

# 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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## An Appeal To Those With Itching Ears That They Be Faithful To Jesus' Church

ELD. O. B. BAKER  
Verona, Ohio

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; (Healthful teaching); after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves, (promising a succession of), teachers, of the itching ears, (to suit the fancy); and shall turn away from truth, and shall be drawn unto fables (the fanciful tales of the ancients). (II Timothy 4:3-4).

The Apostle Paul, under inspiration, recognized the trend from truth to the fanciful even in the early stage of Christendom. He warned Timothy of this with an admonition to "hold fast the Word," when it is "unpleasant or unwelcome."

### CHURCHES OF OUR DAY

Today churches are looking for pastors whose ministry is in agreement with their fancy. Two classes are gathering around the altar whose thinking and dealing are primarily with the "whole counsel" will be to the man who lets the Word fall in whatever direction it may direct.

It makes no difference how deep we may dig into the Word, unless we are willing to be faithful to the whole revealed Word, we will be misled by "sounding brass and tinkling symbols."

### CHRIST'S JUDGMENT SEAT

"Judgment seat of Christ" is not to be concerned with the "wicked" or with the "mystic" but with those who bear the "burden" of faithfulness received in the warfare of dedication to the program of His Church.

### THE LORD'S PROGRAM

The Lord has but one road map for His Church. He has but one kind of station—His Churches. We are to hear His "Well done" and be found traveling according to His map, and lodging in His stations.

Let us also strive for mastery, yet is he not crowned except he strive lawfully." (II Timothy 2:5).

These brief statements before us, let us examine some of the trends which lead to unfaithfulness in our churches today.

### THE PROPHETIC TREND

While we must, and we do gladly accept the element of prophecy, we need to be on guard lest we magnify the doctrine of the second coming of Christ to proportions beyond what was intended.

Setting, and time prophesies are not our concern. It is our conviction from a close study of the Word, and from observation, that when a church is faithful to the church program as a whole. Such was the case at Thessalonica. They became so faithful about the coming of Christ that they neglected everything else, even to their daily

work. Since the Lord was coming, and He could come at any moment, (His coming in the air), why work at all. Paul calls this an evil. He even said, that if one did not work, he should not eat. (II Thessalonians 3:10-12).

### WE SHOULD NOT NEGLECT PROPHECY

Paul did not neglect to declare the coming of Christ to the Church at Thessalonica; but, with this declaration, he also called for faithfulness to the whole program of the Lord. He said:

"Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would



O. B. Baker

count you worthy of this calling." (II Thessalonians 1:11a).

### TO WHAT CALLING WAS HE HAVING REFERENCE?

"When He (The Lord Jesus Christ) shall come to be glorified in His saints (His faithful), and to be admired of all them that believe, in that day."—v.10.

He goes on to say, literally: "But we beg of you, brethren, relative to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our meeting together with Him, not to allow your minds to be readily unsettled or disturbed, either by a spirit or by a message or by a letter supposedly coming from us (Paul) as if the day of Christ

had arrived." (Chapter 2:1-2).

He goes on to tell them that there is much to be done before that "Day" (The Crowning Day), can come. And he further says that—

"They were the 'Beloved of the Lord'—'Chosen to salvation,' and that the salvation to which they had been chosen was to be through sanctification (setting apart) of the spirit and belief of the truth." (Chapter 2:13).

Some translators have this verse to say, "God has picked you out as the first fruits in the harvest of salvation, by sanctifying your spirits and convincing you of His truth." This seems to us the fuller meaning, in view of the context; because he goes on to say:

"Whereunto He called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the Glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Verse 14).

### HOW HIS GLORY IS OBTAINED

In order to obtain His glory, one's heart must be sanctified, or dedicated to the whole truth. NOTE: This has nothing to do with becoming a child of God, because this passage is speaking of dedication to faithfulness and is a service they are called upon to render—not the free gift of eternal life.

He goes on to say: "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions (instructions) which ye have been taught,

## NO PAPER

NEXT WEEK

DUE TO CONFERENCE

whether by Word (oral) or epistle." (Verse 15).

He then says that God, who has given all graces will, "Stablish, (strengthen) you in every good word and work" (Verses 16-17).

### FAITHFULNESS THE MAIN THEME

It seems to us that both epistles to the Thessalonians were written to call them to faithfulness to the

## Eternal Security, A Great Theme Of All God's Word

By ELDER RALPH A. DOTY  
Missionary to The New Guinea Territory

Romans 8:28-34 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He did



Ralph Doty

foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He did predestinate, them He also called; and whom He called, them He also justified; and whom He justified,

cause of Christ (in the church) in view of the undeniable fact that Christ was going to come to establish a physical kingdom. He did not once rebuke them for believing and advocating the doctrine of Christ's coming and kingdom, but they were to be working and making plans to work as if He were never coming: The meanwhile, expecting His coming in God's own good time.

We could go on with Scripture references to show that this doctrine, if given pre-eminence over the "Whole Counsel" of truth, will lead to a neglecting of the more important doctrines and therefore become a stumbling block to the advancement of the whole program of the church.

### IDENTIFICATION OF THE SECOND COMING

We sincerely believe in, and earnestly proclaim, the doctrine of our Lord's return; the establishment of His kingdom on earth for a glorious reign. But we also believe and earnestly proclaim that for one to be rewarded or honored in His kingdom, that one must be identified with His program while he or she is living in the flesh. In other words,

"If we suffer (with Him in this life), we shall also reign with

them, He also glorified. What shall we say then to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

The doctrine of eternal security is one that has been discussed often and yet it is one that is rejected by a large part of the professing Christian world because it does not sound reasonable to them. As a matter of fact when we consider the usual ideas harbored by those who reject eternal security we can begin to see why they are at least consistent in so doing. They are not consistent in the light of the Scriptures but they are consistent in the light of their own reasoning. By this I mean that unless one has a proper understanding of total hereditary depravity he will come to the popular, but false conclusion, that his salvation is of himself or at least that salvation depends partly on what a man does. Unless we see man in his true condition — "dead in trespasses and sin" we might very easily assume that man has a great deal (Continued on page 3, column 1)

Him; if we deny Him (fail to be identified with Him while in this life), He also will deny us (fail to identify us with Himself in His Kingdom)." (II Timothy 2:12).

Also, "Joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that (in order that) we may be also glorified together (with Him)." (Romans 8:17).

Paul, in writing to the Church at Philippi, said,

"For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake." (Phil. 2:29).

### THE SUFFERING ONES

How do we "suffer for His sake?" Is it not by identifying ourselves with the whole program of His church? Faithful identification means suffering today, as it has always meant, because the religious world does not love the simple order of a New Testament Church.

Faithful identification calls for separation from all sorts of man-made programs and doctrines, and leads to a strict adherence to the Word, itself.

