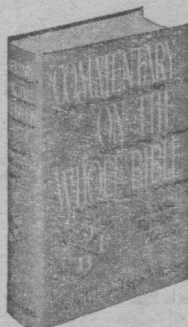
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PAGE FIVE



## "Messianic Return"

(Continued from page five)  
the Bible says that nobody knows when He is coming.

Back about 1830, the Millerites over in the New England states set a time for the return of Christ. They set a day when He was going to come back. Everybody in the country thought surely the Lord Jesus Christ was coming. On that day, they got up on high mountains so they would be the first to see Him. Some of them said, "If He is coming, I'll take a basket, for I get scared when I get up in the air," and you could see people all over the mountain-side sitting in a basket waiting for the Lord to come, pick them up, and carry them home to Heaven in a basket. Now, the Lord didn't come, yet they sat there all day long waiting for the Lord to put in His appearance.

Beloved, that is foolish. I don't know when He is coming. Nobody knows when He is coming. But He is coming.

I remember when they first put those fog horns of the railroad yards at Russell, Kentucky, in operation. It so happened on the day that these fog horns were put in operation, that one of those nitwits out on the West Coast, had given a prophecy as to the return of Christ for that day. The paper had carried stories about it, that the Lord Jesus Christ was going to come back to this earth. There was quite a little bit of excitement concerning it, for the newspapers had told how the Lord was going to descend from Heaven, with a shout, and with the trump of God. This would-be prophet had said that He was going to come on that particular day. In the providence of God, the fog horns operated for the first time on the day that Christ was supposed to return. That morning a woman was out in the yard hanging out her clothes, and when she heard those fog horns, she threw the clothes basket down, and ran into the house, and called her son, and said, "Hurry on home, because I know it is true now — I have already heard the trumpet." But, beloved, she is still living, and that son is still living, and the Lord Jesus hasn't come yet.

I say, beloved, we don't know when He is coming. But there is one thing certain — we know He is coming, and we know it will be unexpectedly. Nobody will be expecting Him when He comes.

### VIII

#### WHERE WILL HE COME?

He is going to come in the skies first and catch us up with Him. Yet ultimately He is going to come back to this earth. Listen:

*We should pray always, but we must always watch—every thought, every word, every deed.*

"And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley: and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south."—Zech. 14: 4.

Ultimately, His feet are going to stand for the first time on Mount Olivet. I think there is a reason for that.

When Jesus was here in the days of His flesh, the last place that His feet touched was Mount Olivet. You remember that He went out to Mount Olivet, and was lifted up little by little, until He disappeared from their sight. That was the last place that the feet of the Son of God touched in this world, and the first place that His feet will touch when He comes back.

But Beloved, before He comes back to this earth, before He comes all the way back to this earth, we are going to meet Him in the air. Listen:

"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."—I Thess. 4: 17.

Someday He is going to come and His feet are going to step on Mount Olivet, but before He gets to this earth, He is going to meet the saints in the air.

A business man wrote to me sometime ago, a man whom I have never seen, and probably may never see in this world. He wrote a very kind, wonderful letter. He finished his letter by saying he hoped that we would someday have an opportunity to be together, but "If we don't, I'll meet you in the air."

Beloved, I am going to meet a lot of people in the air that I have never known in this world. I think about the people that we have done business with — that we have been buying from in the printing shop for many years, people that I have never met. Then I think of the thousands with whom I have corresponded — who say TBE is a blessing to them. Someday I am going to meet them all if they are saved. Everyone that is saved, I am going to meet in the air. Then afterwards, the Lord Jesus Christ is coming to the earth, and His feet are going to stand on Mount Olivet — the first place that His feet are going to touch when He returns to this world.

### IX

#### WHY IS HE GOING TO RETURN?

He is going to return to estab-

lish His kingdom. Listen:

"And the Lord shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord, and his name one."—Zech. 14: 9.

