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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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ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, APRIL 12, 1969

WHOLE NUMBER 1583

Marys And Marthas Of Our Churches

By FERRELL KENNEDY
Grafton, Ohio

"Now it came to pass, as they went that He entered into a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard His word. But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to Him and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? Bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things; but one thing is needful, and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her."—Luke 10:38-42.

What profound teaching is found in our Lord's words. Now sorely the present-day church needs to hearken to this teaching. We are living in an age of haste and hustle-bustle activity. The world of the ungodly is rushing about in a mad search for pleasure, wealth, power, and political and social preeminence. The fever of the race has infected the religious world, and now, more than ever before, the professing church is engaging in all manner of activities, in all sorts of so-called religious endeavors, and calling their efforts a service for the Lord. Like Martha, they are cumbered about much serving, and because they are so cumbered, they have not found time to sit

down at the Master's feet, to hear His Word and learn His will.

Ostensibly, they are doing things for Christ. They are too busy, too occupied with doing things for Christ to commune with Christ Himself. Like Martha, they are busy doing things, when they should be sitting at His feet, in loving fellowship with Him, and humbly seeking to know His will. Far better would it be, if before launching out into a series of misguided endeavors, they would inquire of Him. Far better would it be, if they would "wait on the Lord." (Ps. 27:15). Far better would it be, if they, like the beleaguered Israelites of old, would "stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord." (Continued on page 6, column 1)

Some Trials And Problems Of Our Navajo Missionary

ELD. BILL BURKET
Farmington, New Mexico

Dear Brother Gilpin:

While coming home late last Thursday evening from the reservation, we picked up a 22-year-old Navajo fellow and brought him to his home about half mile from us. He was running along the trail on the reservation waving a flash light to signal us to stop. When he got into the station wagon he said that he was very frightened and was so glad that we picked him up. It seems that he had gone out there to visit a friend, but the friend wasn't home and the house was dark. He had wanted to spend the night with his friend for the night before he had gone outside two times with a rifle to shoot someone who was walking around on the roof of the house.

The whole story came out on the way home when he asked us if there was someone in the back of the station wagon. I said "No," that there was just some tools and other things that we carried in case we got stuck in the wash again. Then he told us that he had been drunk for four days and was

hearing voices and that when we picked him up that there was someone chasing him.

Before we took him home we stopped at a drive-in soda fountain and when I was in getting the sodas he showed my wife a long knife that he was carrying (Continued on page 5, column 2)



WM. C. BURKET

The Pencil Of God Has No Eraser—He Does Not Change

By JOE WILSON
Winston-Salem, N. C.

"The Lord of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand." Isa. 14:24.

Dan 6:8, 9 speaks of the writ-



ELD. JOSEPH WILSON

ing of the Medes and Persians which cannot be changed. In John 19:19-22, Pilate speaks of what he had written as being

written as if it were unchangeable. Both of these statements were the proud boasts of mere men, but their statements can assuredly be applied to God as one whose writings can not be altered.

I have before me a pencil with an eraser. The eraser is worn nearly out. This declares that the user of this pencil has made many mistakes in his writing—that he has changed his mind many times in the process of his writing. Mere man surely needs a pencil with an eraser. In fact, I have always considered a pencil without an eraser to be a foolish thing for a man to own. But, beloved, when I think of God and of what He says and writes, I know that He does not need, never has, and never will use an eraser. In fact, I declare unto you that God's pencil has no eraser. Let us consider some of the ways in which God does not have nor need an eraser.

In reference to the adorable perfections of our sovereign God, (Continued on page 6, column 4)

The Heresy Of Mormonism

R. L. WHEELER
Ashby, Parva Rugby
England

Mormons come to our doors with polished manners and courtesy, saying that they would like to speak to you concerning their church.

After, maybe a few preliminaries or questions, such as, are you satisfied with your own church, or are you concerned about the present condition of things in the world? They speak of a new revelation given to a certain Joseph Smith about 140 years ago, who, through angelic guidance, found certain inscribed golden plates in book form buried in the ground in New York state, U.S.A.

These plates are not now available, having been given back to the angel after they had been miraculously deciphered or translated by Joseph Smith. They are said to contain the new revelation from God, which revelation is contained in "The Book of the Mormon." This new revelation has resulted in the build- (Continued on page 8, column 4)

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THE HOME

INSTALLMENT NUMBER ONE

MILBURN COCKRELL
Dorsey, Mississippi

tice of the peace for marriage is satanic. It is leaving behind up-

The text declares marriage to be honorable among all, and men ought not to esteem a thing to be dishonorable when God has pronounced it honorable. Marriage is honorable as a means to prevent impurity and a defiled bed. It is honorable when persons come together pure and chaste, preserving the marriage bed undefiled.

There has arisen in our time a generation which knows not the old-time principles of courtship and marriage. Matrimony is no longer a sacred thing. One man said, "Well, if she does not suit me, I'll get one that does." This illustrates what the present generation thinks of wedlock.

The order of the day is common-law marriages and wife swapping. People are without "natural affection." (II Tim. 3:3). It is a time of quick marriages and quick divorces. Statistics reveal that two out of five marriages end in the divorce courts. This overnight stuff that some call courtship and fly to the jus-



MILBURN COCKRELL

on the shores of time a wreckage which is enlarging the population. (Continued on page 7, column 3)

THE WAYS OF HOLLYWOOD

"The crook is made into a joke; stealing is funny; swearing is entertaining; the double meaning is the end of wit; infidelity and illicit love, the spice of life. The home is chains; the shops and store, drudgery. Prohibition is a calamity, and drunkenness is a virtue; The preacher is a fool, and the church a mystery—just a memory of the funny, bygone Sunday School days. Mother is no longer revered and father is the sly old rascal. God is a convenient swear word, and heaven is the biggest joke of all. The suntanned bare-back, cigarette-sucking poodle-leader, cocktail drinking, home-breaking female is made the queen. Love is degraded into passion; children are no longer wanted; the marriage is not binding . . ." This is the warp and woof of our modern Hollywood pictures today.

—Grace And Life

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

"SALVATION"

"And Jesus said unto him, This I am preaching tonight. In other day is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham."—Luke 19:9.

I think most of you know that I go over to my farm in Ohio quite often, and most every day that I am there, I go to the cabin, to rest for a while, and read my Bible. For about the last year, I have been reading it from the standpoint of what the Word of God says about salvation, and I have been marking references and noting what the Word of God says, particularly in the New Testament, about this great doctrine of salvation. As a result thereof, I preach the message that

THE ORIGIN OF SALVATION. Salvation didn't begin with man. The idea of salvation had its origin in the eternal recesses of Almighty God Himself. This is proven to us by numerous Scriptures in God's Word. For example, we read: "Salvation is of the Lord."—Jonah 2:9.

Listen again:

"And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the LAMB SLAIN FROM THE FOUNDATION of the world."—Rev. 13:8.

This would indicate that the Son of God, in the mind of God, was slain before the foundation of the world, which would tell us that salvation originated in God—it had its origin in God.

Notice again: "But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God HATH FROM THE BEGINNING chosen you to salvation." (Continued on page 2, column 1)

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JOHN R. GILPIN Editor

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"Salvation"

(Continued from page one)
vation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth." —II Thess. 2:13.

This would show us the origin of salvation — that God has chosen us to salvation. This Scripture would tell us that He chose us from the beginning unto salvation. When was the beginning, may I ask? I don't know, but I know one thing: in the beginning God had already chosen us unto salvation.

So I can say that salvation had its origin with God. You are not saved because some smart, intelligent, scheming philosopher dreamed up the idea of salvation. You are not saved because even an angel of God thought it might be well to produce a plan of salvation. Rather, you are saved because salvation began in the mind of God. It had its origin with God before the foundation of the world.

II

THE PERSON OF SALVATION.

We read:
"For mine eyes have seen thy salvation."—Luke 2:30.

This is taken from the story of Simeon, who came into the temple, just as the baby Jesus was being presented by His parents. He took the baby in his hands and spoke the words of this text: "Mine eyes have seen THY SALVATION."