Again, let us stress that the doctrine of the kingdom and the King must be taught and preached, but never to a neglect of the doctrines necessary to the (Continued on page 7, column 3)

## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

## "NO BOOK--NO ROOT--NO FRUIT"

"Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: Because they have cast away the law of the Lord of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel."—Isa. 5:24.

May I say at the very outset that the Word of God is the most important book that was ever written. That is not only true from the standpoint that it tells us the way of life, but likewise, it will never perish and it is the basis of all the truth that this world knows anything at all

about. I insist that there is no book that was ever written that is as important as is the Word of God.

The Bible tells us just how important the Word of God is. Listen:

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."—Mt. 24:35.

You can't read a verse like this without realizing that the Bible is a mighty important book. Heaven and earth, the stars, the moon and the constellations will all pass away, but God says when they are all gone, the old Book will still remain.

May I remind you that the moon that the world is shooting for today, is not nearly as important as the Word of God, that is being ignored today. While the moon may seem important enough to men to spend billions on top of billions of dollars every year in an attempt to reach it, that moon is going to some day pass away, but the Word of God that can be bought in a dime store today, that is so badly neglected and despised by the world—that Word of God is going to last and endure and continue.

Listen again:  
(Continued on page 2, column 1)

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## "No Book, Root, Fruit"

(Continued from page one)

"Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain."—Phil. 2:16.

Paul is herein talking about what he has been doing and he refers to his teaching, preaching, and his evangelistic effort as one whereby he has been holding forth the word of life. He doesn't say a thing about trying to make the world better. He doesn't say a thing about a reformation policy that he was pursuing. He doesn't say anything about the changing of the current teachings that he was doing in the light of the changing of the centuries. Rather, he says, "I have one job and that is holding forth the word of life. Someday I am going to stand in God's presence and when I do, I want to rejoice. The only way I can rejoice is as I here hold forth the word of life, and therefore do not labor nor run in vain."

Notice again:

"Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."—James 1:21, 22.

You'll notice that James says the Word of God is able to save your souls. Now that doesn't mean that the Word of God is the Saviour. We know that Jesus Christ is the Saviour. But beloved, the Word of God tells us about Jesus Christ, and thereby the Word of God is able to save our souls in that it makes known Jesus Christ the Saviour to us. Therefore, James says, "Be ye doers of the word," or literally, he uses a compound Greek word when he says, "Be word-doers."

There's many an individual in churches today that is a doer, but not a word-doer. There are people who are doers, and they are putting on all kinds of plays, and pageants and programs in churches, and they are doing lots of things so far as the churches are concerned, but they are not word-doers. James says to be word-doers, or doers of the word. If you are not, you are just deceiving your own selves.

I say, beloved, you can't read verses like this without realizing how tremendously important is the Word of God.

Notice another Scripture:

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."—Heb. 4:12.

Paul says that the Word of God is quick. Now the word "quick" means "living." In other words, Paul is saying that the Word of God is living—it is alive.

Beloved, I am not preaching to you from a dead book this morning. I am preaching to you from a book that is alive. The Word of God is quick—it is living—it is a live book.

Paul also says that it is sharper than any two-edged sword. You take a sword that has two edges, and that sword is able to cut in each direction. The Word of God is described as a two-edged sword, which would tell us that there is law on one side, and gospel on the other, and you can cut a fellow to pieces going or coming with either edge of the sword.

Now some people boast of the fact that they can shave fifteen barbers with one blade, but the Word of God is sharp enough that you can divide the soul and the spirit asunder. When all these blade companies come to the place that they can develop a blade that is sharp enough to separate even the soul and the spirit asunder, they'll really have something to boast about.

Furthermore, the Word of God is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. That word "discerner" is a very interesting word. We hear today about the modernistic approach to the Word of God whereby critics criticize the textual words of the Bible. Well, I want to tell you, the word "discerner" is the word "critic." What we need is not criticism of the Word of God, but we need to stand still and let the Word of God be a higher critic of us—a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

So I say, beloved, these verses would indicate to us how vastly important is the Word of God.

Listen again:

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine."—II Tim. 4:2.

Paul goes on to tell us in the same chapter that the time is going to come when men won't hear the Word of God. Beloved, I think that day has already come. I think the world doesn't want

the Word of God today. Every one of those who have been enlightened by the Holy Spirit are willing to listen to the Word of God, but the people of the world at large are not interested in God's Word. Paul says that the time is going to come when people won't be interested in God's Word, and therefore it is our business to preach the Word.

When I read to you these five verses: Matthew 24:33, which tells us the Word is going to last forever; Philippians 2:16 which tells us that our business as preachers is to hold forth the Word of life; James 1:21, 22, which tells us that we are to be doers of the Word; Hebrews 4:12, which tells us that the Word of God is the critic that we need to criticize and change our lives; and II Timothy 4:2, which tells us that our business is to preach the Word—when I read these verses and put them all together, I come back to say this: The most important book in all this world is the Word of God. I would to God that we might believe that this morning.

With this as a basis, I come immediately to my text, and as I approach my text, I realize that it is a verse of Scripture that is loaded plentifully with metaphors and similes. I realize that

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it is a very expressive verse, for it talks about the stubble, the chaff, the root, and the blossom. It talks about the fire, and it talks about the destruction of those who despise the Word of God. So I say to you it is an exceedingly figurative passage of Scripture, that is certainly loaded with the greatest of spiritual revelation for each of us.

I

### ISRAEL REPUDIATED GOD'S LAW

Israel had cast away the law of the Lord, for the text says, "they have cast away the law of the Lord of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel."

Beloved, I thought it was modernism when we talk today about the man who is a modernist, who despises the Word of God, and makes fun of God's Book. I thought that was modernism, but modernism is a word that is very elastic. If you had gone back to Israel's day, you would have found there were modernistic individuals in his time. In fact, if you had gone back to the book of Genesis, and had stood in the Garden of Eden, you would have found there was a lot of modernism around the Garden of Eden as well.

I would remind you that the sin of Israel was the fact that they had repudiated the Word of God. It didn't wait for the 20th century for everybody to repudiate God's Word, but in the day of Israel, Israel had repudiated already the Word of God.

That is true all the way through the Bible. There is not a generation referred to—there is not a group of individuals that is ever spoken of in the Bible, but you'll find that there were individuals in that group, or in that generation, who had repudiated, and discarded, and despised the Word

## A Most Encouraging Letter From A Pastor In New York

Dear Brother Gilpin:

We have just now read of your recent illness and the affliction which remains. We are deeply sympathetic and shall pray, trusting the Lord to repair the damage for which we are confident He is able.

My first thought after your personal suffering was of the pleasure the Adversary was doubtless afforded by your disability. However, I recognized that since our Lord is the final Victor, He is able to afford such comfort to the one in order to slow you down for rest and repair before your witness here is curtailed and your ministry prematurely terminated. It must therefore be for your greater good that the Lord has arranged or permitted this experience.

You are in the best of hands: His! We are trusting Him to do you naught but good. We wish you His cheer, and an early return of strength and good health! God bless you!