There are some preliminary things that He is going to do before He sets up His kingdom. Our Lord has some elect in this world. He is going to gather His elect unto Himself. That is what He is doing now. He is gathering those elect out of the world. God isn't trying to save this world. Don't you let any heretical preacher tell you that God is trying to save the world. Beloved, God doesn't try to do anything: God just does it. God is a sovereign God — He does what He wants to do. He does as He pleases in every respect, and God isn't trying to save anybody. He is just saving those of His own elect. He is calling them out. Listen:

"Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, TO TAKE OUT OF THEM a people for his name."—Acts 15: 14.

What is He doing now? He is visiting among the Gentiles to take out a people for His name. God loves His elect. If you are a child of God — one of God's elect, mark it down, God loves you. Do you know how much He loves you? I'll tell you.

Long ago, the angels looked down on this earth and saw it, after God had sown His wheat. They observed how the Devil came, and sowed his tares, where God had sown His wheat. They observed those tares growing in the wheat field, with the wheat field over-sown by the tares. The angels said to the Lord Jesus, "How about us going down and gathering them up? Let us get them out of the way so the wheat won't have to grow with them."

What did Jesus say? Listen:

"Nay, lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn."—Mt. 13: 29, 30.

What did He mean? He loved the wheat so much He wouldn't take a chance on the destruction of one stalk, or one grain of wheat. He would rather allow the tares to grow until the harvest, when they would then be destroyed, and cast into the fires to be burned, than to allow one single grain of His precious wheat to be disturbed.

Don't tell me God doesn't love His elect? Don't tell me He doesn't love those that He chose out from the world and gave as a love gift to His Son? I tell you, beloved, He loves His elect so

much, that He wouldn't allow an angel of God to separate the tares from the wheat until the time of the harvest.

What is He doing? He is gathering out, right now, those that are His wheat, and some of these days He is coming back to gather unto Himself His elect, and He is going to return to set up His kingdom.

Beloved, it is going to be wonderful when the Lord establishes His kingdom. Would you believe He is going to reign someday? Would you believe that this old world someday is going to have the Lord, as King, to reign over it? Listen:

"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever."—Rev. 11: 15.

I have been wanting to buy a globe for the last twenty years. But do you know why I haven't bought one? I keep thinking that they will get the map all settled someday and I'll be able to buy a globe that will do me some good. But you know, they hardly get one place settled until trouble breaks out someplace else, and a globe that was of value yester-

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day is usually of little value to-day, and of no value tomorrow.

Think how many times the kingdoms of this world have changed hands in the last twenty years. Some kingdoms have changed hands perhaps a half dozen times. Yet some of these days, the kingdoms of this world are going to become the kingdom of our God and Christ, and He shall reign forever. There won't be any United States then. There won't be any Italy, Germany, or France then. The kingdoms of this world will be the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Yes, beloved, I ask the question, why will He return, and I say there is just one reason for His returning, and that is to set up His kingdom.

### X

#### WILL THE RETURN OF CHRIST BRING PEACE?

We haven't any peace today, nor has the world had any peace. H. B. Wells, an English historian, wrote years ago saying that in 6,000 years of earth's history there had been only 226 years of peace. Imagine 226 years of peace out of 6,000 years of earth's history! We haven't any peace today.

When World War I came to an end, the League of Nations was begun. Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, inaugurated the League of Nations. Everybody said, "We fought a war to make the world safe for democracy," but the ink of the League of Nations was scarcely dry, until it was proved to be a League of Nations—mostly false notions at that.

World War II was fought, and the United Nations came into existence. When they met at San Francisco, without a single word of prayer being offered in the entire session (for fear that they

might in some way insult Russia), they started the United Nations. Who would expect any good to come of it when God was right out from the very beginning? What good has come from there? There hasn't been any peace growing out of it. We have more war in the world now than ever had. You know, in spite of the "Great Society," we still have war. Somehow the "Great Society" hasn't succeeded in putting an end to war.