Beloved, salvation isn't a creed. Salvation isn't a tenet. Salvation isn't that which you believe. Rather, salvation is a Person — the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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A New Church Is Now Organized In Dallas

Of recent date, we initially announced the organization of a church in the Dallas area, and we are happy to state that this organization has come to pass and Elder Don Chance has been called as pastor of this new church.

It is a joy to us to state that Sovereign Grace Baptist Church of 426 LaSalle Drive, Richardson (Dallas), Texas, is now a reality,



ELD. DON CHANCE

having been organized under the authority of the Providence Baptist Church of Henderson, Texas, which is pastored by our good friend and brother, Elder John W. Reynolds.

As we say, Brother Donald Chance has been called as pastor of this new church. He is residing at 3821 Killian Street, Ft. Worth, Texas. His phone is 817/534-8240, and we would urge anyone who believes the doctrines of grace and Baptist Church perpetuity to contact Brother Chance at either his address or phone listed above, and if I were living in that area, I would definitely make it a point to visit Brother Chance and the Sovereign Grace Baptist Church at the earliest possible date.

You will notice that an angel came to the shepherds and said: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a SAVIOUR, which is CHRIST the Lord." — Luke 2:11.

Salvation, I say, is a person. It is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Notice also the announcement that was made to Joseph before the birth of Christ:

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for HE SHALL SAVE his people from their sins."—Mt. 1:21.

Salvation is a person — the person of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

Notice another Scripture in this respect:

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world TO SAVE SINNERS; of whom I am chief."—I Tim. 1:15.

So I say to you that the person of salvation is Jesus. God might have chosen an angel. God might have chosen the archangel himself. He might have taken Michael, or He might have chosen Gabriel, to sacrifice upon the altar. But He didn't do it. God might have reached down and picked up the most perfect man who ever lived in this world and sacrificed him, but He didn't do it. God might have taken Adam as he was in his pristine glory before the fall of Adam in the Garden of Eden, but God didn't do it. Rather, God chose His own Son as the person of salvation.

III

THERE IS JUST ONE WAY

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

APRIL 12, 1969

PAGE TWO

OF SALVATION.

We read:
"NEITHER is there SALVATION in ANY OTHER: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."—Acts 4:12

Notice, there is no other way of salvation — just one way, and that is Jesus.

We find the same truth presented again:

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

Beloved, there is only one way of salvation.

The Campbellites say that God has had several ways of salvation, that He saved Adam in the Garden of Eden because of his innocence, He saved men in the Old Testament by keeping the law, and that men are saved today, in this dispensation, by baptism.

Not so, beloved. God has never had but one plan of salvation in all the annals of this world. In all the ages since man was placed in the Garden of Eden, God has only had one plan of salvation, and that plan is the Lord Jesus Christ. I can understand very definitely the words of the Lord Jesus Christ when He said:

"I am the way, the truth, and the life: NO MAN cometh unto the Father, but BY ME."—John 14:6.

I say to you, God has only one plan of salvation. He doesn't have a plan for the good man and a plan for the bad man. He doesn't have a plan for the educated and a plan for the uneducated. He doesn't have a plan that takes in the cultured and another plan that takes in the boorish. He does not have a plan for that crowd who are scientifically minded and another plan for those who are artistically interested in music and poetry. I say to you, beloved, God only has one plan of salvation, and that is Jesus — the Lord Jesus Christ.

IV

RELIGION WON'T SAVE.

We are in that season of the year when it is thought that a man can be saved by religion, and lots of people try now to deny themselves something during this Lenten period so that they will be able to get a little religion stored up in their behalf, whereby they can be saved by their own religiosity, and by their own goodness. Let me tell you something in passing, this idea of denying yourself something so that you may be saved is a trick of the Devil. Don't think for one moment's time that you can deny yourself during the forty days of Lent and live like the Devil the rest of the year. It can't be done. It is just a trick of the Devil.

I say to you, religion will not save anybody. Many and many a person is hoping to go to Heaven because of his religion.

When I became pastor of a Baptist Church in Cincinnati, I learned that my predecessor had said that all you had to do was join the church — you could get religion by joining the church. Of course my message was an entirely different message than what he had been preaching. As I look back across the years of my ministry, I say that I never have been able to find any instance where religion has been able to save any individual. Religion itself will not save you.

Paul says:

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved."—Rom. 10:1.

Israel was religious. Israel had a religion. Israel was a follower of the religion of the Jews. Paul said, "My heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved," as if to say that those who had religion — their religion would not save them.

An illustration of that is found in the case of Nicodemus. I think if there were ever a man who climbed high up the moral and social ladder so far as ethics and religion was concerned, it was Nicodemus. He was spoken of as a ruler of the Jews, which meant that he was a leader in the Jewish religion, yet the Word of God tells us how God looked him

Why I Want To Attend The 1969 Bible Conference



PASTOR DANIEL A. PHILLIPS

I would like to attend the Bible Conference of Calvary Baptist Church during the Labor Day week-end because I think it is one of the greatest events this side of Heaven. The sweet fellowship we have with saints of like faith, and renewing the acquaintance of those that we have met and learned to love means much — that is, fellowshiping with such people as Calvary Baptist Church and all her many friends. Even though we have met and made many friends by being at Calvary's Bible Conference, this is not the only reason we are looking forward to being there this year.

Sitting under some of the greatest preachers that can be found is one of the greatest blessings of my life. As these great men of God preach to us, I think of it as a commentary open to us that we might learn more about the great truths of God's Word. Thank God for the remnant that God has, that will stand for the Truth in this time of compromise.

Also I would like to, and hope to attend, the Conference this year because I have never missed one since it started, and I hope that, as long as you have one and I live, I will be able to attend. I was thinking a few days ago that those who stay away because of a few differences are hurting themselves and certainly not Calvary Baptist Church. It is they that miss the blessing beyond compare.

May the Lord bless Calvary Baptist Church with the greatest Bible Conference yet.

Yours in Christ,

DANIEL A. PHILLIPS
Bristol, Tennessee

squarely in the eyes, and said:

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

"Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he can not enter into the kingdom of God."—John 3:5.

"Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."—John 3:7.

I say to you, religion will not save. Many a man has his name on some church record that has never had his name in the Lamb's Book of Life. Many a man has churched himself that has never had one ounce of Christianity. Many a man is a member of a church, but being a member of a church does not guarantee or assure you salvation.

I think there's many an individual who has stood before a congregation this Lord's Day and has preached perhaps something that was morally and ethically good, and has given good advice to someone who was present — maybe even caused people to go away feeling better in their sins. Many a man has thus preached today, that is personally a stranger to the Lord and the grace of Almighty God.

V

HOW SALVATION IS PRESENTED.

It is interesting to know that salvation is presented through the Word of God. Listen:

"And that from a child thou hast known the HOLY SCRIPTURES, which are able to make thee WISE UNTO SALVATION."—II Tim. 3:15.

How is salvation presented? Through the Holy Scriptures. The Holy Scriptures are able to make you wise unto salvation. That is why it is within our church that we insist upon the Scriptures. I don't care one thing about the teaching of literature. I don't care about the teaching of

anything that man has said. I want to be sure that we teach the Scriptures, because it is the Scriptures that will make one wise unto salvation.

I say then that salvation is presented through the Scriptures. When Paul wrote to the church at Rome, he said:

"For I am not ashamed of the GOSPEL of Christ: for it is the POWER OF GOD unto salvation."—Rom. 1:16.

Notice, the gospel is the power of God unto salvation. Salvation is thus presented through the gospel.

When the Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus, he made a similar statement. Listen:

"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the WORD OF TRUTH, the gospel of your salvation."—Eph. 1:13.

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

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"Salvation"

(Continued from page two)

salvation."—Eph. 1:13.
Notice, they didn't trust until they had heard the word of truth, which he declared was the gospel of their salvation.

Notice again:

"For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the FOOLISHNESS OF PREACHING TO SAVE THEM that believe."—I Cor. 1:21.

How then is salvation presented? It is not presented as something mysterious that descends upon you. It is not presented as something that you pray yourself into. It is not presented as something which you receive through a religious ordinance. You are not baptized unto salvation, but salvation is presented through the gospel. It is through the preaching of the Word of God that salvation is presented to the sinner.

VI

HOW WE ARE SAVED.