Sincerely in His matchless grace,

M. James Hollowood, Buffalo, N. Y.

of the Lord.

For example, we read:

"That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the Lord: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits."—Isa. 30:9, 10.

We have a tendency today toward repudiation of the Word of God. Do you suppose that we have any more of that tendency today than they had back in the days of Isaiah? In Isaiah's day they certainly repudiated the Word of God, for it says that they were rebellious people, they would not hear the law of the Lord, and that they even took their prophets to one side and said, "Don't prophesy to us right things, but preach unto us smooth things."

Can you imagine a group of people wanting a preacher to lie to them when he is preaching and to know he is lying? That is exactly what this crowd wanted in the day of Isaiah. It doesn't seem possible that a group of religious people would want a preacher that would preach lies, when they knew he was preaching lies, and that they would want to sit in front of him knowing that he was preaching deceits and that he was giving to them something smooth and easy to do, realizing all the time that it was a lie he was preaching, yet that is exactly what they were asking for in the days of Isaiah.

I say to you, it has always been true that the Word of God has been repudiated by the world at large.

The same was true in the days of Jeremiah. Listen:

"A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land: The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: And what will ye do in the end thereof?"—Jer. 5:30,

31.

Jeremiah says that there is something wonderful he wants to call to their attention, and, at the same time it is horrible. Notice these words: "wonderful" and "horrible." Now what is it that Jeremiah describes with those two adjectives? Beloved, the prophets were prophesying falsely, and the priests were bearing rule by the ability that was furnished them by the prophets. But worse than all else, the people of God wanted it just that way.

I think today we are living just about the same kind of time. I think there are lots and lots of folk connected with Baptist organizations that are preaching falsely, and know they are preaching falsely, and the people at large know they are preaching falsely, but they want it that way and are happy with it.

How many people today would like to have the Word of God laid down before them as it is written in the Bible? You know as well as I that the majority of people wouldn't like for the Word of God to be plainly preached as it is. Do you know what the Word of God would do? It would do exactly what a bull tongue plow would do to new ground. A bull tongue plow will tear the roots, will break the soil, and will disturb the reign of nature. Beloved, the Word of God will do just exactly that. If the Word of God is laid down in its purity it will disturb the reign of nature—that is, the reign of the old fleshly nature of man.

Jeremiah said the prophets were preaching a lie and the priests were carrying on their work because of what the priests were doing, so that the people and the prophets were linked together in lies. But he said that worse than all that, the people that were called by God's name liked it thus.

I don't mean to say that saved

(Continued on page 4, column 1)



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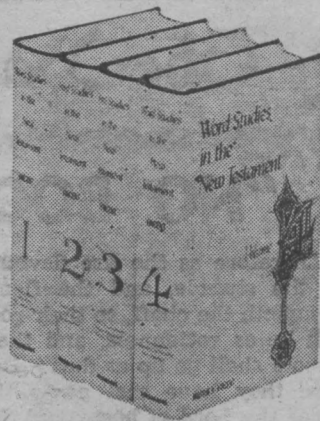
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## Security

(Continued from page one)  
do with his salvation. I believe that one of the great problems teachers today are faced with is the unwillingness of the average person to believe that "there is one that doeth good, no not one" (Rom. 3:12). Unless one understands depravity he will never understand much about salvation. Unless one understands depravity he will never understand much about election, or predestination, calling, or regeneration,—no, eternal security either. For unless a person really understands that the lost are indeed dead in trespasses and sin" they always have the false notion that they had something to do in bringing about their salvation. It is quite understandable that if one believes that salvation is by character or works then logically the continuation of the state brought about by such works necessitates the continuance of such works. Any failure to live up to a certain standard norm logically would result in the loss of that position. This is quite understandable and yet all false as it is based on error rather than truth. The first error—that salvation is dependent on man—leads to the second error—continuance on that supposed state of salvation is also dependent on man. Thus it is understandable that many people believe that one can be saved today and lost tomorrow.

Eternal security is an important doctrine as it involves the reality or truthfulness of God. The Scripture says "I give unto you eternal life and they shall never perish." Now if one perceives that just one single person that has been given eternal life were to perish, then God would be unfaithful. Perish the thought! For we know that "it is impossible for God to lie" therefore none of the sheep shall ever perish. Security involves the great doctrine of grace in opposition to works—and dead works are the only kind of works a dead person could possibly do. Security involves the power of God in contrast with the power of the world. Let us consider:

### GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SECURE BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN BORN AGAIN.

When we come into the family of God we have a birth. Our human existence is with a physical birth into this world. The new birth is a spiritual birth which gives us spiritual life. In John 1:12 we read "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he can not see the kingdom of God." Our being born again—being born of the Spirit—is brought about by the sovereign grace of God. We, who were "dead in trespasses and sins" are "quickened" by the Holy Spirit and enabled to live unto God and enabled to spend toward God and trust

on the Lord Jesus Christ. This is of course brought about in conjunction with the preaching of the Gospel. We will only desire to trust on Jesus as Saviour when we have been made to see our lost and undone condition in the sight of an infinitely righteous God and all of this is brought about by the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit. In repentance we see God as He really is—not as we may have imagined Him to be—and thus we "have a change of mind" about God and we see His infinite righteousness and our utter sinfulness and it is then that we really see Christ Jesus as the Saviour... the only Saviour and the only hope for wretches such as we. Because of regeneration by the Holy Spirit we are enabled to repent and trust on Christ and thus we are saved.

In this new birth we partake of God's nature. Before this new birth we had only a sinful nature, a fallen nature, an Adamic nature, a nature received from our physical parents. It was a fleshly nature and nothing more. This is why Jesus took such pains to emphasize the fact that "that which is born of the flesh, IS FLESH." But in our regeneration or rebirth we are made partakers of the Divine nature. Cf. 2 Peter 1:4 "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the Divine nature; having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." This is a very remarkable thing enforcing the thought Jesus brought out in John 3:6b "that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit." Notice also that:

### II. GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SECURE BECAUSE THEY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

John 6:47 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on Me HATH everlasting life." This does not say that believers "will" have eternal life but rather that the one believing on Jesus already HAS everlasting life. The believer HAS NOW as a PRESENT possession, eternal life. Jesus in John 5:24 put it in slightly different words when He said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth My Word and believeth on Him that sent Me HATH everlasting life and shall NOT come into condemnation but IS passed from death unto life." The believer is here said to POSSESS everlasting life and moreover that he WILL NOT EVER COME INTO CONDEMNATION and further that he HAS ALREADY passed from death unto life! When these Scriptures are rightly understood the child of God will find himself on shouting ground. It is all the more glorious when we realize that this eternal life for the individual child of God was purposed and promised before the world began! Cf. 2 Tim. 1:9 "Who hath saved us, and called us, with an holy calling, NOT according to our works, but according to His

own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus BEFORE the world began." Does this give us room to boast or glory in our deeds? Oh, no! When we rightly understand grace we can only praise God.