How about peace movements when Christ comes back? Will the return of Christ bring peace? Beloved, the world has never known peace. The United Nations and the League of Nations have been able to bring peace. The world know peace when Jesus comes? Listen:

"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain for the earth shall be full of knowledge of the Lord, as waters cover the sea."—Isa. 11: 9.

Oh, look over that boundless deep, and see the ocean, as waves come in to shore. Look at it, and you can say, that somehow the earth is going to be just full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters that cover the

### XI

#### WILL THE WORLD HAVE ANY NOTICE OF HIS RETURN?

Sometimes when we are planning a big event we give advance notice so that they will be able to prepare, but this is not going to be any advance notice when Christ returns. Listen:

"But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away: so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."—Mt. 24: 37-41.

Beloved, it will be just like that when Jesus Christ comes again. Nobody is going to know when Jesus is going to come.

Brother, sister, listen, He is coming, and the only notice you get from His Word. The warning you will get is the warning you get from the pulpit, the light of the Word of God is coming, and there is not going to be any special notice.

### XII

#### WHEN JESUS COMES, IS HE GOING TO BE A JUDGE?

Is Christ going to judge the world when He comes? Is He going to straighten out all the cults of the world. Is He going to settle all the world's problems? Listen:

"Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all the ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of their hard speeches which they have spoken against him."—Jude 1: 14, 15.

The Word of God tells us we ought to live every day in the light of the judgment seat of Christ. We read:

"For we must all appear before the JUDGMENT SEAT of Christ: that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."—II Cor. 5: 10.

I say to you, we ought to live every day in the light of the judgment seat of Christ, for of these days He is coming. He is going to act as judge, everything is going to be right.

There are a lot of things that will have to be straightened out in this world. I think about my own life and some of the problems that I have had. I think about some of the problems that I still have. I think to God that I could adjust all today!

Wouldn't you like to straighten out, and solve, all your problems? Is there anyone that you are at? Is there anyone that you

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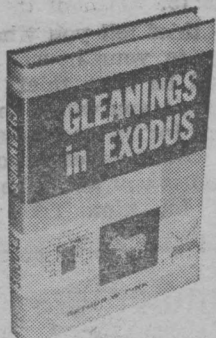
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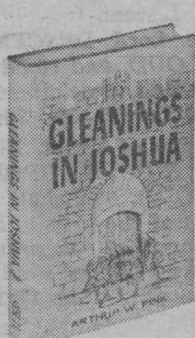
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PAGE SIX



## Why I Want To Attend Your 1967 Bible Conference

(LABOR DAY WEEKEND)  
SEPTEMBER 1-2-3-4)

ELD. HARRY BALMER

Valles Mines Baptist Church, DeSoto, Missouri

## ENGROSSING EXPERIENCES

ELD. JIM WILLINGHAM  
2734 13th Street  
Ashland, Kentucky  
God Answers Prayer

This writer believes that God answers prayer. One experience which I had (and I have had many) occurred in the fall of 1958. On Wednesday evening, the day before Thanksgiving, I got out of a car near Corning, Arkansas. It was about 8:00 o'clock and it was cold. I walked to the east side of town on the route leading toward Piggott, Arkansas. There wasn't much traffic on that route, and I knew I would probably have a long wait. So I began praying, and here is what I asked for (this is the prayer as I best recall it): "Dear Father please send me a ride within five minutes (It was cold). Give me a ride from Corning to Piggott, Arkansas, and then one from Piggott to Nimmons (This was where my Grandfather lived. I was going to visit him over the Thanksgiving weekend)." Getting a ride from Corning to Piggott might not be easy, but getting one from Piggott to Nimmons was as I well knew, exceedingly difficult. I knew it because I had played football during my first year at Piggott High School, and a number of times I walked almost all of the 14 or 15 miles home (My Grandfather kept my sister and me for 11 years).

