

Whenever you feel guilty and condemned, come to Christ.

MISSIONARY PREMILLENNIAL BIBLICAL BAPTISTIC

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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FTH Continues Report On Recent Patrol

Dear Friends,

Greetings to each of you once again. We will pick up where we left off last week in the report on our recent patrol. I had brought you through three and one-half days of the patrol, the last two hours of which had been spent walking along the road with several natives and re-living almost eight years of my life. The time had gone so fast that I was walking up to the Badada Baptist Church before I hardly realized it. For the past hour and



FRED T. HALLIMAN

one-half at least I had been completely caught up in ecstasy. In drug addict language this would mean to "drop out of this world, and/or take a trip." Well, in a sense, that is exactly what had happened to me only my 'trip' had not been a bad one for I had been walking with my Lord.

As we walked up to the Badada Baptist Church it was after noon on a Sunday. About 150 natives were there to greet us and awaiting the series of services that we were to have with them. There were no wet clothes to change this time and no wet bed to dry out, so in just a little while I had things set up and we held our first service. The house was packed and seemingly the service was enjoyed by all.

After the service was over, several varieties of vegetables and some sweet potatoes and bananas were offered for sale. I bought all that I thought we would need for our stay there and was about to walk into my house when a man began com-

plaining because I had not bought his beans. He had brought a 4 gallon drum packed full of Lima beans. I had purposely passed these beans up for I had not seen the native folk eat these before and I knew that I could never eat that many beans in the short time we would be there. However, the fellow was putting up such a fuss I thought that I would offer forty cents for the drum of beans and he would get mad enough to leave — oddly enough he was quite happy with that amount so I had to persuade the cargo boys to try some lima beans in their diet. Thus ended the fourth day of the patrol.

The fifth day of the patrol started off on a Monday and this is normally a day for working the roads here in New Guinea where all able bodied men and women alike are required to work either in building new roads or maintaining those that have been built. However, this being Easter Monday on the Australian calendar, the natives had a day off. Fact of the matter is they had had off since Thursday night, and would not have to report back until Wednesday. If taking off days for so-called Easter would prove anything the folk in this part of the world really love the Lord for the parties start in on Thursday night and go through until the late hours of Tuesday night all of which is supposed to be calculated to commemorate our Lord's resurrection.

Since the natives had a legal holiday on Monday we had a big day planned. Not too far from Badada is another church, larger numerically than the Badada Baptist Church. There were several at each of these churches to be baptized and it was decided upon that both churches would have a joint baptismal service. By that I mean that both churches would meet together at the place of baptism and we would have singing and preaching and then each group would be baptized under the authority of the church to which they had applied for membership.

(Continued on page 3, column 2)

Faithful Member Of CBC Passes To Be With His Lord

On May 2, Brother Ira G. Lycan, one of the faithful members of Calvary Baptist Church, was laid to rest in Bellefonte Cemetery, awaiting the resurrection.

Brother Lycan had been a close personal friend for nearly half a century, and had faithfully stood



IRA G. LYCAN

for the Word of God, and contended for its teachings through the years. He and his wife have been two of the closest friends that your editor has ever had. She was saved under my ministry years ago and I have been Bro. Lycan's pastor since 1929, except for a few years. In those few years, Brother Lycan was tossed about doctrinally and was greatly grieved over the doctrinal looseness of other churches that he had tried. Nearly four years ago, he and his wife moved their membership to Calvary Baptist Church of Ashland, Kentucky, and these last years of his life were the most pleasant that he had ever known from the standpoint of church affiliation.

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Giloin

"THE SECOND COMING"

"He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus."—Rev. 22:20.

I don't know of anything which gives me more comfort and more hope than the knowledge of the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. As far as I am personally concerned, I consider this world in a terrible mess — so much so that I don't see any way out. I would say that religiously, industrially, economically, socially, morally — I don't care what it is, you name it — if there is any way out, I don't know what it is. I think the only hope that we have is the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Of recent date, in a particular way, I have studied God's Word

as to the second coming, and I would like to ask some questions concerning His coming, and answer them with the Word of God.

I
IS JESUS CHRIST ACTUALLY COMING BACK TO THIS EARTH?

We read:
"This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall SO COME in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."—Acts 1:11.

"For the Lord himself SHALL DESCEND from heaven."—I Thess. 4:16.

"I WILL COME AGAIN."—John 14:3.

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do

shew the Lord's death till HE COME."—I Cor. 11:26.

Every time that we observe the Lord's Supper, whether the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is mentioned or not, we have a silent, tacit testimony as to His coming, for as this text says, "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."

Here are four verses that actually state that Jesus is coming again. I can turn to both the Old Testament and the New Testament and give you dozens upon dozens of other Scriptures which would tell the same thing. In the Old Testament, two out of every three prophecies have to do (Continued on page 2, column 1)

The Baptist Examiner FORUM

"Please explain 2 Peter 3:9."