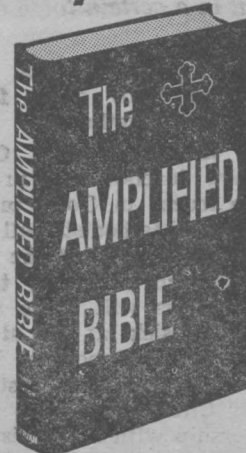
This glorious fact is not a "hope so" thing or a "we won't know until we get there" kind of salvation, but this is a PRESENT DAY, RIGHT NOW, KNOW SO salvation. John wrote in his first letter in chapter 5 and verse 13a, "These things have I written unto you who believe on the name of the Son of God, in order that ye may KNOW that ye have eternal life." Remember this passage, beloved, when you meet some heretic who says you can not know whether you are saved or not. When you think of eternal life don't think introspectively... don't think of your ability, or your works, or your actions, but instead remember some more important things. Remember: your being made willing to trust Jesus as your Saviour—made willing by the Holy Spirit in regeneration. Remember Jesus' words, "He that believeth on me HATH everlasting life." Remember that it is "impossible for God to lie" and therefore if you have trusted on Jesus you have been saved. Remember I John 4:5 "Whosoever confesseth that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God." (This is not a mere lip service but a heart-felt trust and open confession.) Cf. Romans 10:8-11 "But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart; that is, the word of faith which we preach. That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Remember also Jesus' faithfulness to receive you. John 6:37b "Him that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out." And also remember that it was the GRACE of God that made you one of those who would come. Look carefully at John 6:37. Many love to quote the last part of the verse but avoid the first part as if it were poison. The last part, "Him that cometh unto Me, I will in no wise cast out" is a blessed truth and bears correctly on our subject of eternal security but let's not overlook the first part, "All that the Father giveth me shall come unto me," which teaches so clearly the doctrine of eternal, unconditional election and predestination. Both parts are blessed truths. Now, beloved, if Brother Doty sounds different than some preacher you may know, just remember that I am quoting all of the 37th verse and not just part of it. Next let us consider:

III. IT IS GOD'S WILL THAT HIS CHILDREN REMAIN SECURE John 6:37-40. "All that the Father giveth me shall come unto me; and him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out. For I came down from Heaven not to do mine own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, THAT OF ALL WHICH HE HATH GIVEN ME I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of Him that sent me, that everyone which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

Two questions arise from this verse: (1) Was Jesus able to do His Father's will? (2) Did Jesus want to do His Father's will? Answering the last question first: Certainly Jesus wanted to do the will of the Father and certainly it was in His power to do so. In His prayer in John 17, Jesus says

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to the Father, Vs. 6, "I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word." Vs. 9, "I pray for them; I pray not for the world, but for them which Thou hast given me, for they are Thine. Vs. 12, "While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Thy name; those that Thou hast given me I have kept and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the Scripture might be fulfilled." These words of Jesus answer those two questions. Jesus was willing and able to do what He came to do. The sheep will be saved and none will be lost. When Jesus was taken into custody in Gethsemane we find an interesting confirmation of this fact. Of John 18:7-9, "Then asked He them again, Whom seek ye? And they said, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he; if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way. In order that the saying might be fulfilled, which He spoke. Of them which Thou gavest me have I lost none." Neither in death nor in life did Jesus lose one of His own. Consider next:

IV. GOD'S CHILDREN ARE SECURE BECAUSE GOD HAS POWER TO KEEP THEM... of Jude 24 "Now unto Him that is ABLE to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy." Jude, by inspiration, makes it plain that

the child of God will never fall. Paul expressed his similar view of security succinctly in 2 Tim. 1:12 "For the which cause I have also suffered these things; nevertheless, I am not ashamed; for I know WHOM I have believed and I am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day."

In Peter's first letter he voiced the same idea with forceful words in chapter 1, verses 3 through 5; "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for you, who are KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

In the gospel of John, chapter 10, verses 25-30, Jesus makes it plain that eternal security is dependent upon the Father's truthfulness and power: "Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not; the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. But ye believe not, BECAUSE YE ARE NOT OF MY SHEEP, as I said unto you, My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall NEVER perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of (Continued on page 7, column 1)

## IN HIS STEPS

Or

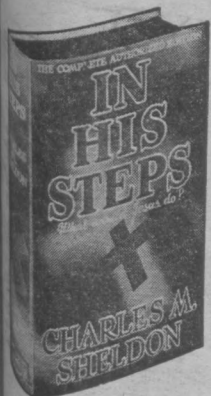
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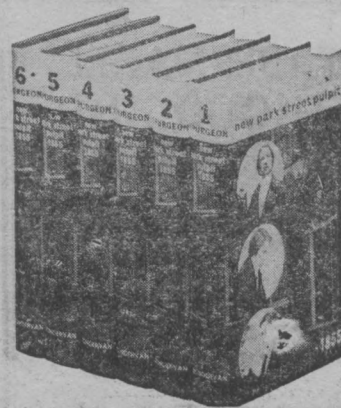
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## The Baptist Examiner FORUM

Is it right for a Baptist Church to meet with a Methodist Church and the Methodist Church to meet with a Baptist Church at a later time? They have been doing it in a certain town once a year during Christmas or Thanksgiving Day.

ROY  
MASON

Radio Minister  
Baptist  
Preacher  
Arlpeke, Florida



Personally I do not believe in such. I do not believe that a church should spend a lot of its time wrangling and fighting with those of other churches, but I see no reason for this "buddy buddy" affiliation with groups with which we cannot agree doctrinally. If a Baptist church is going to merge its service with a Methodist church on one occasion, then why not on two occasions, and if on two, then why not all the time? Any form of unionism proves to be weakening to a Baptist church. It is inconsistent, it is unwise, and I believe that it is displeasing to God.

E. G.  
COOK

701 Cambridge  
Birmingham, Ala.

BIBLE TEACHER

Philadelphia  
Baptist Church  
Birmingham, Ala.



It all depends upon what the Baptist Church holds to in the way of doctrine and practices. I see absolutely nothing wrong with their worshipping together if they are in accord as to doctrine and practice. And, with a heavy heart, I say unto you there are many Baptist Churches today whose preaching and teaching will not offend a Methodist in the least. I wish I could say that all these Baptist Churches were convention churches, but I am unable to do so. When an independent Baptist preacher can put on his church bulletin "Baptism at any time by any method recognized. Communion open to all Christians," or when an independent Baptist preacher can have his own mother, or any other woman bring the 11 o'clock message in his church, I see absolutely nothing wrong with their worshipping (whatever they worship) with the Methodists.

On the other hand, if a convention Baptist pastor has a Catholic priest fill his pulpit, or a convention Baptist Church begins to preach and teach the universal church heresy and to fight the doctrine of the eternal security of the saints, they ought to wor-

ship with the Methodists. I believe that birds of a feather should flock together.