Well, to make a long story short, God answered the prayer just exactly like I asked. A young married student from the University of Arkansas came by, and picked me up. He turned out to be a brother to one of my classmates from Piggott High, and although he did not know me, nor I him he still picked me up even though his car was loaded with clothes and suitcases. I had to sit with him and his wife in the front seat. When I arrived in Piggott, I got out of the car and walked two blocks, or so. A car load of young people circling the courthouse square saw the East Texas Baptist College sticker sign on my suitcase, and they stopped to offer me a ride. When I told them I was going out into the country for 14 or 15 miles and that much of the distance would be on gravel roads, they still insisted on taking me home. I didn't know them, and they didn't know me. Needless to say, they took me home, and by 9:15 just a little over an hour after I had prayed that prayer I was sitting in the living room of my dear grandparents, telling them of my marvelous experience of answered prayer.

YES, DEAR FRIENDS, GOD ANSWERS PRAYER. AND I AM SURE MANY OF YOU COULD TELL OF EVEN GREATER EXPERIENCES.

May I say just here, that prayer reveals our complete dependence upon a sovereign God who not only hears and answers prayer but who also decrees it along with the answers. Thank God for answered prayer. Thank God for predestinated prayer. Thank God, and glory to his name, just purely and simply for his marvelous self. Amen and Amen.

## "Messianic Return"

(Continued from page 6)  
feel right toward? Beloved, if I were you, I would try to settle that matter right here in this world. If you don't it is going to be settled at the judgment bar of God. It is going to be lot more embarrassing to have problems settled there, than to have them

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PAGE SEVEN

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settled here. He is going to act as judge when He comes, and it would be better to settle them now.

Mark it down, beloved, at the judgment bar of Jesus Christ, everything is going to be settled. You and I ought to live today, tomorrow, and every day as though we are standing before the judgment seat of Christ, because someday we are going to stand there, and every problem is going to be settled at that time.

Are you ready for His coming? If you are saved, thank God, you are ready. If you are not saved, you are not ready. May it please God tonight to call you out as one of His elect, and save you for Jesus' sake, and add you to His body.

May God bless you.

## Free-Will

(Continued from page one)  
for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."—I Cor. 2:14.

We cannot understand how anyone can take a plain common-sense view of this passage of Scripture and yet contend for the doctrine of human ability. Man in his natural state cannot even see the Kingdom of God, much less can he get into it.

"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then may ye also do good that are accustomed to do evil." — Jer. 13:23.

Now if the natural man cannot change his color, or the leopard change his spots, how can man by free-will change his nature from evil to good? There's only one way. God must do it!

"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God."—Rom. 8:7-8.

"The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked, who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9).

Listen to me, dearly beloved, a lot of "free-will" preachers are going to stand before God one day with the blood of thousands of people on their hands, since they preached that man can come through his own "free-will" anytime he chooses to be saved — that God has done all He can do, now it's up to man. Preach-

ers are putting God to the place where He's to be pitied. It's pot-luck with God. He only gets those who choose to come. My, my, what a little God a free-will Arminian is serving.

Now we have by the Word of God, proven to you that the natural man cannot enter into the Kingdom of God, because of his own depravity and inability. We could bring you many more Scriptures, but if you won't believe these, you wouldn't believe the many more.

Now let us return to our text. "Therefore I said unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father."

Now we find the plain and simple words of Jesus, "except it were given unto him of my Father."

Jesus answered and said unto him, (Nicodemus) "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God."

"Which were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God." (John 1:13)

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me, and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." (John 6:37)

Oh, thank God for His irresistible Grace—that He saw fit to elect and choose us before the foundation of the world.

"Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself according to the good pleasure of His will." (Eph. 1:5)

My, my, brethren, this doesn't sound like "free-willism." Listen: Free-will has carried many souls to Hell but never a soul to Heaven. Let us wake up; salvation is of the Lord.