ROY MASON

RADIO MINISTER
BAPTIST PREACHER
Aripeka, Florida



The passage goes like this:

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

Peter has been discussing the scoffers and their attitude toward the Second Coming of Christ. He tells us that such scoffing will characterize the "last days." We must be living in the last days, for the religious liberals of this day scorn the very thought of the return of Christ. Harry Emerson Fosdick, who was a leader among Modernists back in the years past, died recently at an advanced age. He scorned the doctrine of the return of Christ, as something that no sensible person could believe. He has doubtless found out by now that he was wrong, but it is too late now for him to correct his mistake.

Peter reminds us of those who scoffed the idea that a flood was coming—but it came just the same, and swept the scoffers out of existence. He compares those ancient scoffers with those who

Brother Lycan loved the truth, he loved his pastor, and he loved the church of which he was a member. Again and again, he has told me how happy he has been in being a member of our church.

After his burial, when his will was probated, the church learned he had remembered us in his will, having left us four pieces of property which are worth perhaps about \$25,000.00. It was Bro. Lycan's request in his will that this property be sold and that the money be used for our building fund so that we might complete our building.

As I said, the church learned of this after his death, but I had known of it for over two years. He told me that he was doing this because he loved his pastor and the truth for which I contended, and he was grateful that the church stood by me and support (Continued on page 4, column 5)

scoff concerning the return of Christ, and reminds us that because a long time has elapsed since the promise was made that is no proof that the promise won't be fulfilled. Because time with God is not as it is with us. A thousand years with him is no more than a day is with us. Then coming to the verse the questioner asks about, he reminds us that the Lord is not slack concerning the fulfillment of his promise. He has been long suffering and has given the human race plenty of time to repent and change their attitude. As we know human beings have not profited by the time given them. People are becoming less concerned about God and his Word and His warnings than ever before.

Verse 10 tells us about another tremendous happening that God has promised just as surely as He promised to send the flood. This will be "The Day Of The Lord," which will just as certainly bring destruction to many as did the flood. The promise of that day was first made long ago, but men discredit the coming of that day just as blatantly as they sought to discredit the coming of the flood. Despite the long time since the promise was made, Peter says, "But the day of the Lord WILL COME as a thief in the night." The question is, what about God's attitude in view of the coming destruction of the wicked? Is He gleeful about it? Does He delight in the forthcoming fate of rebellious and wicked men? That brings us directly to the verse the questioner refers to, and we have the answer. "The Lord . . . is long suffering . . . not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

I think we must consider that there is both the PURPOSIVE and the PERMISSIVE will of God. When God exercises His purposive will things come to pass under His direct decree. But there are things that He PERMITS to happen. He definitely purposed that the flood should come, and He warned mankind and allowed time for repentance, when they paid no heed, He permitted them to suffer the consequences of their folly. It was not His good pleasure that multitudes should perish. Despite my full belief in predestination, I do not believe that God takes delight in the fate of the wicked. I believe that when the wicked face judgment, they will have to admit that they sinned against long suffering mercy, and are to blame for their fate.

(Continued on page 3, column 3)

HYPOCRITICAL SINGING

The singing of a hymn should be a great experience. It can be a prayer, a testimony, a praise, or an invitation.

Here are some interesting comparisons regarding the hymns we sing.

WE SING "SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER"—and content ourselves with five to ten minutes of prayer a day.

WE SING "ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS"—and wait to be drafted into His service.

WE SING "OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES"—and don't use the one we have for God.

WE SING "THERE SHALL BE SHOWERS OF BLESSING"—but do not come to church when it is raining.

WE SING "BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS"—and let the (Continued on page 4, column 5)

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Bro. Hobbs Will Be Available For Summer Meetings



JAMES HOBBS

Brother James Hobbs, who is one of the members of our panel Forum, will be available for revival meetings during the months of June, July and August.

As our readers know, Brother Hobbs is a good preacher, and he would be a blessing to any church that might invite him. I'd like to see him kept busy during the summer, and I would urge you brethren to consider him for meetings this year.



"Second Coming"

(Continued from page one)

with His second coming, while only about one-third of the prophecies of the Old Testament have to do with His first coming.

When you come to the New Testament, you will find that one out of every twenty-five verses refer to the second coming of Christ. For example, the doctrine of baptism, which means much to us as Baptists, is mentioned only about a dozen times in the New Testament. The doctrine of the second coming occurs on an average of one out of every 25 verses.

So in answer to the question, will Jesus actually come back to this earth, in the light of what God says within His book, I say yes.

II

IS CHRIST COMING AT A TIME WHEN WE ARE EXPECTING HIM?

In answer to this, I say, certainly not. Instead, He is coming as though very suddenly and very unexpectedly. Listen:

"For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." —Mt. 24:27.

I tell you, beloved, the lightning flashes always unexpectedly, and this text says that the second coming of Christ is

just like the shining of the lightning.

Notice again:

"For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord SO COMETH AS A THIEF in the night." —I Thess. 5:2.

If a man is getting ready to steal something from you, he doesn't write you a letter and say that on such-and-such a night and at such-and-such an hour, he is expecting to come to your house and take something therefrom. The second coming of Christ is going to be just as a thief in the night.

