

A man is also known by the company he keeps out of.

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

The Baptist Examiner

Paid Circulation In All States And In Many Foreign Countries

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

VOL. 39, No. 19

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, JUNE 13, 1970

WHOLE NUMBER 1642

A HEART TO KNOW THE LORD

JOSEPH M. WILSON
Winston-Salem, N. C.

"Yet the Lord hath not given you an heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, unto this day."—Deut. 29:4.

"And I will give them an heart to know me, that I am the Lord: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God."—Jer. 24:7.

"Thus saith the Lord, let not

heavenly learning that must be taught in a heavenly school with a heavenly instructor.

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

"For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man."—Mark 7:21-23.

The natural heart is a vile, filthy, evil, and depraved thing. Oh, how we need to preach this truth. There is nothing good in man except it be a work of the Holy Spirit, in and through, that man. Man by nature is depraved awfully and totally depraved. How can the fair, beautiful, and God glorifying flower of "knowing the Lord" grow in such wicked soil as the heart of man? It cannot.

The natural heart is a heart that has no understanding of the things of the Lord.

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."—I Cor. 2:14.

Not only is the heart of man vile and wicked, it is blind — utterly blind to spiritual things. The natural man might understand physical truth. He might know geography, history, and other sciences. He might understand much that the world calls moral and religious. But he is completely unable to understand and receive the most simple of spiritual truths. I tell you again, a man must have a B.A. degree to understand the things of the Word of God — Born Again.

Not only is the natural heart wicked and blind, it further has no desire to know the Lord. The natural heart desires the way of rebellion, the way of sin, the way of the world, but has no desire for the Lord. A preacher recently

How Long?

When did you last send an offering for the on-going of TBE?

This paper has cost us more in the last four months, due to the illness of our pressman, and the way we have been printing it, then in any like period of time previously.

We would be most grateful for a gift from you today.

said in my presence, "The world is hungry for the gospel." I told him that the gospel is the last thing the world is hungry for. There is nothing that the world is less hungry for than the glorious gospel of the blessed God. If the world is hungry for that which a man is preaching, you can put it down that he is not preaching the gospel. There is nothing in the heart of man by nature that responds in the least to the gospel. Any response to gospel preaching that is genuine must be wrought in man by the irresistible work of the Holy Spirit.

Now let us apply these three things — the heart by nature is wicked, it is blind, it has no desire for the Lord — to Arminian evangelism. Now the language of Arminianism is: give Jesus your heart, Jesus is knocking at your heart's door, let Jesus come into your heart, etc., etc. Beloved, I make bold to say that Arminian evangelism is based upon and demands for its very existence, an absolute denial of the Scriptural teaching as to the condition of man's heart by nature. No man can believe—really believe, what the Bible teaches about the natural heart and use the phraseology of Arminian evangelism. The Arminian may talk long and loud about his believing the Word of God, but his doctrine reveals that he does not believe in the depravity of the heart. He cannot believe this or he would cease to

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The Baptist Examiner FORUM

"In one of the Baptist papers appeared the following question and answer. Will you please comment concerning its truthfulness."

"What are the largest Baptist denominations in the United States?"

"The Baptist Church was formed in Europe during the Protestant Reformation. The first Baptist church in the United States was founded by Roger Williams in 1638. Combined Baptist bodies throughout the United States number over 26 million; the Southern Baptist being the largest of the group with 11,142,000. American Baptist, which are active in the National Council of Churches, have 1,555,000 members. The Negro National Baptist Convention of which Conservative Dr. Joseph H. Jackson is the president has 6,410,000. It might be pointed out by Action Line that Baptists do not use the term "denomination," but prefer to be called a convention or body."

This is a shameful mixture of truth and falsehood. So far as I am able to determine, the state-

BAPTISTS STARTED DURING THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION. Any one with a lick of knowledge about history knows that the Anabaptists existed centuries before the Reformation. In comparatively recent times the "Ana" was dropped and the name Baptist came to be used. It is a shame that Baptists deny their ancient origin, while historians and leaders of other faiths admit the existence of Baptists back in ancient times.

John T. Christian was for years teacher of church history in the Baptist Seminary at New Orleans, and his history of the Baptists was published by the Baptist Sunday School Board. He cites the writings of non-Baptists to prove conclusively that Baptists go clear back to Christ.

Zwingli, the Swiss reformer lived in the days of Luther and Calvin, and he disliked the Baptists intensely, but here is what he said about them:

"The institution of the Anabaptists is no novelty, but for thirteen hundred years has caused great trouble to the church."