But, if the Baptist Church preaches, teaches and practices all the truths in God's precious Word, the Methodist will want none of it. And what the Methodist Church preaches, teaches and practices will make a true Baptist so sick at his stomach he will want no more of it. So I say that a true, New Testament Baptist Church not only should not worship with Methodists, she cannot do so. It all depends upon what kind of Baptist Church the querist has in mind.

AUSTIN  
FIELDS

610 High Street  
Coal Grove, Ohio

PASTOR,

Arabia Baptist  
Church  
Arabia, Ohio



No, it is not right nor Scriptural for a true Baptist Church to meet with the Methodist, or any other Protestant denomination. There are some churches who have taken to themselves the name Baptist, but they are Baptistic in name only. They could very easily meet with the Methodist, for they, like the Methodist, were started with some man rather than Jesus Christ.

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?" 2 Cor. 6:14.

In this verse the Lord reasons with His church (Baptist) asking her how the light can commune with darkness. Now we are aware that there cannot be any communion between the two. If there is darkness then there is no light; if light there is no darkness; it is impossible for the two to dwell together. The Methodist Church was founded by John Wesley. Since she was founded by a man rather than the light of the world (Jesus Christ) she could not have that light, which lights the true church. For a Baptist Church (light) to meet with the Methodist (darkness) is to create utter confusion, for light cannot have fellowship with darkness.

The Lord then asked His church another question, "What agreement hath the temple (church) of God with idols?" II Cor. 6:16. The Methodists have an idol which they place before the God of the Baptist. That idol is the

pagan god free will. It is their theory that God's will is determined by the will of the sinner. That God oftentimes desires to bless but is hindered in His efforts by the free will of the sinner. No true Baptist would ever agree to such a theory. Isaiah expresses to us the theory of the Baptist regarding the will of God. "My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure." Isa. 46:10. Isa. 14:27 Isa. 40:10-26.

There are a great number of other doctrines which the Baptist and the Methodist do not agree on, but this one that I have referred to should be sufficient to show you that the temple of God which is a Baptist Church has no agreement with the Methodist.

The Lord having shown His church by ways of questions, how ridiculous it would be for truth and error to mingle, issues a command. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you." II Cor. 6:17.

Now may I ask you a question? What is the unclean thing that we are not to touch? Surely it must be false doctrine which is an abomination in the nostrils of God. It would be impossible for a Baptist Church to meet with the Methodist and not touch the unclean thing which they contend for. Thus for us to meet with Protestant organizations would make us commandment breakers, for He says, "touch not the unclean thing."

The Lord promises to be a Father unto us when we separate ourselves from the unclean thing. II Cor. 6:18. If we do not hold our separated position, then He will not be a Father to us, that is to bless us, but His chastening hand must fall to correct us of the evil of our way.

Another reason why the Baptist cannot meet with the Methodist is, that the living cannot have fellowship with the dead. To explain this let us go back to Adam. Here we find that God made him in stages. First, He made him a body. Second, He breathed into him the breath of life. When the Lord created His church. He moved in the same fashion. First, He created her a body, the body was made when He called out the Apostles. Now this church, like Adam, was powerless to function as a church, even as Adam was powerless until God breathed life into him. On the day of Pentecost God breathed into His body (which He had already created) power of life. Luke 24:49, Acts 1:8. In order for a church to be alive spiritually she must be connected to the source of spiritual life, even as we are connected to Adam in order to have physical life. The Methodist Church is not connected to the first church; therefore she could not have life. I will grant that they are a body, but a dead body, for they are without the Holy Spirit as the Comforter which empowered the true church of Jesus Christ. Since the dead cannot communicate with the living, a Baptist Church could not under any circumstance meet with the Methodist.

No, in the first place, there is no such thing as a Methodist Church. It is the Methodist denomination. The only church that the Bible speaks of is the church that the Lord Jesus Christ organized. The Methodist is a Protestant denomination that came into being as a result of the split in the Roman Catholic organization. The Baptist is the only church that can date its history back to Jesus Christ. For this reason, a Baptist Church has no business unionizing with any other religion.

We also have another reason for not unionizing with another

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religion. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 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 I will be their God, and they shall be my

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people." II Cor. 6:14-16). While Methodist people may be fine moral people and devoted to their denomination, they have still rejected the Lord in that they do not follow Him in Baptism and His Church. We have nothing in common with them. We have no business joining with them; for in so doing we are putting our approval on their doctrinal beliefs. This we cannot do.

The church that has been associating in this way has been doing it at Christmas. A Baptist Church has no business observing Christmas as this is a pagan festival instituted by the Roman Catholic Church. December 25 is not the day that Jesus was born. We do not know when He was born and we are not told in His Word to observe it as a special day.

### "No Book, Root, Fruit"

(Continued from page two)  
people like it, but there were lots of people then that were called by God's name that weren't God's people, just like we have lots of professors today that are not possessors.

I say to you, it was a wonderful thing that Jeremiah called attention to, and likewise it was a horrible thing, that the professed people of God wanted a priesthood and a group of prophets, that would preach lies, and carry on a deceitful religious worship.

Beloved, what we find here we find elsewhere in the Bible. It was true in Isaiah's day, and it was true in Jeremiah's day that they repudiated the Word of God, and when we come to the New Testament, we find the same thing to be true. Listen:

"For we are not as many, which corrupt the Word of God; but as of sincerity, but as of God in the sight of God speak we in Christ." —II Cor. 2:17.

If you will study that little word "corrupt," you'll find that it means "to huckster, or sell, or trade."

In the days gone by, there was the old fashioned huckster wagon, maybe drawn by three horses, and the huckster would buy anything you wanted to sell, and he would

sell you anything you wanted for your home. He had his scales fixed in such a way he could stand up on a little box and could look over it and see the line in the scales in one manner, and then if he wanted it to weigh differently, he would stoop down and look up at the scales. Talk about a cheat—talk about a crook—talk about a rascal, you never had the equal of the old fashioned huckster who drove over the country side selling and buying.

Paul said, "I am not like many preachers who are corrupting, or huckstering, or trading or trafficking in the Word of God. I am preaching to you the Word of God in sincerity, and in the sight of God." He said, "We are not as many, which corrupt the Word of God."

Notice again:  
"Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience."—Eph. 5:6.

There were preachers in Paul's day that were using vain words and deceiving the world at large. You'll find lots of preachers today who are doing the same thing. I'll never forget sometime ago when I heard a noted preacher on the radio say that the chief value of the death of Jesus Christ is that it provides us an example whereby we ought to be true to our convictions, even if we have to die for them. Can you imagine a preacher saying that was the chief value of the death of Jesus Christ? Beloved, that is not the chief value of the death of Jesus Christ. The chief value of the death of Jesus Christ is that (Continued on page 5, column 1)

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## "Book, Root, Fruit"

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is a lie, for there is not a hint of it in the Word of God. Then they'll observe Good Friday, supposedly honoring the day that Jesus Christ was crucified, yet it is a lie even from the standpoint of mathematics. Jesus said:

"For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."—Mt. 12:40.