Listen again:

"Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." —Mt. 24:44.

May I ask you a question? Do you think that Jesus Christ is coming back before I finish this sermon? The Lord is sure to come in such an hour that you think not. Some of these days, at the very time that you do not expect it, the Lord Jesus is going to come.

Notice another Scripture:

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye." —I Cor. 15:52.

How long does it take you to bat an eye? How long does it take your eye to twinkle? I tell you, beloved, the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is going to be just as sudden and just as unexpected as the twinkling of an eye.

III

WHAT WILL THIS EARTH BE LIKE WHEN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST COMES?

The Word of God tells us over and over again what to expect when Jesus Christ comes again. We can expect wars, famines, pestilences, and earthquakes. We read:

"For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places." —Mt. 24:7.

I am sure that most of you read the newspaper every day. Wars — do you ever hear of them? When has there been a time that you haven't heard of them? Famine — I can remember from the time when I was just a boy there has been one famine appeal after another on behalf of some nation. Pestilences, earthquakes — all these things, I say when Jesus Christ comes back, and His coming is near, we are told to expect wars, famines, pestilences, and earthquakes.

Listen again:

"I will OVERTURN, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him." —Ezek. 21:27.

Mark it down, He is the only one whose right it is. He is the one who went to Calvary and paid the sin debt that purchased not only your salvation but the redemption of every saved man. He has brought this world back to God. Some of these days, He is going to return. While we are waiting for His return, there will be one overturn after another until He comes, whose right it is, and it will be given to Him. I don't expect anything throughout the nations of the world but one problem after another.

What is the world going to be like when He comes, or what shall we expect when He comes? We can expect world-wide distress. We can expect problems and unrest. Listen:

"And upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity." —Luke 21:25.

Surely, beloved, we have that now — distress of nations, with perplexity. Over in Washington, who knows which way to turn? I tell you, there isn't a man in Washington that could find the way out. The only man that

Bro. Mason Presents A New Book To The Readers Of TBE



ROY MASON

"DOWN MEMORY'S STREAM" is the title of a new book written by our beloved brother, Roy Mason.

It purports to be memories of various events in his life, including weddings, funerals, his long radio ministry, and many other events.

I have personally enjoyed reading it and thank the Lord for the privilege that we have today to tell our friends about it and to urge them to buy it.

They sell for \$1.25 each and all those who have read Brother Mason's articles in the past will know that it will be a blessed experience to read these events of his life.

knows anything as to the way out is the child of God. I am persuaded to believe that the majority of those individuals in Washington are not children of God, and the majority of them don't know the way out.

I am saying to you, we have distress of nations and perplexity all throughout the earth just like it says here in Luke 21:25. There is much distress of nations. There is much perplexity. Men don't know which way to turn, and are feeling their way in the dark.

I ask, what is this world going to be like when He comes? What are we to expect just before He comes? We can expect perilous times. We read:

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good. Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God." —II Tim. 3:1-4.

What are we to expect? In the light of this Scripture, perilous times are going to come. What are we to expect? A disbelief in Christ's second coming.

Beloved, that is on today. Men just don't believe that Jesus Christ is coming back to this world. There isn't an organization today that takes the position that Jesus is coming back.

I was talking to a fellow just recently who had listened to a program on the radio called "Talk Back." Somebody was talking about how science was progressing — how that we may be living on other planets within a few years. The entirety of it was a denial of the Second Coming.

Beloved, there is a general disbelief in the second coming. Listen:

"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the

beginning of the creation." — II Pet. 3:3,4.

People today are saying, "You have been talking about Christ's return for years and He hasn't returned yet." There is a general disbelief in His second coming.

Years ago, I was in West Virginia for a conference. One man got up to preach and he said, "I have been assigned the subject of the Second Coming." I don't know anything about it, you don't know anything about it, and nobody else knows anything about it."

Beloved, I heard just as much as I could stand. Yet that is what the Word of God says about the last days, that there will be men who will say, "Where is the promise of His coming?"

I ask you, what is this world going to be like at the second

coming? Spiritualism is going to flourish. Listen:

"In the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." —I Tim. 4:1.

There were lots of fathers and mothers who lost sons in World War I. Following the war, they wanted to talk to those boys who died in the war. Spiritualism remarkably flourished there for a little while and then died down.

Beloved, today, and during the last twenty years, spiritualism has been on an increase. It has been literally on a rampage. People are wanting to know about the future. There is so much distress and confusion that people don't know which way to turn. The result is, they say that they want to call up the dead. They say, "We don't know what the

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

I HAVE SPOKEN TO THE BIBLE CONFERENCE OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, AND . . .

I would urge everyone to attend this Conference because . . .

PICTURE UNAVAILABLE

. . . of the effort that the great Calvary Baptist Church and pastor John R. Gilpin have put forth to make this Conference SPECIAL, SUCCESSFUL AND SPIRITUAL.

This good church and Pastor Gilpin always extend a SPECIAL welcome to all of God's elected children to come and worship with them at their Bible Conference.