In Eph. 2:4-6, "Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in Heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

He that is dead cannot restore his own life, no more than Lazarus could come forth from the grave. Man can only come forth when God quickens him. When Jesus cried with a loud voice "Lazarus come forth" he that was dead came forth. This wasn't the "free-will" of man, but the power of God.

God said "A new heart also will I give you, and a new Spirit will I put within you, and I will (Continued on page 8, column 3)

## Baptism

(Continued from page one)  
regenerationists. We are going to make a careful exegetical study of the passages frequently used by the baptismal regenerationists, whether they are Romanists, Protestants or Campbellites.

I  
If Christ meant baptism in His use of the word "water" in John 3:5, then he definitely contradicted Himself when He said, "That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:15. The same statement again in verse 16. Again, "He that believeth on Him is not condemned," and "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life." John 5:24.

Now Jesus said, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God." John 3:5. The holders of water doctrine tell us that water baptism and the Spirit of God work together to constitute the new birth. Apparently, they have never realized that the water here refers to the physical birth, and that all creatures are born in water. Following the physical birth, there must be a birth by the Spirit before one can enter the kingdom of heaven.

Verse six clearly identifies this physical birth by contrasting the birth after the flesh, and the birth after the Spirit. Therefore, it is impossible that baptism and the Holy Spirit could co-operate to produce a new birth. Then our Lord reminds Nicodemus that since he does not marvel at the physical birth, he should not marvel at the new birth, v. 7. The word "again" in verse 7 is a word that means "from above." It can hardly be sustained that baptism is from above.

II  
If Peter were saying that baptism was a means of salvation in Acts 2:38, then he contradicted himself both before and after his statement. Peter had preached at Jerusalem just before the event of this verse. He had quoted the prophet Joel, and announced to the people, "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Acts 2:21. Shortly, after that famous verse he was preaching in Jerusalem again: "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out..."

When Peter wrote his first epistle he made a couple of statements of note at this time. "Ye are not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." He said, "Being born again, not

preachers there than any where else in the world. I've learned to love and appreciate God's people, who will stand for the whole counsel of God, and drive so far to be together.

The Lord willing we will be there Labor Day weekend.

of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." I Pet. 1:18, 19, 23. Baptism! Where is it?

A careful textual study of Acts 2:38 will reveal that Peter did not contradict himself. In the first place, the people did not ask to be saved. They only asked, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" verse 37. In the second place there is one word in the text that clearly demonstrates that this verse does NOT say baptism is the remission of sins. That one word is the preposition "for." The word means, in, unto because, at. Jesus used this preposition in an interesting frame of reference, "The men of Nineveh repented at the preaching of Jonah." Mat. 12:41. We must note that the men of Nineveh did not repent in order for Jonah to preach. Rather they repented because Jonah did preach.

Dr. A. T. Robertson, the noted Greek scholar, comments on the use of this preposition in our text. He informs us that Peter urged each one to be baptized on the basis of, or the ground of, the forgiveness of sin which they had received. This preposition has a causative meaning. For instance, we say that men are executed for (or because of) murder, and not in order to commit murder. What Peter said in this verse is in perfect harmony with what he preached both before and afterwards. Baptism is no part of our salvation. But baptism should follow repentance and forgiveness of sin.

## III

If Paul were saying that baptism was a means of salvation in Acts 22:16, then he did not always tell the truth either. As Paul stands there on the stairs of the palace, he relates his background experience. He tells how he travelled on the road to Damascus, and how he received the message of Ananias in vs. 12-16. The noted verse says, "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." If Paul conceded that Ananias meant that baptism would wash away his sin, then Paul did the Philippian jailer a gross injustice when he only said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved and thy house." Acts 16:31. Furthermore, Paul deceived and deluded the people of Ephesus when he taught them, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." If Paul condoned baptismal regeneration in any way in Acts 22:16, then he was guilty of error and untruth in his new church missionary work.

However, Paul is not guilty because there is an interesting con-

(Continued on page 8, column 3)

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The Blood of Christ is called "precious blood" (I Pet. 1:19).