It is interesting to know how we are saved. We read that Jesus said to the blind man whom He had healed:

"Receive thy sight: **THY FAITH hath saved thee.**"—Luke 18:42.

A little earlier, He said to the woman who had washed His feet with her own tears and wiped them with the hairs of her head:

"**THY FAITH hath saved thee; go in peace.**"—Luke 7:50.

You ask me how we are saved. I say to you, we are saved by faith.

Notice again:

"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.**"—Eph. 2:8,9.

I don't say that we are born again through faith. God regenerates us, and we are born again, or we experience the new birth solely on the part of God. God does the regenerating, and faith is an outgrowth or the fruit of our being born again.

What I mean to say is this:

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you had no more to do with being born into the kingdom of God than you had to do with being born into the family of God. The new birth comes solely because of God, and after you have been quickened, and God has given you a new nature, then you can believe, and it is then that faith brings salvation unto your soul.

I tell you, beloved, your salvation depends, from the human point of view, entirely upon your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, but that faith comes as a gift from God, just like repentance comes as a gift from God, and just like your calling comes as a gift from God. It all comes after God's Holy Spirit has made you alive so that you can repent, and so that you can receive Jesus Christ by faith as your personal Saviour. I say to you, you are saved by faith.

Notice again:

"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by **THE FAITH OF JESUS CHRIST**, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified."—Gal. 2:16.

How are you saved? By the faith of Christ. That means by the faith that Christ gives to us.

I have heard preachers say that faith is a common thing—that we exercise faith every day. One man said, as he sat down in a pulpit chair, "I see a chair, and I sit down in that chair, I have faith that that chair will hold me up when I sit down in it." He said that was faith. That is right, but that is a sense-knowledge faith.

He said, "I see food on the table. I believe it is good to eat and I will eat it." He said, "That is faith." That is sense-knowledge faith.

Beloved, the faith that saves is the faith of Jesus Christ. It is a faith that Jesus Christ gives to you. It is not a sense-knowledge faith. It is a faith that comes as a gift from Almighty God, through Jesus Christ.

So I ask, how are we saved? I say that we are saved by the faith of Jesus Christ.

On that memorable night when the earthquake came to Philippi and shattered the walls of the jail and the prisoners were all loosed, the Philippian jailer said: "Sirs, what must I do to be saved."—Acts 16:30.

Paul said: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."—Acts 16:31.

I say to you, if God has quickened you—if the Holy Spirit has taken up His residence within you—if the Holy Spirit has regenerated you and begotten you to God, then there is only one way to be saved, and that is by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour.

VII

THE DURATION OF SALVATION.

Salvation doesn't just last until you get out of the church building. Joining the church lasts that long, and sometimes it fails pretty quickly thereafter. I remember a big revival meeting that was held in a town in Western Kentucky when I was a boy, when 1,000 individuals made a profession of faith. There were only about 750 of them that showed up for baptism; 250 of them "fell from grace" even before they could be baptized. In six months' time, a deacon in the First Baptist Church of Paducah told me himself that he doubted seriously if he could find 25 saved people as a result of that 1,000 that had made a profession in that revival. What was wrong? I'll tell you. They had joined the church, or they had joined the preacher—they had made a profession, but they did not experience salvation, for salvation lasts.

We read:

"But Israel shall be saved in the Lord with an **EVERLASTING SALVATION.**"—Isa. 45:17.

"And being made perfect, he became the author of **ETERNAL SALVATION.**"—Heb. 5:9.

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"Who are **KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD** through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."—I Pet. 1:5.

"Wherefore he is able also to **SAVE THEM TO THE UTTERMOST** that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."—Heb. 7:25.

I say to you, the duration of salvation is most important to me. God doesn't save you for a little while. He doesn't save you as long as you are a good boy or a good girl. He doesn't save you until you fall by the wayside. He doesn't save you until you hook your toe under some root of the Devil, and fall in sin. If He did only save you that long, then every last one of us would go to Hell. But thanks be unto God, our salvation is an endless, eternal, never-ending salvation. I am glad that when God saves a man, He saves him forever.

People can fall from grace, but one can't fall from salvation. Who falls from grace? Every Campbellite who believes that you are saved by baptism; every Holy Roller who believes that you can be saved today and lost tomorrow; every man who believes that salvation can be gotten today and lost tomorrow. They have fallen away from the system of grace. That is what falling from grace is. But thanks be unto God, you can't lose salvation. Salvation is a never-ending, eternal duration in God.

VIII

YOU CAN LOSE THE JOY OF YOUR SALVATION.

While you can't lose your salvation, you can lose the joy of your salvation. We have two examples in the Word of God of individuals who lost the joy of their salvation.

One of them was David. The Word of God tells us how that David sinned with Bathsheba, and later on, a man by the name of Nathan came and rebuked David for his sin. David said:

"Restore unto me **THE JOY of thy salvation.**"—Psa. 51:12.

He didn't say a thing about "my" salvation, but he said "thy" salvation. David hadn't lost his salvation. Rather, he had lost the joy of this God-given salvation.

When I think of this sin that David was guilty of, and when I hear him as he prayed, "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation." I say to you, while a man cannot lose his salvation, he can lose the joy of it, and he can become mighty, mighty miserable in the Lord.

We have another good example in the case of Simon Peter. I can see Peter standing around the open fire that had been built in the courtyard on the night when Jesus Christ was being tried. Somebody came up and said, "You are one of the disciples." Presently, a little girl came around and said, "Oh, yes, I saw you. I know you are one of His disciples." Then a man who was a relative of the man whose ear Simon Peter had cut from his head, came around and said, "I saw you out there in the garden." Things began to warm up then for Simon Peter. He didn't need the warmth of the fire then. He was already burning up around

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APRIL 12, 1969
PAGE THREE

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a Baptist Church, because I was attending a Baptist college, but on Sunday night I could do as I pleased. I could go to the Devil, or I could go to the theatre, or I could go any place I wanted to. Usually, I went to a Holy Roller church because I could have a better time there than I could going to the theatre.

When I attended these Holy Roller meetings, I have heard them say, "You have prayed long enough. Get up and tell them you are saved. Beloved, if you are saved, you don't have to have anybody tell you that you have prayed long enough—that you can tell the crowd that you are saved. If you are saved, salvation has come to you with power, and you know it. Nobody has to tell you that you have been saved. I tell you, if I had the kind of salvation that I had to depend upon some preacher to tell me that I am saved, I surely would doubt whether or not I had been saved. I say to you, salvation comes with power.

We read:

"But as many as received him, **TO THEM GAVE HE POWER TO BECOME** the sons of God, even to them that believe on his (Continued on page 7, column 4)

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The Baptist Examiner FORUM

"What will be the state of Israel during the Tribulation period?"

JAMES
HOBBS

Rt 2 Box 182
McDermott, Ohio

RADIO SPEAKER
and MISSIONARY

Kings Addition
Baptist Church

South Shore, Ky.



In order to properly study the tribulation period, we would have to take a detailed study of Revelation from chapter 6 through chapter 19. We would also have to study the books of Daniel and Zechariah.

The tribulation period will come after the rapture of the saints. This is the time when all Gentiles and Jew believers will be raptured. After the rapture there will be seven years of tribulation. This includes the three and one-half years during which time the two witnesses will be in Jerusalem. "And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and three score days, clothed in sackcloth." (Rev. 11:3). In the midst of the tribulation the beast will kill them (the two witnesses) (Rev. 11:7) and have power for forty-two months. "And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months." (Rev. 13:5).

During the first part (the three and one-half years) there will be 144,000 Jews who will be saved as a result of the work of the two witnesses. These Jews will be marked (Rev. 7:4). Note please that there will be no Gentiles saved. This is a period of the cleansing of the chosen nation. God's wrath is being released on the world, beginning with permitting the beast to gain control and ending with the battle of Armageddon.

During the last part of the tribulation, the nations will rise against Israel and there will be much warfare. "For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." (Rev. 16:14).

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During this war Jerusalem will be captured and many of the Jews will be killed, captured, or driven out of the city. (See Zechariah 14). This is the time when the Jews will suffer intensely. After the destruction of Jerusalem the armies of the nations will go to Armageddon where the Lord and His armies, which includes the Jews and the glorified saints, will meet them and the blood of the nations will flow like a river.