Beloved, you can't crucify Jesus Christ on Friday, and get Him out of the grave on Sunday morning, and get three days and three nights by any man's arithmetic. You can't crucify Jesus Christ on Friday and get Him out of the grave on Sunday morning and have the Word of God telling the truth. I say the whole thing is a fake and a fraud.

Then on Easter Sunday they talk about that day as being resurrection day, and that they are observing the resurrection. It is a fraud from beginning to end. It is adding to the Word of God.

In John's day, they were beginning to add to the Word of God, and they were beginning to take from the Word of God, and John warned against it.

I say to you, Israel repudiated the law of God, and what was true there has been true of every age in the Bible. That is what they were doing in Isaiah's day.

That is what they did in Jeremiah's day. That is what they did in Paul's day. That is what they did in John's day. That is what they have done all down through the ages, and that is what they are doing today. We have more infidelity being preached in our pulpits today than ever before, and that infidelity is resulting in apostasy. You can be certain of one thing, when the pulpit is given over to a denial of the Word of God, the pew will be given over to a denial of the living of the Word of God.

As I have often said concerning the theory of evolution, monkey men make monkey morals. Whenever a man believes in evolution—teaching people that they came from a monkey, you can be certain of one thing, his morals will be just about like the morals of the jungle. I am saying that infidelity or modernism in the pulpit makes for worldliness in the pew every time.

Our schools and churches are suffering as a result of this repudiating of the Word of God. We have come to the place that the couch of the psychiatrist is being substituted, and thought more of, than the pulpit stand of the preacher. We have come to the place that we are honoring the psychiatrist more than we are honoring the minister of the Word of God on Sunday. Israel repudiated the law of God, and the

the repudiation of the Word of God.

I say to you, beloved, if there is a Scripture in all the Word of God that ought to impress this church because of our stand that we have taken through the years, and ought to urge upon us a loyalty to continue to stand, it is this text. Notice: "No root, no fruit." Why? Because the Word of God has been repudiated.

Listen again:

"That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height."—Eph. 3:17, 18.

Beloved you'll never know the love of Christ, and you'll never know the things of the Lord unless you are rooted and grounded in the Word of God.

I come back to my text and notice it says, that a rotten root gives rise to no fruit, so that all that is left is a stubble and chaff.

Below the ground the root rots. Above the ground the blossom dies and no fruit is produced. What is produced? Just two things—stubble and chaff. And what does the Word of God say is going to be the result so far as stubble and chaff is concerned? Listen:

"The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away."—Psa. 1:4.

David had been describing the godly—the man that walks in the counsel of the Lord—the man who does what God says—the man who delights in the law of God. Then he says, "But the ungodly are not so. They are just exactly the opposite to the man of God. They are like the chaff, which the wind driveth away."

I say to you, beloved, there is no passage in all the Bible that ought to strike home to us as a Baptist Church more forcibly than this. This church has stood for, and is standing for the great truths of God's Word. We have stood for the doctrines of grace. We have stood for the great truths relative to the church, and the ordinances particularly. We have stood, saying that so far as the commission is concerned, it was given not to individuals, but unto the church. We have tried for years to preach to the world through our paper, THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, the great doctrines and the eternal teachings of the Word of God. If there's ever a passage that ought to strike home to our hearts, it is this verse.

If you despise the Word of God—if you repudiate God's law, what is going to be the result? No root, no fruit, but stubble and chaff, to be destroyed by the fire and carried away by the flood.

## CONCLUSION

I ask you, how important is the Word? It is important enough that believers should receive it. Though the world at large may reject it and though the world at large may repudiate it and though the world at large may despise it, a true believer is going to receive the Word of God. Listen:

"He that is of God heareth God's words: Ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God."—John 8:47.

I say, beloved, the man who is a true believer is going to accept God's Word. Whenever you find a church member who says, "I don't care what the Bible says, I don't believe it," mark it down, he is just exactly what I said—he is a church member but he doesn't belong to the Lord Jesus Christ. Whenever you find a man who says, "I just don't care what the Bible says, I don't accept it," just be certain of one thing—that individual is only a professor and not a possessor. This text says, "He that is of God heareth God's words."

The world at large is going to continue just like it has in the past, repudiating the law of God. You needn't expect the world to do any different. But I'll tell you what you can expect—you can expect true believers to receive the Word of God. I am not worried at all about the situation. My business is to go on standing for the Bible and preaching the Word of God, and while the world at large may repudiate it, and may despise it, and may reject it and cast it out, I know one thing—the true believers are going to receive it.

Beloved, everybody that is a true believer is not only going to believe that Jesus Christ died for his sins, but he is going to believe that the Word of God is truly God's message to his soul, and he is going to accept it gladly and rejoice in the Word that he has accepted. You won't have a bit of trouble at all teaching the Word of God to saved people.

But do you know who you will have trouble teaching the Word of God? An old butting Billy goat that doesn't know the Lord. Do you know who you will have trouble teaching the Word of God? It is that hog that has rooted under the fence or that goat that is climbing over the top. You won't have any trouble teaching the sheep, for God's Word says, "He that is of God heareth God's words."

I am not the least discouraged as I face the future. When I read about the things that are going on in this world today, it doesn't discourage me one particle, because I know that every one of God's sheep will receive the Word. What I need to do is just give out the Word and leave it in God's hands, because His sheep will receive the Word.

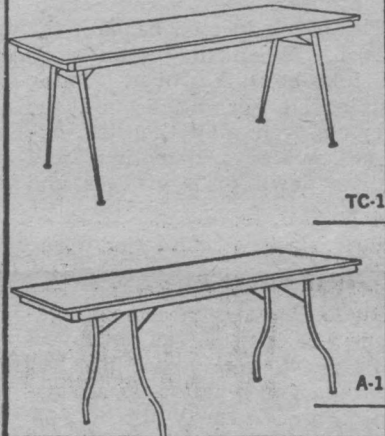
Another thing that encourages me is that true preachers are going to continue to preach the Word. Listen:

"For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God."—John 3:34.

Beloved, you can be certain of one thing—that every man that God calls to preach is going to preach the Word. He is not going to preach anything else. There will be preachers that will lie about the virgin birth and say that Jesus Christ was not virgin born. There will be preachers (Continued on page 6, column 1)

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world at large today, and through every past century, has done the same thing.

## II

## WHAT WAS THE RESULT OF REPUDIATING THE WORD OF GOD?

My text says, "Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust." As a result of their repudiation of the Word of God, he said they had rotten roots.

Do you know what happens to a tree when the roots rot? It falls over. Do you know what happens to a corn plant, when a worm gets into the roots, and eats the heart out? It rots and the corn falls down. Do you know what happens to a flower when that flower has a root that dies? Beloved, the flower itself falls to the ground.