That statement admits the existence of Baptists back as far as A.D. 225.

2. The second falsehood is the statement that "The first Baptist church in the United States was founded by Roger Williams in 1638."

J. R. Graves heard that falsehood babbled back in his day, and he decided to look into the matter. He made a painstaking search for the facts, and he published a book entitled "The First Baptist Church In America." He shows conclusively that Roger Williams DID NOT found the first Baptist church in the United States. The first Baptist church existed at Newport, Rhode Island, and John Clark was the pastor. Dr. Graves located John Clark's grave in the cemetery at Newport, and found his name on the tombstone with the statement that he was the pastor of the first Baptist church in the United States. Moreover, he tells about how Clark was baptized by the pastor of a Baptist church in London.

3. The third falsehood is the statement that "Baptists do not use the term 'Denomination,' but prefer to be called a convention or body."

The truth is, if there is any term that Southern Baptists love to use, it is the term denomination. How often have I heard preachers at associations and conventions talk about "Our Beloved Denomination." I have heard that expression until I was at the point of nausea. I will agree that Baptists ought not like the term, for it is wholly unscriptural. The New Testament speaks of churches, and never does it speak of DENOMINATION.

(Continued on page 2, column 1)

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ment about the size of the different Baptist groups is true, but the rest is false. Let us take note of the three false statements:

1. The statement that "the Baptist church" was formed in Europe during the Protestant Reformation. Back in the years gone by Baptist leaders and Baptist historians were almost unanimous in their contention that Baptist history goes clear on back to Christ. In these latter years so many so-called Baptists seem to feel that it would be shameful to have a history like that. Other churches have a fairly recent origin, so let us get in the swim and date our origin along with the others. That seems to be the attitude. Besides, it seems to be narrow to date Baptists back beyond all other religious groups. This is the day of ecumenicalism, when to say that our people are the people started by Jesus, would militate against unionism. But the question is not how well does the claim to Baptist perpetuity fit in with what is popular. The question is, what are the facts?

IT IS NOT A FACT THAT

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

"WHAT JESUS IS DOING TODAY"

"I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do."—John 17:4.

There are a lot of folk who read this passage about Jesus having finished His work and they think that Jesus Christ isn't doing anything at all today. May I say that when Jesus was talking about the work that He had already finished, as He brought His ministry to a close. He was talking about His earthly ministry. He had finished the types and the shadows of the Old Testament. He had finished all the prophecies of the Old Testament that had to do with Him concerning His earthly ministry. He had finished redemption, or at least would finish it very shortly. In fact, I could name a number of things that Jesus had already finished so far as His earthly ministry was concerned, but the Lord Jesus Christ, while He had finished His earthly min-

istry, had another ministry ahead of Him, and my text, while it refers to the finishing of His work on earth, does not indicate that Jesus had already finished all the work which He had to do.

As I would answer this question as to what Jesus is doing today, may I say that the Lord Jesus Christ is not idle. You can be certain of one thing, the Son of God isn't idle. I don't think God's child ought to be idle either. I don't think that God's child ought to ever sit down and say, "Well, I have done enough. If God has given you an ability to do anything, you ought to be using that ability and that talent in the service of the Lord. I am satisfied the Lord Jesus Christ isn't idle today, and you ought not be idle either."

As we study what He is doing today, may I show you also what

He isn't doing?

He is not on His throne. Too many people think that Jesus Christ, when He left this world, went to His own throne. But that is not so. Listen:

"Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens."—Heb. 7:1.

Notice, He is not on His throne, but rather, He is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty.

Notice again:

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."—Heb. 12:2.

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The Baptist Examiner

The Baptist Paper for the Baptist People

JOHN R. GILPIN.....Editor

Editorial Department, located in ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, where all subscriptions and communications should be sent. Address: P. O. Box 910, zip code 41101.

Published weekly, with paid circulation in every state and many foreign countries.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year — \$2.00; Two years — \$3.50
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Entered as second class matter MAY 9, 1961, in the post office at Ashland, Kentucky, under the act of March 3, 1879.

The Forum

(Continued from page one)

As far as the statistics given in the answer by the Baptist paper, I have no argument. Frankly, I do not have a source of informa-

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tion along the line of the size of religious denominations. I might add, I am not interested in such information. I feel sure that the brother who gathered the information was very careful to get an accurate total. Too bad he wasn't as careful in his study of church history.