To you that have attended one of the Bible Conferences, you know what I mean by the word SPECIAL. To you who have not attended one of the Conferences, I would like to take this opportunity to invite and encourage you now to begin to make plans to attend this year. Then you will know, see, and feel the GREAT BIG SPECIAL WELCOME that awaits you.

SUCCESSFUL: Webster's defines the word successful as such — "resulting or terminating favorably or as desired; also, achieving success, wealth, position, or life."

The fellowship is always favorable and desired. In fact, you will find the best fellowship in the world right in the midst of the Bible Conference of Calvary Baptist Church.

The food . . . you just can't beat it! Speaking of positions, here is where you can always get a position (and that is at the tail end of the chow line) if you don't hurry.

The faithful, you talk about achieving success, wealth, and position, my brother here is the climax to it all, for some of God's most faithful servants assemble here to pray, preach and sing. Brother, you can't hear better preaching or singing. Some of God's greatest preachers are always at the Calvary Baptist Bible Conference.

Brother, if you attend the Conference and go away without wealth, you had better examine yourself. I do not speak of the kind of wealth you can deposit in some earthly bank, for this wealth comes from Heaven and must return to Heaven.

SPIRITUAL, when we are assembled together for worship — it is just that. Brother Gilpin makes sure no foolishness goes on during this time. Brother, if you are not spiritual when you arrive, if you will stay and attend all the services of the Bible Conference, I can guarantee you will be spiritual when you depart. I am speaking about the Lord's people that are saved, but grown cold. If you come lost, I can guarantee all of God's people will be praying that our Heavenly Father be pleased to save you and cause you to rejoice with us.

Oh yes, there is one other thing I would like to make mention of, and that is the expense. Calvary Baptist Church has always borne the expense of the Conference, but now since they have moved the Conference to Morehead, Ky., and are using the campus there, it is costing greatly. Last year the church spent some \$6,000.00 (six thousand dollars) to host this Conference. With the crowd expected in 1970, it will doubtlessly cost them \$7,500.00. I would like to suggest that we all get behind this good church and pastor and get under the load with them and bear some of the expense.

How about sending a good offering for the Conference right now while it is fresh in your mind, okay? Here's hoping to see many, many of you at the Conference this year — the Lord willing.

BILLY A. LANGFORD
Pasadena, Texas

The Redeemer's Return

By ARTHUR W. PINK
(Continued from last week)

"Second Coming"

(Continued from page two)

Word of God says. Educators are not able to help us. Business men are not able to help us. We'll call up the dead; maybe they can help us." You can be certain of one thing, there will be more spiritualism in the world before Jesus comes than has ever existed in the past.

What can we expect before Jesus comes? Knowledge is going to increase. We read:

"Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."—Dan. 12:4.

Beloved, many shall run to and fro. People are traveling in automobiles all over the country. Folk think nothing at all of getting on a plane and eating breakfast here and eating lunch on the West Coast. Traveling facilities have increased, and increased greatly, and Daniel says at the time of the end, many are going to run to and fro.

Surely knowledge is increased. People are wiser than they used to be. With television, radio, and the newspaper, people are much wiser than they used to be.

I tell you, I am amazed at some of the words that people use today. I was talking of recent date with a man who used words that I was astounded at him using. He was just a country man with practically no education as far as book learning was concerned, but he reads the newspaper, listens to the radio, and looks at television. Daniel says at the end of time that knowledge shall be increased.

I ask the question, what is this world going to be like when the Lord Jesus Christ comes back again? It will be given over to carnal things. Listen:

"For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."—Mt. 24:38,39.

There is nothing wrong with eating and drinking. There is nothing wrong with giving in marriage. What is wrong, is, people think only in terms of eating and drinking, and of marrying and giving in marriage.

We go back and read the story at the time before the flood, and the Word of God says:

"The earth was filled with violence."—Gen. 6:11.

God sent a flood that took away that Adam and Eve civilization.

Beloved, as surely as God lives, that same God has His eye upon this world at this hour. As the days come and go, you can expect the earth to be filled with violence. As it was in the days before the flood, you can expect similar moral conditions. You can expect conditions of this world to become worse and worse as the days pass.

I ask again, what is the world going to be like when Jesus comes? Beloved, you can expect riches to become more and more prevalent.

A millionaire used to be considered somebody to be looked up to, but we have millionaires galore in the United States today. Along about the time of that heathen festivity called Xmas, I read about a fellow in Texas who was sending supplies to Vietnam. He was about thirty-four years old and a billionaire. They said he started out in life without a dime.

God's Word says that riches are a sign of His coming. Listen:

"Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of

(Continued on page 4, column 3)

Ere closing this chapter one other question claims our attention—

4. Why is it that our Lord has tarried till now?

Why has not the Redeemer returned long ere this? At first sight perhaps this inquiry might appear almost irreverent and some may feel inclined to remind us that "secret things belong unto the Lord." In response we would say, It is not in any spirit of idle curiosity nor is it to indulge an inquisitive speculation that we take up this question, but simply because we believe that a humble examination of it will prove profitable to our souls, inasmuch as the answer to our inquiry demonstrates the wisdom and grace of Him with whom we have to do.