We read:

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

Notice, beloved—rotten roots, no fruit. He says the root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust. The root supports the plant, the plant produces the blossom, and the blossom gives rise to the fruit. Do you see what He is saying? No root, no fruit. Why? Because of

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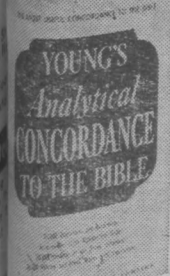
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# English Priest Operates A Public Bar In Church Basement, Which Eases The Conscience Of His Drinking, Gambling, Unsaved Members



**The huge church organ dies to a whisper and the congregation rises from its knees after the closing prayer of the service.**

Then from the pulpit, the Catholic priest calls out: "If there's anyone who wants a drink and feels like playing the slot machines for a while, we'll open up downstairs as soon as I can get out of my robes."

Wow! It's the Roman Catholic Church of St. Francis of Assisi in Warwickshire, England. And it's probably the only Catholic church in the world that serves

more dry martinis than communion wine.

What's behind the church with one altar—and three bars? It's your guess.

Well, part of it is that you can make more cash over a bar than by passing the plate around—and Father Archie Snell admits it.

"We can raise a lot of money for the church this way—and we need it to help pay for our char-

ity projects. I'd sooner see the profits going to the church than to someone who keeps a bar or pub," he says frankly.

With this reasoning in mind, Father Snell added a few slot machines and the already-big profits soared still higher.

"All more money for the poor," he enthused.

The bar is located beneath the church. When the organ stops the juke box takes over. Young couples sit necking around the bar; children play the slot machines while their mothers and fathers down pints of beer and

martinis.

"I don't see anything wrong with keeping a place where the parishioners can drink. Part of the idea is to improve their social life," says the Father. "I think it does a lot of good and I hope we're going to set a trend."

"We want the church to be the center of the community—not just the place to worship in, but the place to drink in and spend leisure time."

Father Snell lives in a penthouse apartment above the church.

His flock likes the "bar down-

stairs."

"I haven't been in a pub or other bar since this place opened," says Sean Geraghty. "The booze is a bit cheaper than in most places, and the Father's a good type."

"I've even been to the church a couple of times."

Mrs. Maria Court, 26, also drops in after the service. "It's a real good idea," she says, "kids play the slot machines. I can have a couple of beers without feeling bad about it. After all, the money all goes to charity."—Midnight

## "No Book, Root, Fruit"

(Continued from page 5)

that will lie about the atonement, and about all the balance of the Word of God. Beloved, listen, the man who has been genuinely called of God, is going to preach the Word of God.

You say, "Brother Gilpin, don't you think that God called the Methodists, and the Campbellites, and the Holy Rollers, and the Russellites?" No, I don't. "Don't you think that even if these heretics don't preach all the truth, that God has called them to preach?" Absolutely not. In the first place, I wouldn't do a thing like that. I wouldn't write a book to teach one thing and then send a man out that would teach something directly opposite and con-

tradictory. Beloved, I think God has a little more sense than I have. On top of it, I read in the Bible that it says, "For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God." Beloved, if God sends a man to preach, he is going to preach the Book.

That narrows the field mighty close. It certainly tells us that there is an awful lot of people in the ministry today that are not preaching the Word. God didn't send them. I know the world at large is repudiating the Word of God this morning. I know the world at large doesn't care for what I have to say about the Bible. I know that as a result of the repudiation it is going to mean no root, no fruit. All that is going to be left so far as they are concerned is stub-

ble and chaff, to be devoured by flames and the fire.

But I have some encouragement, beloved. True believers are going to receive the Word of God and God's preachers are going to preach the Word of God.

Also, the Word of God will lead God's elect to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Listen:

"Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life."—John 6:68.

The day before, Jesus had five thousand men to eat dinner with him. That didn't count the women and children that were there. I don't know how many people Jesus had for the banquet that day, but He had at least five thousand men, not counting the women and children. Then He started talking to them about eternal verities, and the crowd began to thin out.

I rather imagine before he started preaching, if He had asked them, "Do you like my ministry? Are you willing to stand with me?"—I rather imagine the whole crowd would have raised their hands and said, "We'll stand with you. We'll stand with you through thick and thin."

As I have often said, I have found this to be true, that a lot of that crowd that tells me they'll stand by me through thick and thin, when the fighting gets thick, they thin out mighty quickly.

I think just now about the fellow who a few years ago got on the telephone, crying, "Brother Gilpin, the church has withdrawn my ordination, and they are trying to throw me out. I need help." Well, Brother Gilpin did what he has done time after time. He got in his car and drove a couple of hundred miles each di-

rection in order to help out. "Oh, Brother Gilpin, I'll stand by you through thick and thin," but when the fighting began to get pretty thick, he thinned out.

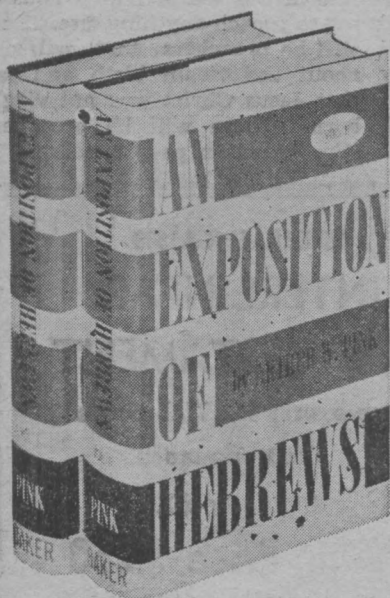
Beloved, he is not by himself. There are plenty of them just exactly the same way.

Well, I have an encouragement, for this crowd thinned out on Jesus. As long as He was feeding them, they stood with Him, but when He began to preach to them, they thinned out.

What a sermon it was—depravity, limited atonement, justification by faith, eternal security of the believer! He looked around, and there were five thousand men going in every direction, and nobody was left but Simon Peter and the rest of the apostles. Jesus said to them, "Will ye also go away?" Then it was that Simon Peter said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life."

I say to you, while the world at large repudiates the Word of God, which results in no root, because there is no root, which finally terminates in blossom that dries up and away, producing only a stub and chaff—I say to you, I have encouragement. Every man that God has elected before the foundation of the world to come a believer is going to receive the Word of God, and a preacher whom God sends to go to preach His Word. God's elect are going to hear the Word, and they are going to come to Jesus Christ.

Brother, sister, if God chooses you to save your soul, you can be certain of one thing: you are going to come to Him. You be certain that everyone who God has called to preach is going to preach His Word. You be certain that every man who is called to preach His Word, will preach His Word. (Continued on page 7, column 1)



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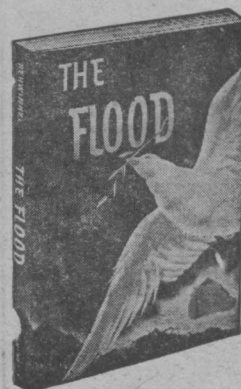
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PAGE SIX







Nothing lies outside the reach of prayer except that which is out of the will of God.