First, let me remind you that the Bible does not at any time or in any passage teach us that there should be conventions, associations, organized fellowships, or boards of any kind. The Bible does teach us that the church is a local organization having Christ as its head, and local baptized believers as its body. Even Paul the great teacher of the churches did not try to run them even as he taught them. "And when I come, whomsoever ye shall approve by your letters, them will I send to bring your liberty unto Jerusalem." (I Cor. 16:3).

The important thing that I see in this answer given in a Baptist paper is the misleading statement as to the origin of the first Baptist Church in America. Roger Williams was never a Baptist, nor did he start the first Baptist Church in America. Roger Williams was reared in the Episcopal Church in England. He heard Baptist preachers in England and therefore had trouble in his denomination. He came to America and finally went to Salem where he joined a group which is similar to the Congregational Church of today. Because of trouble with the government he fled Salem and eventually came to Providence, R. I. In 1699 Williams, believing the true church had been lost and since none were available, influenced eleven of his followers to join with him. He then had Ezekiel Hollimon to immerse him, and then he immersed Mr. Hollimon and the others — all of whom had been excluded from the Salem church. This organization died in four months. Brethren if this is the origin of the Baptist Church in America, we are in trouble. But, thank God, it is not.

Dr. John Clarke, son of a Puri-

tan in England, was connected with the so-called "Particular Baptist" (so named because of their beliefs in the particular redemption of Christ) in 1638 at Newport, R. I. started the First Baptist Church of Newport. This church remained in existence and did not die as did the group that Roger Williams started.

This is the origin of the Baptist Church in America. Our history, of course dates back to the time of Christ. We can find Baptist groups in every period of history back to the first church in Jerusalem.

To comment fully on the truthfulness of this man's answer would take more than all the pages of this paper for there is

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very little truth in it. For his answer, I assume that he goes by the name Baptist, but his comments reveal that he is Baptist in name only. A true Baptist would never contend that Baptists started with the Protestant reformation. Furthermore, his comments manifest that he has not diligently searched the Scriptures for the requirements of a true church, neither has he studied the history of Baptists for on the pages of history some of the Baptists most bitter enemies have freely testified that there were Baptist churches before the Protestant reformation.

If our (Baptist) heritage goes back no further than the reformation, we have no scriptural authority to call ourselves the body of Christ. Christ founded His church (Body of Christ) and only to that church He promised perpetuity. The only way Christ's body could be preserved is by producing bodies like herself. Therefore, for we Baptists to contend we are the bodies of Christ there must be a link chain of bodies all the way back through the reformation to the first body. I believe very firmly that the first Baptist Church started with Christ and that she was empowered at Pentecost with the Holy Spirit (Comforter) and that she has been preserved until this very hour. I do not believe that every church which goes by the name Baptist has descended from the one founded by Jesus. Many men have started organizations and called them Baptist, but since they were never connected to the stream of life (Comforter), they are Baptist only in name.

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." I Cor. 3:11.

Brethren, the true foundation upon which we build was laid by Jesus Christ. He said, "Upon this rock I will build my church," and if our churches are not based upon this one foundation (succession) we are not the bodies of Christ.

Unless our churches are connected to the one founded by Jesus, we would not have the Holy Spirit. I am not referring to the work of the Spirit in regeneration, rather I am referring to the Spirit which came as the Comforter on Pentecost and which Christ promised would guide into all truth. Read John 14 and 16.

To state that Baptists started in the reformation is to teach that we are without the Comforter, and if we are without Him, we are without the truth. Thus, we would become a vine which the Father did not plant and which he would root up. Thanks be unto our Father, the Baptist Church was started by

Christ during His ministry rather than with the Protestant Reformation.

His comments as to the first Baptist Church in America was also in error. J. R. Graves in his book, "The First Baptist Church in America" gives conclusive proof that John Clark established the first Baptist church at Newport, R. I. Historians give us further proof that Roger Williams was not the founder of the first church. They tell us that his work lasted but a short time and there were no other organizations established by him. Therefore, Baptists in America did not descend from Roger Williams, rather the linkage of true Baptists is traced through the work of John Clark.

I also take exception to the statement that Baptists prefer to be called a convention. He wrote as if he were speaking for all Baptists, but brethren, he was not speaking for the First Baptist Church of Arabia, Ohio. We prefer independent rather than convention for she has no other Lord than Jesus Christ. She does not listen to presidents, overlords, or church bosses. Her founder gave her His Word to follow; therefore, she has no need of conventions or associations to tell her what she must do.