Of old, the mother of Sisera cried concerning her son, "Why is his chariot so long in coming? Why tarry the wheels of his chariot?" (Judges 5:28). We might well appropriate these words to our present inquiry. On the eve of His death, the Lord Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself, that where I am there ye may be also," but eighteen centuries have run their weary course since then and He has not yet returned! Is not this deeply mysterious? A world in which iniquity abounds more and more; an Israel without a home and without a king; a church rent by divisions and, like Samson, shorn of its power; a groaning creation and a war-stricken

Halliman's Report

(Continued from page 1)

Early Monday morning natives were singing and chirping like birds. Shortly after 7 a.m. several had gathered around wanting to know how long it would be before we could go to the baptizing. Due to a cold foggy morning I hesitated about going so early, but by ten o'clock I had been caught up in the surge and off we went to a place about half way in between the two churches that had been selected as the place to hold the baptizing.

There were people from various parts of this large valley that had come to witness the baptizing plus those that attended the two churches so by the start of the service we had an estimated one thousand people there. All joined in when the singing began and whether or not they were all in tune they were certainly making a joyful noise unto the Lord. With the singing finished I had the privilege of preaching to this large group of people. We had lots of folk there that were non-professors and some there who had been taught works for salvation. I counted it a great honor to be privileged of the Lord to preach to this large group of folk.

When the sermon was finished the group from the Tabia Baptist Church was baptized first. There were 33 in this group to be baptized. Included in this group was the head man of this tribe. This has not happened too many times and while it takes no more of the grace of God to save one of these fellows there seems to be a special joy in seeing a person that Satan has used to influence thousands, trust in Christ and follow Him in baptism.

When the group from the Tabia Baptist Church had been baptized the group from the Badada Baptist Church followed the Lord in baptism. There was 21 in this group making a total of 54 that I baptized that day. With another song and prayer the service was dismissed.

I had brought a change of clothing along and after changing into dry clothes I went to Tabia and spent a few hours with the people and had another service with them at the church house while there. The church building there is quite large and it was filled to overflowing and several folk had to sit on the outside. We had a great time with the folk there that day.

About mid-afternoon I left there and went back to Badada and held another service with the

church there. About 4 p.m. heavy rain set in and there was not much one could do except prepare a meal and read so that is what I did for the remainder of that day which closed the fifth day of the patrol.

Tuesday was quite a full day with four services, two services each at the Badada and Tabia Baptist Churches and each church observed the Lord's Supper. There were some irregularities to be dealt with at each of these churches and this was taken care of before the Lord's Supper was served. I had a great ministry with both of these churches and each group seemed to be on a high spiritual plane when I left them and I know that I had been spiritually blessed by being able to be with them. We finish this part of the report with the close of the sixth day of the patrol.

The Forum

(Continued from page one)

JAMES HOBBS

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McDermott, Ohio

RADIO SPEAKER
and MISSIONARY

Kings Addition
Baptist Church
South Shore, Ky.



Let me advise you to read the entire chapter before you go on reading my answer. This is what I did before I even considered thinking of an answer.

As you can see, this chapter is dealing with the coming of the Lord. It is taking into consideration the complete second coming, not in relation to the amount of time that it takes but the fact of it taking place. For this reason it speaks of the destruction as well as the rapture. The thousand years that will be between the rapture and the final phase will be as a day to God.

After reminding us of the coming and warning us of the skeptics that will be around, He then gives us the comfort of verse 9.

In this verse we see several things. First we are reminded that God keeps His promises. "For yet a little while, and he that SHALL come WILL come, and WILL NOT TARRY." (Heb. 10:37) We can be comforted with this. He keeps all of His promises including the promise that He will come for us shortly. "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me.

earth, all unite in crying with the souls under the altar "How long, O Lord!" (Rev. 6:10).

Man cannot complain that God has not allowed him full opportunity to experiment and test his own plans. Man has been permitted to do his utmost in ruling and regenerating the world. God, as it were, has put the reins of government into his hands, and withdrawn for a season. Why? To show whether man was sufficient for these things. To show whether or not man was capable of governing himself. To show whether man was competent to grapple successfully with the powers of evil which war upon his soul.

Why then such delay? Why has the millennial era of blessedness been thus postponed? Why has not the Redeemer returned to enter into His blood-bought inheritance long ere this? Stupendous questions surely. Questions which sometime or other exercise the hearts of all the saints of God. Is it possible to discover a satisfactory answer? A complete answer—No; for now we "know in part." But an answer—yes, an answer that will at least enable us to see, even though it be through a glass darkly, something of the meaning of our Lord's delay. Why this protracted interval since the time of His departure? Why has He not returned long ere this? We answer—

First, because God would give man full opportunity to develop his schemes and thereby demonstrate the world's need of a competent Ruler.

(To Be Continued Next Week — D.V.)