E. G.
COOK

761 Cambridge
Birmingham, Ala.

BIBLE TEACHER

Philadelphia
Baptist Church
Birmingham, Ala.



Israel (known to us as the Jews) was blessed in Old Testament times above all the peoples of the earth. From the time of Abraham they were the only ones with whom God dealt. He chose these people to be a special people unto Himself, Deut. 7:6. He delivered them from their Egyptian bondage with a mighty arm, brought them across the Red Sea on dry ground, led them by a pillar of cloud by day and by a pillar of fire by night during their forty years in the wilderness, gave them food to eat and water to drink, carried them safely across the Jordan River on dry ground and gave them the land. He gave to them His laws which were withheld from other peoples. And it was through the Jewish nation that our Lord came into the world.

Still they did not appreciate what God had done for them. In Ezek. 20:8 God says they rebelled against Him and refused to forsake the idols of Egypt. Then when our Lord came into the world they proceeded to crucify Him, even going so far as to say "His blood be on us, and on our children." They were, as a nation, completely blind to all that God had done for them.

So, as a result of all this, Israel is to be the chief sufferer during the awful time of tribulation that looms up in their face at this very day. I'm sure that the whole earth will be affected to some extent by the awful judgments that are to be poured out in that day. When a tornado goes through the country it affects a rather wide area, but the vortex of the tornado where the most damage is done covers a very narrow strip of territory. And while the whole earth will, no doubt, be affected by the great tribulation, I am convinced that the vortex of it will be centered over the land of Israel. In Jer. 30:7 it is called "the time of Jacob's trouble." In Dan. 12:1 we are told that this is to be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation. But we are also told that Michael the great prince of the Jews shall stand up and they shall be delivered, that is, the elect among them. When they have suffered as the Lord wants them to suffer, Michael stands up, the awful battle of Armageddon is fought, and Israel's suffering is over.

In Rev. 16:3 we see the second angel pouring out his vial (bowl) upon the sea (not seas), and it becomes as the blood of a dead man. It was on, and around the beautiful, lovely Sea of Galilee that our Lord performed more than half of all His recorded mir-

acles while here on the earth. It is from this beautiful sea that water is being piped down into the Negeb desert where thousands of families have moved into that area. Beersheba (now called Beersheeva) the principal city in this area grew in fifteen years from a city of 14,000 population to some 60,000. To be sure the Sea of Galilee is the pride and joy of Israel today and has been through the centuries. But I am convinced that it is this lovely sea that is to become as the blood of a dead man near the end of that awful tribulation time. So I conclude that Israel will be the chief sufferers during that terrible time.

ROY
MASON

Radio Minister

Baptist
Preacher

Aripaka, Florida



Israel will pass through her worst time of affliction during the Tribulation. During the last few years Israel has been and is being gathered back to Palestine in unbelief. Ezekiel foretells (Ezek. 37) this regathering. He says, "I (God) will open your graves and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel." It is noteworthy that when the nation was revived it was called ISRAEL — not Judah — not something else.

The Scriptures teach that as the world comes to the end of this age, and the end of the "times of the Gentiles," that there will arise a great, devil inspired character, called the "Beast." He will come to dominate the world. (Rev. 13:4-8). As he comes into power he will make some sort of covenant with Israel, thus getting on the good side of that nation. For some reason, he will later break that covenant with Israel, and shall unleash his fury upon them. This seemingly is described in Dan. 9:27. Zechariah foretells the awful time that Israel shall have to go through. Read Zech. 14:1-2 for the story of how half of the city of Jerusalem shall be taken into captivity.

Jesus as recorded in Matt. 24 foretells the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans as it occurred in A.D. 70, but a careful study of the passage indicates that this was not merely a foretelling of that event. The Roman destruction was but typical of the time to come during the Tribulation. Just how bad will it be? The answer is found in verses 21-22 where we read, "For then shall be great tribulation (Greek: 'tribulation the great one') such as was NOT SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD TO THIS TIME, NO NOR EVER SHALL BE. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved."

The state of Israel during the tribulation, will be the worst state that they have ever experienced, and that will be going some for they have borne some awful things through the centuries. Israel would be completely doomed were it not for what Zechariah foretells. "Then shall the Lord go forth and fight against those nations." (14:3). At the climax, Jesus shall come in all His glory. Verse 4 says, "And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives." Verse 9 says, "And the Lord shall be king over all the earth in that day." Israel shall finally realize that Jesus is the true Messiah, and in mourning because of their past rejection they shall turn unto Him. (Read Zech. 12:8-14).

There is indication that some Jews shall turn to the Lord and shall witness for Him during the Tribulation — but that is a story within itself.

We are living in astonishing times. We have seen the regathering of Israel. We have seen

millions of Arabs determined to exterminate this little nation. We witnessed the six day war and the amazing things with reference to Israel. Russia is sticking her neck out as she takes the side of the Arabs. I hope I live to see the Lord slap Russia down. She richly deserves it, and let us not think that the Lord will overlook dealing with her.

be thrown into the furnace of affliction. Because of the terrible-ness of her persecution the Lord has promised to shorten those days, or else all Israel would be destroyed.

"And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect sake those days shall be shortened."—Matt. 24:22.

The shortening of those days will not be to keep Israel from losing her salvation — rather it is to save her physically in the land, so that they may form a nucleus of the kingdom of Messiah. It would seem that God has forgotten them. Israel will never be a part of His Millennial Kingdom, since she played the part of a harlot, yet God's promises to them are not abandoned — she is still God's chosen nation and will be judged by the Lord for her harlotry and then restored to her land.

"In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee saith the Lord thy redeemer."—Isa. 54:8.

The result of the judgment of God through the Anti-Christ is my firm belief that the Anti-Christ will simply be a tool in the hand of our Sovereign God to do with as He pleases) will be the conversion of Israel, and the reception of Jesus Christ as their king. Jesus Christ was born king of the Jews, but was never inaugurated to that office. At the close of Israel's judgment, persecution and tribulation, He who was born (Continued on page 5, column 1)

AUSTIN
FIELDS

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Cool Grove, Ohio

PASTOR,

Arabia Baptist
Church

Arabia, Ohio



Israel's state during the Tribulation period will be a restored and persecuted nation among the nations of the world. Her trouble, sorrow and tribulation during this period will be so great, that all of her persecutions up until this time will be considered as light afflictions. Her sorrow comes about as a result of being betrayed by the Anti-Christ. The covenant made by this man of sin, will be broken in the middle of this period. He then will try to force idolatry upon the nation, by setting up an idol or image of himself in the temple as an object of national worship. Israel will refuse to bow, thus fulfilling the type of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego and she will

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The Forum

(Continued from page 4)
her king will appear to deliver her from all of her oppressors.

"Sing, O daughters of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all thy heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. The Lord hath taken away thy judgments, He hath cast out thy enemy: the King of Israel, even the Lord, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil anymore."—Zeph. 3: 14-15.

From this verse we can gather that the coming of Israel's king will close her period of judgments, and with her enemy (Anti-Christ) cast out and thrown into the lake of fire, Israel's state then will be a delivered nation, basking in the sunshine of the love of her king.

I believe that the time of Israel's tribulation is very near. There are many signs that lead us to think this, but the greatest one is the rise of Israel to prominence among the nations. Israel must be in her homeland (Palestine) ere the rapture takes place. The reason she must be home is, the Anti-Christ will make the covenant with Israel for the full week (Tribulation Period) and we know that he breaks that covenant in the middle of the week. Therefore Israel must needs be in her homeland at the beginning of the week. Israel's position at this hour as a nation among the nations is a sign of the coming of Jesus Christ for His bride. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

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William C. Burket

(Continued from page one)

in his other hand (unknown to us) when we picked him up. Is it any wonder that I found myself praying for the Lord's protection half the way home.

This Roger Tsosie had some Seventh Day Adventism drilled into him as he had helped them to build their mission on the reservation, and had taken their Bible course, and at the same time, learned to read and write. He said that their religion was too strict as they forbid radio, TV and a lot of other things. He professed to be a very wicked man and I gave him quite an exposition of the Gospel that is powerful to save. Pray that the Lord will give the increase.