## A Find In Billy Sunday's Bible

TOM M. OLSON

"Twenty-two years ago, with the Holy Spirit as my Guide, I entered the wonderful temple of Christianity.

"I entered the portico of Genesis, walked down through the Old Testament art galleries, where pictures of Noah, Abraham, Moses, Joseph, Isaac, Jacob and Daniel were hung on the walls.

"I passed into the music room of Psalms, where the Spirit swept the keyboard of nature until it seemed that every reed and pipe in God's great organ responded to the tuneful harp of David, the sweet singer of Israel.

"I entered the chamber of Ec-

clesiastes, where the voice of the preacher was heard; and into the conservatory of Sharon, where the Lily of the Valley's sweet-scented spices filled and perfumed my life.

"I entered the business office of Proverbs and then into the observatory room of the Prophets, where I saw telescopes of various sizes, pointed to far-off events, but all concentrated on the Bright and Morning Star.

"I entered the audience room of the King of Kings, and caught a vision of His glory, from the standpoint of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John; passed into the Acts of the Apostles, where the Holy Spirit was doing His work in the mission of the infant church.

"Then into the correspondence room, where sat Paul, Peter, James and John, penning their epistles.

"I stepped into the throne room of Revelation, where towered the

glittering peaks, and got a vision of the King sitting upon the throne in all His glory, and I cried:

"All hail the power of Jesus' name,

Let angels prostrate fall,  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of All!"



### Itching Ears

(Continued from page 7)

"Good-bye" to his loved one. He tells her that it won't be long, maybe a couple of years at most. She says, "I'll be waiting for you; there will be no other 'Love' in my life until you return." He goes away with this promise in his ear. Time passes—the war continues, and "Uncle" holds him in service two years; three years. Suddenly the war ends; He's returned to home and the loved one. She rushes into his arms and says, "I have longed for, and now I can love the day of your return." After the embrace, he turns about at the voice of a little one crying "Mama!" "Who is this?" he enquires. Whereupon, he is informed that since his absence was so long delayed, the path of faithfulness could not be maintained. Another had cut in, and caused her to be sidetracked. DID SHE LOVE HIS APPEARING?

### ESPOUSED VIRGIN

Every local New Testament Church is espoused (engaged) to our Lord. Paul, writing to the Church at Corinth, said,

"I am jealous over you with Godly jealousy; for I have espoused (engaged) you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste (pure) virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh, preacheth another Jesus, (another of a different kind), whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, (another of a different kind), which ye have not received, or another gospel, (another of a different kind) which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him." (That will be your lot). (II Cor. 11:2-4).

The phrase "Your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ," might better be read, "Your ideals should be corruptively influenced away from the purity or single-heartedness toward Christ." In other words, another lover may enter your heart affections and cause you to lose your purity, which belongs to Christ. The message of our Lord to the Church at Ephesus, is an example of leaving the First Love. This Church was in danger of having its authority removed. There is no indication that the Church had apostatized, but that it was in danger of doing so.

### SOME CONCLUSIONS

The above passage is positive proof that for one to say "I love His appearing," that one must have been faithful in a Bible-believing, Christ-honoring, New Testament Church. Otherwise, he or she will be an unfaithful servant, and will miss the joy and blessing of sharing in the Kingdom with the Bridegroom. The Bride must have been pure or chaste and the ones making up that glorious assembly in the kingdom must have been the faithful in that kind of assemblies, while traveling through this land of pilgrimage. NOTE: There is no warrant in Scripture to substantiate the popular notion that all believers make up the Church in Glory. Can you say, "I love His appearing?" If so, you must be in a faithful Baptist Church, carrying on the work in a New Testament manner. No other claim is valid.

Perhaps you are content to en-

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"My people have forgotten Me days without number." — Jeremiah 2:32.

"Forgotten," says J. H. Jowett, "is an intense and awful word. It surely expresses the final issue in human alienation from the Divine. Open and deliberate revolt against God shows, at any

rate, some respect to His power. And even formal prayer, even though it be, offers some recognition of God's existence. But to forget Him, to live and plan and work as though He were not, to dismiss Him as insignificant, this is surely the last expression of a separated life. . . . Our life can become so vagrant that it is exiled from our minds.

The perilous times which were so accurately foretold by Paul in the present day, both in church and out. Lovers of God's Own, 'Lovers of their own selves, envious, proud, disobedient to parents, traitors, and LOVERS OF THEMSELVES MORE THAN LOVERS OF GOD.' II Timothy 3:4. It comes to pass? Time for everything under the sun — but God is not. — Baptist Rep.

joy your crowns in this life, even if it means the loss of those which will be connected with His appearing. Yes, you will, if a child of God, be in the kingdom, but you may find yourself standing on the side-lines for a thousand years while others shine as the stars of glory. Personally this writer does not desire to be an onlooker, or a bench-warmer. DO YOU?

These lines are written, not to discredit the doctrine of the second coming and the kingdom, but in order that we may seriously consider the conditions relative to sharing in that coming and kingdom.

Paul said, "And this I do for the Gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you." (I Cor. 9:23).

In other words, Paul was saying that he did everything he did for the sake of the gospel promises, in order that he might be partaker (or a sharer) in these promises, along with the Corinthian assembly. He then compares his efforts to that of Greek foot racers—Many were in the race, but the trophy went to the winner, (those who observed the rules of the race).

He further says, "I therefore, so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one who beateth the air: But, I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I, myself should be a

castaway. (Verses 26-27).

So, he was saying that his was not so uncertain as the Greek runner, but that he had no doubt of the goal. He did not waste efforts in shadow-boxing, but directed his energies as to down his personal ambitions, make himself a slave to the scribed order of the race, in order to make sure of a crown. He was not afraid of losing his salvation, but he was the possibility of being rejected the crowning privilege of ruling with the King.

We should be just as much concerned. There are far too many of God's people just shadow-boxing (playing church). Yet, claim to be good Baptists, claim to believe in the power of a local church.

Dear friend, "Be not deceived, God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." (Galatians 6:7).

If we think we can do nothing please in the economy of God and still be rewarded for our called service, we are merely deluding ourselves.

"Every man's work shall be made manifest." (I Cor. 3:13).

Yes, the crown belongs to the faithful. And the faithful are those who "obey" rather than "sacrifice." (I Samuel 15:22).

It is a privilege, beyond ability to explain, to be a faithful member of a faithful Church. HOW ABOUT YOU?

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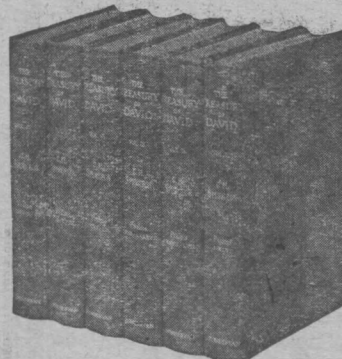
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