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:1-3)

The long suffering of the Lord in this chapter is salvation. Salvation both to the lost as well as to the saved. (See verse 15). This long suffering is limited. It is limited to "us-ward." Only the elect of God is included.

He is not willing that any (of the us-ward) should perish, but rather come to repentance. In other words, my friends, He is saying that the Lord will not come to rapture His saints until we have all been saved. He will not come early. As long as He tarries we can rest assured that there are still some of His elect to be saved.

Remember, however, that there are some who are elected to be saved after the rapture. These are not included in the statement above. There are some, the 144 thousand Jews and possibly some of all nations, who will be saved after the Lord comes in the air to take us to be with them. This is a different age or dispensation and these are not included in our interpretation of verse 9.

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The latter part of this verse is a very vital part of the life-blood of Arminianism. And when the Arminian gets through operating on God's precious Word it is pathetic to see the god he has left. He has trimmed off all of the "Almighty" and all he has left is a little god who wants to save everybody, but he is helpless in the face of "Mighty Man." His little god is not willing that anybody should perish, but he just cannot help himself. If that is your kind of God, you ought to pray for him, but on second thought, I do not know who you would pray to in his behalf.

I believe the Arminian would

agree, at least outwardly, that the Bible is one concerted whole. I believe he would admit, outwardly, that no part of the precious Scriptures contradicts any other part of them. So, with that in mind, may we examine some of the Scriptures to see if the Arminian's version of the latter part of this verse contradicts other Scriptures.

In Psa. 135:6 we read, "Whatever Jehovah pleased, that hath He done, in heaven and in earth, in the seas and all the deeps." Who can deny that this verse teaches that God does anything He wants to do? But, if II Pet. 3:9 teaches that God wants to save everybody, Psa. 135:6 is a false statement, because we know that the great majority of the people are not saved. In Isa. 46:10 God says, "My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure." By this He means that He does whatever it pleases Him to do. So if some of the Scriptures teach that God does everything He wants to do and other Scriptures teach that He wants to save everybody, but, as Billy Graham puts it, He cannot save them against their will, then I am ready to join in with old Eric Rust and say, the Bible needs to be corrected.

There are so many other Old Testament Scriptures that affirm the fact that God does anything and everything He wants to do. For instance, Job says, "I know that thou canst do everything." 42:2. But now let us examine a few New Testament Scriptures. In Rom. 9:18 Paul says, "Therefore hath He mercy on whom He will have mercy, and whom He will he hardeneth." Now the Arminian would tell us that the Lord wanted to save that poor fellow whom He hardened, but he just would not let Him do so. In Jno. 1:13 we read, "Which were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." If you are unable to see from this verse that man has absolutely nothing to do with his new birth, it just may be that you need that "seeing eye" spoken of in Prov. 20:12.

Yes, I know that Acts 16:31 says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." And I believe with all my heart that everyone who believes on the Lord Jesus Christ is saved. But I also believe that no one can believe on the Lord Jesus Christ until he has faith in Him. And in Eph. 2:8 we read, "For

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The Forum

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by grace are ye saved; through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." Here we are told plainly that even our faith is a gift of God. This simply means that those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ are the ones whom God has given faith with which to believe. Thus in Phil. 1:19 we are told that "Unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer for His sake." So we see that God not only gives us the faith with which to believe, but He also gives us the belief. No wonder He said in Jno. 10:28 "I give unto them eternal life." No wonder Paul said in Rom. 6:23, "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Beloved, if you have a salvation that is not a free gift of God from beginning to end, it must be a counterfeit.

In Jno. 5:21 our Lord said, "The Son quickeneth whom He will." If that means anything in the world, it means that the Lord Jesus Christ saves anybody He wants to save. In Job 23:13 we read, "What His soul desireth, even that He doeth." In all sincerity, would I not be saying that Jno. 5:21 and Job 23:13 are both just plain lies if I say the Lord wants to save any person whom He does not save? Remember, He said in Isa. 46:11 "I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass." He says He saves, or quickens whom He will. He says that what His soul desires, He does. Now He says, "I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass." And you can believe it, or you can leave it, but please remember, He is the One who said it.

If Jesus Christ wants everybody to be saved, if He desires the salvation of all of Adam's race, why did He not pray for them in Jno. 17:9? He said, "I pray not for the world." Keep in mind that He said to the Father in Jno. 11:42 "I knew that thou hearest me always." If Jesus Christ had prayed for everybody that day, everybody would have been saved. And if everybody were to be saved, it would wreck God's whole economy. In Rev. 19:20 we are told that the beast and the false prophet are to be cast into the lake of fire alive. These are the two men whom old Satan gives his power and his throne during the awful tribulation time. And if they should be saved and not be cast into hell alive, God's precious Word would be broken, and your salvation and mine would not be worth a two cent piece with a hole punched in it. Really and truly, can you believe that our Lord is not willing that these two men perish? Remember, if they do not perish, His Word is broken and His whole economy is wrecked. Think twice before you answer that question.