Since we Forum writers are rather long winded with our typewriters, and since about all we could say about the truthfulness of the above answer would be "phooey" (a home made

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word), therefore, I am going to take the privilege of discussing the untruthfulness of it. And I assure you books could be, and, in fact, have been written on this subject.

In the first place, if Baptists came out of the church of England as Southern Baptist training course books teach, then we Baptists have no better heritage than a poor child whose mother is a drunken prostitute and whose father is an underworld hoodlum. I made that statement in the convention church I left in 1959. And I might add, that hastened my departure. The church of England known to us as the Episcopal Church was started in January 1533 by King Henry VIII of England. Henry wanted pope Clement VII to grant him a divorce from Catherine who was getting old and ugly. For lack of space we will refrain from giving Clement's reason for refusing to give Henry the divorce. But, since he could not get a divorce, he declared himself to be the head of the church in England, threw Catherine in the dungeon, and married Anne Boleyn. This really started old fat Henry on a marrying spree. During the first fourteen years of his new church's history Henry lived with six different wives, two of whom he had beheaded. Another died in the dungeon where she had been thrown in order to get her out of his way; and another died or some cause unknown to us.

But still Henry was a mighty good Catholic so far as doctrine was concerned. When Professor Lambert who taught school there in London began to teach that the bread and the wine in the Lord's Supper did not actually become the flesh and blood of Christ, Henry had him burned to death by first burning his feet off and then slowly putting him further in the fire. Some great church builder?

In the second place, if Baptists

do not date back to the time of Christ here on the earth, then Jesus Christ lied in Mt. 16:18. There He said, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it" speaking of His church. I readily admit that the Catholic Church is the oldest religious organization in the world. It was founded on the banks of the Euphrates by Nimrod, the great grandson of Noah, and his followers. This religion was known as Babylonian Mysticism. And the title of the high priest in this religion was "pontefex maximus." That is pope Paul's official title for all formal occasions today. The apostate churches that our Lord's true churches withdrew fellowship from in 251 A. D. finally merged with this Babylonian Mysticism in the fourth century, and we had the beginning of the Catholic Church. But this merger did not become catholic, or universal until 610 A.D. when Boniface III the Bishop of Rome was declared to be the universal Bishop by a cut throat emperor of Rome. So I repeat, if Baptists do not date back to the time of Christ, no church does. But I do not believe my Lord lied in Mt. 16:18.

The statement in the above answer which says, "The first Baptist Church in the United States was founded by Roger Williams" is enough to make a true Baptist vomit up his toe nails. Roger Williams never was a Baptist. It is true that he renounced his infant baptism and was immersed, or rather ducked by Ezekiel Hollimon. Williams then ducked Hollimon and they started a thing called a church in March 1639. Four months later in July of that same year Williams renounced his immersion, and his so-called church disbanded. Williams was ducked by a man who had never been baptized himself. There is no way under heaven for a person to become a Baptist except by his being baptized by a Baptist who has authority from a Baptist Church to do the baptizing. It is an insult to the Lord Jesus Christ for anyone to say that Roger Williams founded a Baptist Church any time.

As to the number of members the different Baptist groups have, I won't argue the point. But I would like to challenge all the Baptist groups in the country to get a third of that 26 million members in church on any given day (except Easter). I doubt very much that 5 million Baptists could be found in all the country who are faithful to their church. It is my observation that a Baptist Church that boasts of having 1500 members usually has an auditorium that will seat about 500, and there is always room for visitors.



"What Jesus Is Doing"

(Continued from page one)

Both of these verses tell us that the Lord Jesus Christ is not on His throne, but is set down now at the right hand of the throne of God.

Let me say also that Jesus is not trying to save everybody. The majority of preachers present a message that makes Jesus Christ an absolute failure — that He is trying to save the world and the world "won't" let Him.

Several years ago, a local evangelist went out to a church, 35 miles from here, to hold a revival meeting. One night, he broke down in one of those crying fits for which he is noted, and he said, "You just 'won't' let God do anything. You folk out here are so hardened you just 'won't' let God save you."

I tell you, beloved, a man that would make a statement like that ought to be taken out of the pulpit, and never allowed to enter a pulpit again. God isn't trying to save anybody. He has never tried to save anybody. In fact, He has never tried to do anything.

God just does what His will is. So Jesus Christ isn't trying to save everybody today.