It is "precious blood" because it is *Royal Blood*. It is the Blood of the Divine-human One, the sinless One (II Cor. 5:21; Heb. 4:15; I John 3:4). It accomplishes:

1. *Redemption* (I Peter 1:18,19; Rev. 5:9; Acts 20:28).
2. *Propitiation* (Rom. 3:25; I John 2:2).
3. *Justification* (Rom. 5:9).
4. *Forgiveness* (Eph. 1:1).
5. *Peace* (Col. 1:20).
6. *Cleansing From Sin* (Rev. 1:5; I John 1:7).
7. *Nearness to God* (Eph. 2:13).
8. *Sanctification* (Heb. 13:12).
9. *Eternal Life* (John 6:53,54).
10. *Final Victory Over Satan* (Rev. 12:11).—Wonderful Word.

### Free-Will

(Continued from page seven) take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments and do them." (Ezk. 36:26-27)

To give a man a new heart and a new spirit, it is the work of God. Man's will is only evil but God is able to conquer man's will by His irresistible Grace.

You may say, "Well preacher, I want to be saved. I see myself helpless, hopeless, bound for a burning Hell, what must I do?" If you have this desire to be saved, God has cut the old stony heart out and given you a new heart.

May God bless this message to the hearts of His elect, and also use this message to open the understanding of our "free-will" friends.

### Baptism

(Continued from page 7) struction in the original language of this verse that clearly sustains Paul's teaching elsewhere. The word "calling" is a circumstantial participle of means. Dana & Matney comment: "Here the English participle fails to extend its use sufficiently to take care of the entire force of the Greek participle, and at the same time it is doubtful if a separate clause is an exact translation." There is a law of Greek grammar that when this participle is used it is like an arrow that points forward. Therefore, sins are not washed away by baptism — look back — but by calling on the name of the Lord — looking forward. Thus, all attempts to use this great verse to sustain baptismal regeneration are clearly contradicted by a well-known law of Greek grammar that is employed with the verse itself. It is clearly sustained that you can only have forgiveness of sin by calling on the name of the Lord. Peter declared there is no other name under heaven whereby you can be saved. See Acts 4:12. The word "baptized" in Acts 22:16 is in the middle voice though it is frequently in the passive voice. This usage here indicates that Paul should submit himself to Christian baptism since he had been saved three days earlier on the Damascus Road.

#### IV

If the verse, **Mark 16:16**, is used to support the well-known water doctrine, then some serious difficulties face those who use it in this manner. Any honest student of the Word of God will be aware of the fact that Mark 16:9-20 does not appear in a couple of the better manuscripts. However, we feel that the Revised Standard Version (the modernists Bible) is wrong in deleting this passage from the text and relegating it to a footnote. However, this verse is a rather weak proof-text. The verse says, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." The word for "damned" means

to give judgment against, to condemn, to place in a guilty light by contrast. The last part of this verse clearly declares that only unbelief will cause a person to be placed in a guilty light by contrast. My friend, baptism will not keep you out of Hell, and neither will it get you into Heaven. This verse is in perfect harmony with what Christ declared in the Gospel of John. Faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross is the essential and only means of salvation. All people who use this verse as a support for their water doctrine are using a very weak and a very uncertain prop for their water doctrine.

#### V

If baptism makes no contribution to our salvation, what is the true picture of salvation? And what place does baptism have in the New Testament order of things? Whether much water or little water is used, baptismal regeneration is a tradition completely unsustained by the word of God in any way. We want to treat some passages in the book of Acts that are in full accord with all that we have said in defending our position against that tradition that is traceable in this verse.

**Acts 8:12.** An order is clearly set forth in this verse. "When they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." Note the chronological order: when they believed . . . they were baptized. There is also a clear identity of those who were baptized: both men and women. But where are the babies? God cares for them without any man-made "holy water," and we do not consider that subject at this time. Those people at Samaria were saved when they believed what Peter preached concerning the name of Jesus Christ.