He asked us to visit his mother who is in the clutches of the Mormons. So, we did visit his home tonight. His mother said that she and most of her children were going to the local Mormon Temple. I set forth Christ and His work on Calvary as the only hope for sinners and warned her of false gospels. She seemed a little disturbed, but thanked us for visiting her and telling her

IF YOU ADMIRE,
OR IF YOU DESPISE—

BILLY GRAHAM

You Need To Read
THE
PASTOR'S
DILEMMA

85c

what I did. Then she added that we could come to visit Roger, but that she was too busy.

Roger agreed to go visiting with us on the reservation tomorrow. He speaks good English and said that he also speaks good Navajo. As we plan to visit some new homes Roger could be an answer to our prayers for an interpreter. Pray that the Lord might become precious to this young Navajo. Oh, yes, I asked Roger where he acquired his arm tattoos and he said "in the Santa Fe penitentiary."

March 18. We went to pick up Roger this morning. I wish I could say that he went with us, and that we had a wonderful time, visiting new people and preaching God's word.

But God's ways are not our ways, and He will bring things to pass in His time and according to His plans. Therefore I will relate what actually did happen according to His Providence on this day.

At Roger's home, his mother told me that Roger had been called back to work. My first thought was to be disappointed, but I thanked the Lord in my heart and we headed for the reservation, where I hoped to scout a new area as planned, but again my plan was not our blessed Lord's plan.

Going through town my wife reminded me to stop at the trading post to see about a prospective job for the Simpson boy. So when we had contacted the employer, we headed for the Simpson home across the wash to deliver the message before going to the new area. The wash we keep referring to is, according to Webster's dictionary: the dry bed of a stream; an arroyo; the channel of an intermittent stream; a deep dry gulley.

Well at this particular time it was not a dry gulley as the winter snows had melted and a fair stream of water was flowing down its sandy bottom. As there are no bridges it is either turn back or plunge through, hoping for the best. We left the results with the Lord and took the

plunge. We got across with no trouble at all. We stopped at the first camp to see the man that helped me out of the wash before, but there was no one at home — just two little children. After giving them some candy, we went to the next house where Lilly's mother lives in the summer. We sang some hymns with her, and as she understands some English, I gave a short message from the Bible. Then we went on to Simpsons to deliver the message. On the way we saw a pick-up that had stalled part way across the wash. At Simpsons we were requested to have the service soon as Dick was "starving to death!" This is an expression that the Navajos use freely when they are hungry, cold or suffering from anything different than the usual "alright." Therefore the verb for to become full from eating literally means to "swell back up."

I told Mrs. Simpson that we would dispense with the singing as I would like to hear from them how they had been saved, and what the Lord meant to them. Interpreting for her husband, she said that he had been saved while in the hospital at Tucson with TB, but that he had gone back (backslid) for lack of fellowship. I was surprised to hear her say, "I am not a Christian." When I asked her why she wasn't, she said, "They tell me that the Bible is the white man's book, and is not for the Navajo." I reminded her that Satan would have her believe this lie or use it as an excuse and used the Scripture Romans 3:29, "Is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also." As my message was on Romans 10, I showed her that we all came from one couple and as there is only one God, the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him.

On the way back across the wash we stopped to see if we could help get the pick-up going as three men were there attempting to start it. It was on a sandy bar, and the men waved us to come on by them, and thus get out of the wash. Again we took the plunge and praise to the Lord, made it safely across again. Then the men asked me if I could give them a pull and get the pick-up back onto the bank where they could work on it out of the water. I backed into the wash again to ascertain if I could maneuver the station wagon in and out of the wash freely and after seeing how easy it was I agreed to pull them but first had to go about two miles to get a tow chain. The wife of one of the men accompanied us to her house to get the chain. We had never met either her or her husband before, and discovered that she spoke very good English.

We hooked the chain onto the car and the pick-up and started to pull. Then we made an amazing discovery. After we had moved about a foot the wagon dug into the sandy bottom clear over the left rear wheel and with the right wheel spinning in about a foot of water. So there we were, both of us stuck. I walked back through the rear of the wagon and there was water coming in the rear door and under the tail gate. The men tried to jack the wagon up and I supervised from the rear window but as I saw that they were having difficulty with the high-lift, I took off my shoes and socks, rolled up the trousers and proceeded to take my first wade in the pond.

Well, we finally had the car jacked up, and stones and planks under the wheels. I tried to drive out but the left wheel kicked out the planks and the right wheel dug in some more. As I got out to look the situation over, one of my boards started to float down stream, and Jessie called to me, "There goes the mission board." The Navajos looked at us as we laughed, but of course they did not understand the joke.

My Indian friends now took the "totem pole attitude." They stood and watched me work. It was a beautiful sunny day and the water had warmed up, but the Navajos began teasing me about the snakes in the water, and then they told me to watch out for the alligators, so I knew that they were teasing me.

They were probably wondering how long it would be, and how many times the jack would fall down, before I started cussing, or losing my temper. The jack wouldn't work because the sand and water had clogged something, so more time was spent trying to get the jack

to co-operate with me. The next thing I noticed was a lot of activity farther upstream. The men had shovels, and they and the women were in the stream, making a dam to turn the water in another direction. The women were barefoot, (Jessie included) and were carrying mud and stone to help with the dam. Another pick-up came down to the wash to help us and became bogged down before he even reached us. So now, there were three of us stuck. I looked down and saw that the water had receded around the wagon so I tried to get out, and this time I got out. (Continued on page 8, column 5)

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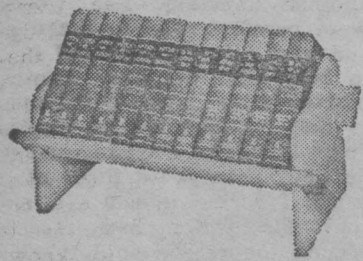
THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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PAGE FIVE

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Marys And Marthas

(Continued from page one)
Lord." (Ex. 14:13). But rash impatience and a zeal without knowledge has taken possession of the church, and no one has the time to sit down at Jesus' feet, to learn what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." (Rom. 12:2).

We are prone to conceive ideas of service in our own minds, then without seeking out that perfect will of God, we rush forth in the energy of the flesh to carry out our ideas. Once our work is under way, we then expect the Lord to give His blessing to our efforts. When our fleshly efforts come to naught, as all energies of the flesh, must do, then we wonder why there has been no good accomplished. Yet we persistently refuse to see, or admit, that the failure of our grand schemes was caused by our own willfulness, and our refusal to seek first the will of God. We had forged ahead of the Pillar and the Cloud without waiting for their leadership. We cumbered ourselves with much serving, when, like Mary, we should have been sitting at the feet of Jesus, hearing His words, learning His will, and waiting for His Spirit to lead.

We build great, imposing buildings in the name of the Lord, then desecrate them with banquets, movies, dances, social events, and

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all manner of worldly activities. Cumbered with all this weight of so-called "good" works, we have failed to sit at the Master's feet to learn His will. The results are inevitable. We have sown to the flesh, and of the flesh, we shall reap only corruption.

Ignorant of the ways of God, many church leaders go forth to participate in civil rights demonstrations, riots, and rebellion, while the church is neglected, and the house of God sits desolate. Weak Christians are deceived into believing that all this activity is a service to the Lord. Had these leaders sought the will of God, they could have learned that "rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft." (I Sam. 15:23). They could have learned that we are taught to "do violence to no man." (Luke 3:14). They could have learned that we are commanded to "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness." (Eph. 5:11). They could have learned that "no man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life." (2 Tim. 2:14). They could have learned that all these things are the works of the flesh, and not the fruits of the Spirit. But they join hands with drunks, drug addicts, hippies, vandals, communists, and Catholics, and cumber themselves with that which is unprofitable. By so doing they have also become partakers of other men's sins.

By nature, man is ambitious, and by nature man loves the praise of men. Too often we think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think. Too often we think ourselves to be something when we are nothing, thus deceiving ourselves. And I fear that too often we build, not to the glory of God, but monuments to the greatness of our own efforts. Too often the glory of God is a secondary matter. Too often we serve the creature more than the Creator. Too often we are so involved in doing great deeds, we fail to kneel before the Fount of all wisdom, enjoying the sunlight of His presence, and seeking to know His will. Only there can we hope to find the blueprint for acceptable service.