Then, just what is taught in II Pet. 3:9? The first part of this verse is self-explanatory. What the querist is concerned about, I am sure, is the latter part of the verse. The Arminian overlooks the middle part of this verse for the sake of his theology. But let us notice both parts of the verse together. The meaning of the last part is entirely dependent upon the middle part. These two parts read, "but is long suffering to us-ward (or toward us), not willing that any should perish." Who is Peter talking about here? Any honest English teacher will tell you that in order to diagram this sentence it will be necessary to supply the words "of us." Then this Scripture would read, "but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any of us should perish." That is the real meaning of this verse. The "us" of course speaks of the Lord's elect ones.

The happiest person in all the world is a Christian who can believe all of God's precious Word without his having to explain away part of it, or shrug it off. This person can believe that we were chosen before the foundation of the world (Eph. 1:4), and at the same time he can believe "Whosoever will let him come," Rev. 22:17. And he can believe both of these Scriptures because he knows from Phil. 2:13 that the "Whosoever will" are the ones whom the Lord has made willing. No spiritually dead sinner is willing to come to Christ until he is made willing. Adam tried to hide behind the trees of the garden and Saul of Tarsus was desperately trying to destroy our Lord's church until He made them willing to be saved. What were you doing until He made you willing?

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The Holy Spirit in this chapter and verse is explaining one of the characteristics of God, namely, His long suffering. Because of the long period of time that has elapsed since Christ promised to come back to earth and set up His kingdom, men have scoffed, laughed, and declared that the promise of His coming is nothing more than words. God, knowing that His children would be confused by these sayings of the scoffers, gave us the verse under consideration to remind us that we are not to think of Him as do those who scoff at His promise. He reminds us that we are not to count His long suffering on the basis of human reasoning for one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand as one day (verse 8).

Jesus said, "I will come again" (John 14:2), yet the scoffers say, "Where is the promise of His coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." (II Pet. 3:4). The Lord, in answering their charges, proves their accusations to be groundless, for in reality, the time between the giving of the promise and its fulfillment may be many thousands of years to us, but to Him a matter of a few days.

Suppose He had sent His son back a hundred years ago, His promise to the Son to save a certain number would have failed because you and I who are saved would not have been born, physically or spiritually, and we were promised to Him in the eternal covenant. So, the Spirit reminds us that God is not slack concerning the return of His Son; rather He is long suffering to us-ward (elect) by setting the date to fulfill the coming of Christ at such a time when all the elect of this age will have been regenerated. The Spirit, after explaining the long suffering of God, reveals the purpose of His long suffering — that He is not willing that any should perish. Those whom God is not willing to perish are the same ones whom the Son mentions six times in His prayer to the Father. Read John 17. He calls them, "Those whom thou hast given me," and P.A.U. refers to them as "vessels of mercy prepared unto glory," Rom. 9:23.

Therefore, the Lord is long suffering in delaying the second coming, for He is not willing that any of them perish. Time will be given for these chosen ones to be conceived in the flesh and in the Spirit, and time will be given for them to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord. Because of God's longsuffering, every soul whom God gave to the Son shall be saved, and taken to Glory, for

God is not willing for any of them to perish.

Though the scoffers make mock of God's promise, He does not speak audibly. This does not mean that He is indifferent, because we read, "He that sitteth in the Heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall have them in derision" Ps. 2:4. At this very moment, our Heavenly Father is laughing at man's vain attempts to destroy His Word and defeat His promises. He knows their time is short, and it will not be long until He will cast them into the Lake of Fire, but He is long suffering toward us (elect) not willing that we perish with the world (man).

The Arminians, hoping to defeat the purpose of God, will quote this verse saying, "God is not willing for any sinner to go to Hell," whereas, the truth of the matter is, God isn't discussing the condemnation of sinners. Rather He is assuring us (saved) that He will fulfill His promise to return His Son, but not until His people are born in the flesh and spirit, for it is not His will that they perish.

However, it is most definitely His will that unregenerated sinners perish in Hell. If God were to stand by, helpless to prevent the sinner from going to Hell, although not willing for Him to go there, it would destroy Him as all powerful, making Him like unto a man. The Scriptures teach me that none can stay God's hand and what His soul desireth, even that He doeth. He loves His own; therefore, He puts forth His hand to save them, and none can turn it back. His soul desires that they (elect) not perish, thus everyone of them shall be saved for salvation is of the Lord.

"Second Coming"

(Continued from page 3)

them shall be a witness against you, and your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.

Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth; and the cries of them which have reaped are entered in to the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.

Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton, ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter."—James 5:1-5.

Beloved, this talks about the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is coming again and this you can expect.

IV

HOW WILL JESUS COME?

The Word of God says:

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout."—I Thess. 4:16.

"I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star."—Rev. 22:16.

It will be a glorious day when Christ shall appear. For years when I have looked up into the sky, to see a cloud, I have thought maybe my Lord may be on that one, and I have perked up and watched. Some of these days, there is going to be a shout of triumph and He'll come. In answer to the question, how will He come, I say that He will come with a shout, and He will appear as the bright and morning star.