**Acts 16:25-34.** This extended passage is the story of the salvation of the Philippian jailer. Paul and Silas had been beaten and imprisoned. At midnight they began to pray and sing, and an earthquake rocked the prison doors open, and loosed the prisoners. The jailer came to Paul and Silas because he realized, evidently, that these men were men of God. He asked, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." There are three things in the next three verses that clearly describe this situation for us.

1. "And they spake unto him the word of the Lord and to all that were in his house." Therefore, all in that house that night were able to hear and to understand the word of the Lord, or the things concerning the name of Jesus Christ as we noted a moment ago.

2. "And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway." The jailer washed the stripes of these men because they had been beaten, v. 22. Then he was baptized, he and all his straightway. This last word is also translated immediately, particularly in Mark. Thus, the people who had heard,

understood, and believed word in v. 32 are now baptized. 3. "And when he had brought them into his house, he set before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house. They came back to the house to eat meat, probably it was morning. There was great rejoicing together as all believed in God.

Now we must follow the order of this story of this jailer. Paul and Silas proclaimed the message of salvation to the jailer in verse 31. Then the whole household had opportunity to be saved. Paul and Silas spoke the word of the Lord to them. See verse 41. They believed that word and were baptized as a testimony to their belief (v. 33). Then they had a meal of rejoicing because they knew the joy of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

We have shown by the word of God itself that New Testament salvation is by grace alone, not baptism. But we must observe that the Word of God no way makes baptism a non-essentials of interdenominational circles. Baptism is a command of Christ clearly set forth in the great commission, Matt. 28:19. Likewise, there is a unmistakable order in this passage: make disciples, baptize, and teach them. In all cases in the New Testament, people believed in Jesus Christ to the saving of their souls, and then they were baptized shortly afterwards.

One illustration from Acts suffices at this time. **Acts 10:34-48.** We do not read the whole passage Peter preached there in the house of Cornelius at Caesarea that day. But we note the order of this conclusion: "To him all the prophets witnessed, through his name whatsoever believeth in him shall receive mission of sins." v. 43. As Peter preached the Spirit of God came upon these Gentiles in a manifest way. Peter was promised Jesus that he would receive keys to the kingdom of heaven. He used those three keys in the book of Acts, one for the Jews in chapter 2, one for the Samaritans in chapter 8 and now for the Gentiles in chapter 10. What do we care if the professed follower of Saint Peter now claims he has the key? We have the Door!

The Holy Spirit came upon those Gentiles who heard the word of the Jews, six of whom came with Peter, were astonished at what had happened. Those people spoke with tongues (Greek, Hebrew and Latin) would be necessary in the household of Cornelius) and magister God.

Then Peter asked those who came with him, "Can man forbid water that should not be baptized, who have received the Holy Spirit as well as we?" verse 47. These Jews were silent on this matter and then Peter "Commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus."

You can only be saved by Jesus Christ, and by no means. But once you are saved, your next step is Christianity and this is immersion. This is God's divine ordinance for your soul and life.

## Why Join Any Church

(Continued from page one)

7. It will help others by encouraging them to do likewise.
8. One can accomplish more for Christ by uniting his labors with others.
9. The church needs your help.
10. The larger the church the greater its influence in a community.
11. It will increase your interest in the church.
12. Gratitude to the church through the efforts of whose members you became a Christian.
13. The church is worthy of

your help.

14. The very existence of the church depends upon Christians uniting with it.

15. Thorough organization is necessary for the greatest success in Christian work.

### The Blood

(Continued from page one) which the Divine sentence was executed and the righteousness of God perfectly vindicated.

"Apart from the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin."—Heb. 9:22).

Alone, the righteous and holy life of Christ saves no one. His blood secured remission of sin. Imitating Christ, doing as He did, saves no one. Christ's merits in His holy life and sacrificial death are necessary.



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