Religious leaders rush about in a mad whirl of organization. Conventions, mission boards, and similar institutions spring up everywhere. All are professedly doing the works of the Lord. But all are conceived in the minds of men. All are without divine authority. All are classic examples of zeal without knowledge. No one has sat at the feet of Jesus and heard Him propose such things. In fact, no one has bothered to learn His will. The leaders are considered to be great organizers, men with many new and novel ways of enlisting new converts in the so-called armies of the Lord, so their ideas are accepted without question. Perhaps many of these have truly been regenerated, but though they were created upright "they have sought out many inventions." (Ecc. 7:29).

Perhaps God has forgiven their sins for Christ's sake, but will at some future time "take vengeance on their inventions." (Ps. 99:8). If so, at the judgment seat of Christ they will suffer loss, because their works were not according to the perfect will of God. Instead of cumbering themselves with the works of the flesh, they should have joined Mary at the feet of Jesus, where they could have learned that perfect will. But like Martha, they were too busy, too filled with the affairs of this life, to spare the time.

How dare we go about in the energy of the flesh, doing in the name of the Lord, and under the banner of good works, that which is not authorized by God's Word? Even the Lord Jesus Christ, unto whom all power in heaven and earth was given, was restricted in His activities by the will of

the Father. "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of Him that sent me." (John 6:38). Do we have more liberty than the Son of God? Do we actually believe that our presumptuous schemes will merit justification, merely because we say we were serving the Lord? Martha, too, was serving, but it was Mary, who by her loving attention to the words of her Master, received His commendation.

Our activities may be many and varied, yet without divine sanction and authority. We may seem busy in the service of our Lord, but beware lest it be said of us, as it was of the church at Sardis. "I know that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead." Let us be watchful that it be not said of us, "I have not found thy works perfect before God." Let us not go on in our own willfulness until Ichabod is written over our door, or until the Master spues us out of His mouth.

Reader, when did you feel the love of God most deeply in your heart? Was it when you were rushing to and fro in the energy of the flesh? Or was it when you had fallen at His feet, confessing your complete helplessness, your utter unworthiness, and your failures? Was it not when, after such confession, you besought Him to forgive you, and to teach you His will? When were you the most aware of His presence? Was it not during that quiet hour of worship? When were you made conscious of the presence of the Holy Spirit brooding over you? Was it not when you saw the folly of your ways, and surrendered yourself unreservedly unto the will of God?

Working for the Lord is commendable. But if that work is to be found perfect, it must be according to that good and acceptable, and perfect will of God. And that perfect will can only be learned at the feet of Jesus, hearing the Word, and taking heed, not only to its commandments, but also its warnings. Let us hear His words, and with a child-like faith that transcends all reason and logic, let us cast ourselves and our cares upon Him, not to empower us to do momentous deeds, but for Him to look upon our helplessness and do great things for us. Let us not seek to stretch ourselves beyond measure to be seen of men, but let us be such as He seeketh for,

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those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth.

"What a wonderful salvation
Where we always seek His face
What a peaceful habitation
What a quiet resting-place."

Let us not rob ourselves of that quiet hour at Jesus' feet by cumbering ourselves with the works of our own invention, for which we know not whether we have a "thus saith the Lord." Let us, like Mary of old, choose that good part which cannot be taken from us. I have learned through long years of bitter experience that a church, neglecting that quiet resting-place at Jesus' feet, can work, organize, build, and "business-session" itself into a state of spiritual poverty. May God deliver us from our own folly.

God's Pencil

(Continued from page one)
God's pencil surely has no eraser.

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

"Jesus Christ THE SAME yesterday, and today, and forever." Heb. 13:8.

"The Father of lights, with whom is NO VARIABleness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17.

In these verses, and indeed in all the Bible we find that God is unchangeable in all His attributes. Man changes—God never does. To admit of the possibility of change in God would be to deny His absolute perfection. Any thing or being that is capable of change is, of necessity, imperfect. If God could change, it would be for better or for worse. If for better, that would prove His imperfection before the change; if for worse, that would prove His imperfection after the change and either one would prove Him imperfect. The very fact that God is God demands that He be immutable. God is perfect in wisdom, knowledge, and power, and in all His attributes. Being perfect, He is unchangeable; and therefore, needs no eraser in this respect.

II

God's pencil has no eraser in respect to His precious Word.

"For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven." Ps. 119:89.

I write an article, and I must erase or cross out, and change what I have written. God's Word is perfect the first writing, and never needs proof-reading or correction. The books of men are constantly changing. Books which I studied in school are now antiquated, but the precious Bible remains the same as it was when first written. Scientists make new discoveries, invent theories, and have to revise their writings, but nothing has ever been discovered or invented that necessitated God's altering a word in the Bible. Men may change their systems of astronomy, medical practice, geographies, and histories, but God's Book remains ever the same, as up to date as the latest discoveries of man. Man's discoveries and new ideas when true and correct are simply the bringing of men's ideas up to date with the Bible. God's Word has never been proven wrong as to science, geography, history, medicine, morals, or doctrine, and praise God, it never will. Men often think they have discovered something which proves the Bible false; but when their theories pass into the realm of fact, it always harmonizes with the Bible perfectly. A so-called preacher once told me that men who wrote the Bible wrote what they thought was true, but that now we know better. Poor blinded infidel that he was, to put his wisdom and that of his infidel teachers against the eternal and unchangeable wisdom of God. Beloved, in reference to the Bible, God's pencil has no eraser.

III

Surely, in the realm of prophecy, God's pencil has no eraser. "Thou speakest also with thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with thine hand." I Kings 8:24.

"Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet." Matt. 1:22.

Man, apart from believing God's Word, can only guess at the future. No man can tell what a day may bring forth. Man stands with utter helplessness and deep questioning before the unknown tomorrows. Oh! someone could only tell the future, how rich he would quickly become. In fact, many have become rich by wicked and false pretences as to foretelling the future. However, God infallibly knows all that the future holds, and He has revealed in His prophetic word as much of that future as He would have us know, and as is good, profitable, and needful for us to know. Now, beloved, God knows the future, and is able to prophesy the future, because He has predestinated the future. In fact, God has absolutely and unconditionally fore-ordained whatsoever shall come to pass. God's infallible foreknowledge of the future is based upon, and necessitates His predestinating of all things. No man who denies predestination has no sure and sensible foundation upon which to believe in fore-knowledge. For God to fore-know a thing, it must be certain. For it to be certain, it cannot depend upon the mutable will of man, but must be determined by the immutable will of a sovereign God. Since God has pre-determined all things, and since His omnipotence is equal to the task of bringing to pass what He has pre-determined, God is therefore able to prophesy with absolute accuracy as to future events.

Now, beloved, I maintain that the god of the Arminian is utterly unable to prophesy even one thing. Prophecy belongs to a sovereign, omnipotent God—not to the weak, helpless God of the Arminian. The Arminian's God might prophecy that a certain thing would come to pass, but since this God does not have any control over the will of man, man might decide to do differently, and the prophecy would fail. The Arminian, the free-will (Continued on page 7, column 1)

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PAGE SIX

God's Pencil

(Continued from page six)

er, must contradict his theology to even imagine that there could be such a thing as prophecy.

Beloved, the Bible is filled with prophecies that have been made by a sovereign God, and brought to pass by His omnipotent power. I surely do not have time or space in this article to set before you the hundreds of prophecies that are in the Bible. Prophecies, that when made, seemed impossible of fulfillment and which brought forth the jeers of the unbelievers. Yet these were fulfilled to the letter at the appointed time. Think of the detailed prophecies relating to the first coming of our Lord, and how each one was fulfilled in the most minute detail. God did not have to erase or change a single one.

We, who believe in the God of the Bible, rest assured that the prophecies in the Bible which have not yet been fulfilled, will be brought to pass in complete detail at the appointed time. We have no fears, nor doubts as to this, and we are certain that, in reference to prophecy, God's pencil has no eraser.

IV

With respect to the varied, and multiplied promises of God, we can thankfully say that God's pencil has no eraser.