V

WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN JESUS CHRIST COMES?

We read:

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."—I Thess. 4:16,17.

I was driving along the road sometime ago with two preacher boys and we passed a large cemetery and we were talking about how beautifully kept it was. One of the brethren said, "Some of these mornings we won't be passing by here, but somebody else

will, and from that cemetery the saints of God will rise."

Beloved, that is right. Some of these days Jesus Christ is coming and every saint will rise from the grave. If someone who is very dear and precious to you has died and gone to the grave, some of these days that body is going to rise to meet Jesus in the air. That loved one is coming out of the grave. That loved one is going up. We which are alive and remain are going to be caught up.

I can't think of anything which is more of a blessing, and which brings more peace and joy than to know that God isn't going to be defeated. What is going to happen when He comes? There is going to be a resurrection of the dead.

Oh, what a glorious day! God's children are going to be caught up with Him. The world at large is going to say, "What happened to these people? Where did they go?" I am satisfied that Jesus is coming again, and when He does, He will take all Christians away.

You say, "I don't believe that Jesus will ever come back." Listen, beloved, all God is doing with the unsaved now is just biding His time. God is just letting this world go on, heading for destruction.

I say that if a Christian man is in an automobile when the Lord comes, He will be caught up. I was in a car sometime ago and the man had a sign on his dashboard: "This car is driven by a Christian who is ready to leave this world at any moment. If you are not saved, I would advise you to get out."

I think that there will be pilots who are Christians when the Lord comes who will be caught away. People will say, "Here is the wreckage of the plane, but where is the pilot?" Some of these days, Jesus is coming and the dead will be caught up out of the ground first, and then we which are alive will be caught up with Him. What a glorious day for the saints of God!

VI

WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO THOSE THAT ARE UNSAVED?

There is only one thing that can happen to the man who is unsaved. During the Tribulation Period, there will be multiplied thousands who are going to be saved, but there will not be one saved then who has ever heard the Word of God before. I think that God is very specific in telling us that when Jesus Christ comes, those who have heard the Word of God will be left behind and will never be saved. Listen:

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because THEY RECEIVED NOT the love of the truth, that they might be saved."—II Thess. 2:3-10.

Notice that it says, "They received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved."

I don't believe that there is a person that is unsaved when Jesus comes that will ever see Heaven. During the Tribulation period that follows, there will be some thousands who will be saved. I think the greatest missionary and evangelistic era in the history of the world will be during the Tribulation period. But do you know who is going to be saved? Not the people I like you who have heard the Word of God, but people who have never heard the Word of God preached before.

What is going to happen to the unsaved — those that are left behind when God has caught away the saved? Listen:

"When the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus

Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power."—II Thess. 1:7-9.

Notice that it says that those who obeyed not the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be punished with everlasting destruction.

Unsaved man or woman, I say to you, if Jesus Christ were to come in this hour, there is no hope that you will be saved.

VII

WHEN WILL JESUS COME?

Jesus will not come until all of His elect are saved. Listen:

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."—II Pet. 3:9.

Beloved, Jesus says that none of His saints shall perish, but that all shall come to repentance. Every one for whom He died will be saved and spend the ceaseless ages of the future in Heaven.

CONCLUSION

As I have brought you this message from the standpoint of questions, I have asked, is He going to come suddenly and unexpectedly? I have asked, what is this earth going to be like when He comes? I have asked, how will He come? I have asked, what will happen when He comes? I have asked the question, what will happen to those who are left when He comes? I have asked the question, when will Jesus come?

Sinner friend, are you ready for His coming? Jesus says:

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."—Mt. 11:28,29.

God's Word also says:

"The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe."—John 1:7.

Sinner friend, may you repent of your sins, believe the gospel that He died for you, trust Him and be saved.

May God bless you!



Ira G. Lycan

(Continued from page one)

ed the truth which I preached. I don't think I have ever known anyone who got more joy and satisfaction from supporting the truth than did Brother Lycan.

Sister Lycan, who was the second wife of Brother Ira, has truly been a remarkable companion and help meet to him. What a blessing she has been in making his later years comfortable, pleasant and happy, and truly, it has been a joy to us to have known these two through the years and to have been their pastor.

May God's blessings be upon the memory of Brother Lycan. May He give Sister Lycan many years yet in the service of our Lord. May He bless Calvary Baptist Church as we strive to serve Him as a body.



Hypocritical Singing

(Continued from page one)

least little offense sever it.

WE SING "WE'RE MARCHING TO ZION"—but fail to march to church.

WE SING "I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY"—and never mention it to our neighbors and friends.

WE SING "CAST THY BURDEN ON THE LORD"—and worry ourselves into nervous breakdowns.

WE SING "THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD FOR JESUS"—and never invite our next-door neighbors to church.

WE SING "O DAY OF REST AND GLADNESS"—and wear ourselves out traveling.

WE SING "THROW OUT THE LIFE LINE"—and content ourselves with throwing out a fishing line.