"He staggered not at the PROMISE of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded, that what He had promised, he was able also to perform." Rom. 4:20, 21.

Oh! the promises of God. How many there are. How they meet every condition and need of the believer. How they stagger the imagination of man. How they have been the strength and exceeding great consolation of the children of God in all ages. They have been tried by the people of God in every conceivable situation, and never has one of them been proven untrue. Let us read the Book to find the promises contained therein. Let us claim those promises that belong to us. Let us bank unhesitatingly upon them. Surely they form a firm foundation for the tried and

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persecuted people of God. Take that glorious promise of perpetuity to the Lord's true church in Matt. 16:18. How the gates of hell have sought to break that promise. How at times the devil may have imagined that he had almost succeeded. But through pagan persecution, through the persecution of the most murderous organization ever known to man — Roman Catholicism — through the awful heresies of man, God has preserved His church. She is here today as He promised. The gates of hell have not prevailed. It is the glorious privilege and the solemn obligation of every blood-bought child of God to be a member of that church which Jesus started, and has faithfully continued till this present day and will continue till His coming again. How this demonstrates what is true of all the promises of God — that they are yea and amen and that surely, in this respect, God's pencil has no eraser.

V

In the realm of the threatenings of God, this is true.

What terrible things are the warnings and threatenings of God. He has warned nations and individuals of impending doom and destruction, and they have surely come to pass. Nations were warned in the height of their power and glory, when it seemed they would endure forever, and yet, the threatened punishment has come to pass. Witness Babylon and Nineveh as examples. God has warned the finally impenitent and unbelieving of the eternal flames of hell — of God's awful wrath. Men deny this truth, seek to evade its declarations, but the agony and screams of the eternally lost will demonstrate to eternity that God's pencil has no eraser — that His threatenings are not idle words — but will be fully carried out.

VI

In regards to the purposes of God, God's pencil has no eraser.

"But he is in one mind, and who can turn Him? And what his soul desireth, even that He doeth." Job. 23:13.

A change of purpose argues either that the purpose has been found to be unwise or that the person is unable to carry out the original purpose. Surely, neither of these may be said of God. Behold, the God of the Arminian. So unwise that he must be forever changing his thoughts and purposes, or so weak that he can not do what he desires! What a weak, pitiable excuse of a god is this Arminian idol! How different from the all-wise, immutable, and all-powerful God of Holy Scripture.

"Being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who works all things after the counsel of His own will." Eph. 1:11.

Shall I quote the whole Bible? Does not all Scripture bear witness to a sovereign God who is well able to do all that it pleases Him to do? Yea. And when, and where, and how, and with whom, it pleases Him. Amen and Amen. Who would want a different God? Who could worship a different God? Surely, as to the purposes of God, His pencil has no eraser.

VII

In respect to the security of the believer, God's pencil has no eraser.

"Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee." Jer. 31:3.

"And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." John 10:28.

A poor, ignorant holy roller preacher (Are they not all ignorant, else why would they remain in such heresy?) used to tell how he had a vision. In this vision he saw how God had written his name in the Lamb's book of life, erased it out, and then wrote it in again. Beloved, he did not have a vision, he had a nightmare. What foolish and hurtful and damnable heresies men imbibe, in their rebellion against the truth of God's word. Recently an evangelist in a nearby Baptist (?) Church told the

folk that the recording angel was standing by to record their name in the Lamb's book of life if they would come to the altar and get saved. What heresy! What rubbish! Why won't men like this be honest enough to drop the name Baptist, and let the world see them for the free-will heretics they are? The Lamb's book of life was completed and closed before the foundation of the world. There will be no new names written down, and there will be no erasers. God elected His family before the world began and wrote their names down in this book. It is the register of the elect people of God. God knew all about them, all they would ever do before He wrote their names down. He did not write those names there on the basis of what they would or would not do. He put down the names of those for whom He purposed to do all that was necessary for their eternal salvation. This is the register — not of those whom God hopes might save themselves — but of those whom God has ordained to be the objects of His saving grace. All those whose names are there will be brought to repentance and faith — will be kept by the power of God — will be finally glorified so as to be like Him. They will be redeemed by the blood — called effectually by the Spirit — kept by omnipotent power. They are as safe as God can make them, and that is enough for the trusting heart. So, here in respect to the security of the saved, it is seen that God's pencil has no eraser.

Oh! what a glorious God we have! Not like weak, erring man who must erase and erase again, and never on earth gets close to perfection — who needs and must have an eraser. Our God is perfect in all His attributes and all His activities, and surely, He does not have, He does not need an eraser. God bless you all.



The Home

(Continued from page one)

tion of Hell.

Now let us go back to the time of

The First Marriage

Thousands of years ago, God created man upright. After this, the Lord said: "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him." (Gen. 2:18). Marriage was already prefigured in the lower creatures such as plants and animals. In the lower creation man and lady mated and united, "but for Adam there was not found a help meet for him." There was no one of the same nature; no one of the same rank of beings. There was no one for him to cohabit with.

And it was then that we read

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in Gen. 2:21-22 these words: "And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept; and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man." The woman was made of a rib out of the side of Adam. She was not made out of his head to rule over him, nor out of his feet to be trampled upon by him, but out of his side to be equal with him, under his arm to be protected and near his heart to be loved.

The Lord God brought this woman to Adam and gave her to him as his second self and a help meet. Adam received this woman as his wife and said: "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man." Adam gave his wife a name common to her sex. "Woman" is a translation of the Hebrew word "Isha" which means "a she-man."

Then in Gen. 2:24 we have the institution of marriage for Adam's posterity. "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife; and they shall be one flesh." It appears from Matt. 19:4-5 that God Himself made this statement. This verse reveals that marriage is a Divine institution, ordained in the time of man's innocence, before he had sinned against his Maker and been expelled from Paradise. There never was a time when men and women ran together in hordes and lived promiscuously without any permanent mating of husband and wife. Marriage is not the product of evolution. Since the dawn of civilization individuals have been marrying and giving in marriage. Marriage is as old as man.

Marriage is a Divine institution, designed to form a permanent union between man and woman that they might be helpful to one another. Without this heavenly institution, the inhabitants of the earth would have been a mixed multitude. The fam-

(Continued on page 8, column 1)



"Salvation"

(Continued from page three)
name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."—John 1:12,13.

Beloved, when a preacher says, "Come down here with me in this water and I will guarantee that your sins will be washed away in this water," let me warn you, don't believe him in any wise at all. Do you know why? If salvation is yours, there is some power about it. You don't have to go into the water to have those sins washed away, for you already know that those sins are removed because of salvation. Salvation comes with the power of God behind it.

IF YOU HAVE SALVATION, YOU SHOULD CONFESS IT.

I don't believe that anybody is doing right to be saved and stay on the outside of a Baptist Church. The Psalmist David said: "MY MOUTH SHALL SHEW FORTH thy righteousness and

thy salvation all the day."—Psa. 71:15.

I say, beloved, if a man is saved, he ought to confess it.

Several years ago, I was holding a revival meeting at Louisville, Kentucky. I was invited to a home to eat dinner. The lady in whose home I was being entertained had invited another lady to assist her that day with the cooking and entertaining of the preacher, and this second lady told me that she had been saved during the meeting. I said to her, "I presume you are going to make a confession of faith and ask for baptism." She said, "Oh, no, I don't want anybody to know about it."

Beloved, that is not the way of an individual who is genuinely saved. He wants to tell about it. He will be sure that everybody knows about his experience. I tell you, if you are saved, you will want to confess it. You will really want to tell it. As the Apostle Paul said:

"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."—Rom. 10:9,10.

If you are saved, you ought to confess it. If you become a child of God while I preach to you tonight, you ought to confess it. You ought to confess it first to this church. You ought to confess it then when you are baptized, for your baptism is a confession of your faith. Every day you ought to confess it to men and women as you go about your work. You ought to tell people about Jesus. I tell you, salvation is something that you confess.

I ask you, have you experienced what I have been talking about? My text speaks of Zachaeus and it says, "This day is salvation come to this house." Has salvation come to your house? Have you been saved? Are you truly saved this night? If so, then confess Him as your Saviour and follow Him in the waters of the baptism and let your life, every day, be a confession to the world that Jesus Christ has saved your soul.

May God bless you!

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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ily circle, family instructions, parental love and care would have been altogether unknown among the children of men.

Marriage is for

The Propagation Of The Race

It was not instituted because of sin. Before the fall we find God telling our first parents to "be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth." The fall resulted in child bearing being painful (Gen. 3:16), but child bearing is not the results of sin. Women would have had children without pain had Adam and Eve not sinned.

The command, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth," has never been abolished. It is as binding on our generation as any former generation. Only as this command is carried out can "One generation pass away, and another generation come" (Ecc. 1:4).

Polygamy Is Forbidden

The Lord God made only one woman for Adam. He did not give him a plurality of wives. God instituted monogamic marriage, indicating that one man should have no more than one wife. This fact is emphasized in the Bible many times. We read in Eph. 5:31, "For this cause shall a man leave his father and moth-

er, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two (not ten) shall be one flesh." It is written in I Cor. 7:2: "Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband." Here again it is one man and one woman, not one man and a harem.

God never has joined together one man with a dozen women. Any woman a man may marry in addition to the wife God joined him to, is not his wife. Any additional women is adultery. No doubt, many in our day are guilty of legalized polygamy under our free and easy divorce laws.

In the time of the patriarchs concubinage and polygamy was common. In the days of the kings of Israel kings and wealthy men had a plurality of wives. This was a sign of royalty. The law forbade polygamy for the kings of Israel. It is written in Deut. 17:17: "Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold." Verse 14 of this chapter reveals that this command was for the kings of Israel. But Saul, David and Solomon all practiced polygamy, contrary to this command. That polygamy was practiced in ancient Israel is beyond question. But God never sanctioned it. He punished all who practiced it. God never condoned polygamy in Old Testa-

ment times, and He has not changed His mind about it in the 20th century.

That God is opposed to polygamy is seen in a Biblical type. The marriage relationship is a type of the relationship between Christ and His church. The church is called the bride of Christ (Jo. 3:29). Christ is not going to be a polygamist. When He returns He will not marry a host of churches, teaching different doctrines. He is going to marry a "chaste virgin" (II Cor. 11:2), "a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing" (Eph. 5:27). Christ will marry the true church, the church which has kept the ordinances as they were delivered and has contended earnestly for the faith once for all delivered to the saints ever since the personal ministry of Christ.

Marriage Is Optional

The Scriptures force no one to marry; they permit all to marry if they desire. In I Cor. 7:1-2 we read: "Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband." Then verses 8 and 9 say: "I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I. But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn." Here the Apostle reveals that the unmarried state is not more holy. The married state is sacred and honorable. In both states we are to live in moral purity. However, it is true that one can serve the Lord better unmarried. This is seen in verses 32 and 33 of I Cor. 7: "But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife." The unmarried state is not in itself of greater purity than the married state. But the unmarried person would have more time to serve the Lord. See Matt. 19:10-12.

Some foolishly and wickedly require that their religious officers abstain from marriage. Needless to say, this requirement is unscriptural and often leads to fornication and illegitimate children. The Scriptures teach that ministers of the gospel may marry. I Tim. 3:2 says that a bishop may be "the husband of one wife." We know that Simon Peter was married because in Mark 1:30 we notice that he had a mother-in-law. Anyone knows that before a man can have a mother-in-law, he must be a married man.

The Bible teaches that

Marriage Is For Life

Our first father, Adam, was confined to one wife. If he had put her away, there was no other woman for him to marry. This indicates that the marriage bond was not to be dissolved.

Then we read in Rom. 7:2-3: "For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he lives; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law: so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man." I Cor. 7:10 says: "Let not the wife depart from her husband." Then verse 11 says: "Let not the husband put away his wife." So marriage is an indissoluble covenant which can be broken only by death.

A writing of divorcement was given in Old Testament times because of the hardness of man's hearts, "but from the beginning it was not so" (Matt. 19:8). The only legitimate reason for divorce is adultery. This is the only law

which is productive of good morals and that secures the proper respect due to a wife and children. In Matt. 5:32 Christ said: "But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery; and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery." The Greek word here rendered "fornication" means "unfaithfulness, unchastity, sexual immorality." So the only Scriptural ground for divorce is adultery.

The act of adultery breaks the marriage bond. In I Cor. 6:16 the Amplified New Testament says: "Or do you not know and realize that when a man joins himself to a prostitute he becomes one body with her? The two, it is written, shall become one flesh."

In most states the Union marriage can be dissolved for the least reason. But no legislature or court, civil or ecclesiastical, has the right to declare that divorce may be granted for any cause but adultery. What God has joined together man has no business trying to put asunder. No earthly laws can trample down the laws of God, or make something right which God has solemnly pronounced wrong.

On the day of judgment men will be judged by the words of Christ, not social opinion. At that time many will be charged with living in adultery who wore the badge of respectability even in church circles on earth. Surely all law officials who had anything to do with granting divorces to couples except for adultery will have a fearful reckoning awaiting them.

The Bible further reveals that

Marriage Is For This World Only

Jesus said: "For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven." (Matt. 22:30). The Apostle Paul said in I Cor. 7:20: "But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none."



Mormonism

Continued from page one)

ing of their churches, Joseph Smith and his companion Oliver Cowdery claiming that they were ordained to the "Aaronic Priesthood," by a heavenly messenger, who was John the Baptist. Later on the claim that the "Melchizedek Priesthood," was conferred upon John, the apostles of the New Testament. High claims indeed, are they not?

They refer to themselves as "The Church of Jesus Christ of latter day saints" and the writer well remembers when quite a youth how this title appealed to his mind, though he knew nothing of their teaching.

But how are we to answer these people? Are we prejudging their claims if we do not read their "Book of the Mormon?"

Not necessarily so, for they profess also to believe in the Bible. If you ask them if they believe in the Bible they will say, "yes," from cover to cover.

We have therefore a point of contact with them, for the Bible is not only the complete revelation from God, but it also claims to be the final revelation from God; and nothing must be added thereto or taken away.

The Bible is very clear as to this, as to its completeness and finality. Even in connection with the Old Testament Scriptures in the time of Moses it was said, "Ye shall not add unto the words which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it." (Deut. 4:2). Again in the Book of Proverbs we have the words, "Add thou not unto His words lest He reprove thee and thou be found a liar." (Prov. 30:6). And when we come to the New Testament we find God's servant Jude writing concerning "the faith which was ONCE FOR ALL delivered to the saints." (Jude 3 R.V.) Nothing therefore was to be added thereto or taken

away, and as we may know the New Testament ends with a solemn warning that if any man shall take away from, or add to the words written he will come under the judgment of God. (Rev. 22:18, 19).

Hence those who come along whether they be Mormons or others, claiming a new revelation from God, stand condemned. It is the same as regards the Koran, the book of Islam, written about 600 years after Christ, and with any also who exalt tradition to the level of the Scriptures, thus actually adding to the Bible.

We need not pursue the matter further, except to remember that the pointing out of error does not of itself put ourselves right with God. The call of the gospel is an individual call to repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ, for He alone is the appointed Mediator between God and man and there is none other Name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. (Acts 4:12; 20:21).

Within its sacred pages the Bible contains all things necessary for doctrine and practice, and if we earnestly read therein, asking God's blessing and enlightenment it will surely be given, for He does not, and never has despised the humble and contrite heart. (Psa. 51:17; Isa. 57:15).



William C. Burket

(Continued from page 5)

The last man had brought a chain so I pulled him out of the sand. Then by hooking two chains together, I pulled the other pick up out of the wash. Nineteen people had gathered at the wash and there was a lot of fellowship among the women. We met people that we didn't even know lived around there. I'm sure the Lord had a purpose in all this and the only thing that bothered us was our empty stomach, for we hadn't stopped to eat and most of us had been at the wash all day.

After a lot of hand shaking and "Thank yous," we all started for home. Yes, the pick-up started by giving it a little push.

We want to thank the people who have been sending us financial assistance, and also the ones that have offered to send clothing. We would like to thank you personally, and as often as able will do this by way of letters.

Your missionary to the Navajos
Bill Burket and family.

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