Neither is Jesus Christ a spiritual king ruling over some kind of spiritual kingdom. The majority of the Protestant churches and a great number of Baptist Churches, particularly the Convention crowd of Baptists, talk about "bringing in the kingdom." They say that by our preaching we ought to be "bringing in the kingdom," as if to indicate that the Lord Jesus Christ is some sort of a spiritual king, and He is reigning over a spiritual kingdom, and that it is our business by our work and our exertion to bring in the kingdom of God. I tell you, the Lord Jesus Christ is not a spiritual king over any kind of a spiritual kingdom, and it is not our business to be "bringing in the kingdom" today.

Now having shown to you what Jesus Christ is not doing, let me call attention to some things that Jesus Christ is doing today.

I

JESUS CHRIST IS PREPARING A PLACE FOR HIS BRIDE.

We read:

"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."—John 14:2.

Who is the Bride of Christ? Lots of folk would tell you immediately that all of the saved of the world make up the Bride. One man a few days ago, even went so far as to say that Abraham would be the Bride, yet Abraham never knew what it was to be a member of a church. He had never heard of a church. A lot of people would tell you that the Bride of Christ is made up of all the saved. Let me show you how foolish that is.

Suppose that it is so. Then you are the biggest fool in this world if you ever contend for any truth that people differ with you on. Why should you contend for any truth that people differ with you on for seventy years here in this world and then die and go to Heaven and everybody is going to be in the Bride? That is the most ridiculous thing in this world. I have preached through the years that Baptists only have the authority to baptize and that Baptist baptism is the only baptism that will ever be recognized in Heaven. I have preached that a Baptist church ought to observe what we call close communion — that is, one church observing the Lord's Supper for itself, without any alien assistance or interference. I have preached through the years that Baptists are the only people that have a commission. Nobody else has a commission to do anything today, because all other churches are man-made churches.

Now, beloved, listen: I live, we will say, for seventy years' time and die and go to Heaven, and here are all these heretics that I have contended against — they live seventy years, they die and go to Heaven. They are saved, but they are in the wrong church. They are not in the church that Jesus built. When they die, we all funnel together into the Bride of Christ, so the majority of the world believes. They believe that regardless of what we believe down here, we are all going to be funneled together into the Bride of Christ.

Beloved, listen, we are going to be there forever. Wouldn't I be the biggest fool in this world to contend for Baptist Church truth down here for seventy years and then that crowd that hated me and hated the truth that I preach, I am going to be with them throughout a never-ending eternity. I say to you, the idea that all the saved make up the Bride of Christ is the most ridiculous piece of foolishness in this world.

I contend that the Bride of Christ is a select number and is going to be made up of a group that is known only to Himself today. When I read Revelation 19:1, which says, "Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb," and

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

The Redeemer's Return

By ARTHUR W. PINK

(Continued from last week)

"What Jesus Is Doing"

(Continued from page two)
I study the word "called" to realize that it means "invited," I say that could not mean the Bride, because the Bride isn't invited to her own marriage. There are going to be some people at the marriage that are invited guests, who are not a part of the Bride.

I go back to the Old Testament and read a remarkable text of Scripture relative to the Bride. Listen:

"The king's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold. She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: the virgins her companions."—Psa. 45:13,14.

Notice, the Bride is going to have some companions. They are going to be virgins too, but they are not going to be in the Bride.

Beloved, what is Jesus Christ doing today? He is preparing a place for His Bride. He said, "I go to prepare a place for you." He wasn't talking about Heaven. The man who takes John 14:2 and says that is a reference just to Heaven alone is ridiculously misapplying the Word of God. He said, "I go to prepare a place for you." What is He doing? He is getting a place ready for His Bride.

Those of you who have been married know that when you got married, you gave it some little thought before hand as to where you were going to live and what you were going to have by way of furniture. You prepared something for your bride.

Beloved, that is what the Lord Jesus Christ is doing today. He is making preparations for His Bride.

Whenever I read Revelation 21 as to the wall that is built around the Bride, it becomes more and more precious to me. This is not talking about Heaven alone. This is talking about a select group inside of a select group, and that select group is walled off from all the balance.

If you will read this chapter, you will find that it is amazing how many times the word "wall" is found. That wall is to tell how that our Lord has built a wall all the way around His Bride even in Heaven, to shut them off from the other folk who are there who are saved that are not in the Bride.

People say, "I guess Baptists are going to be the only ones in Heaven." No, there will be a lot of people in Heaven. People say, "I guess Baptists will be off in one little corner having close communion." Beloved, you can be certain of one thing, you may not have used the right language, but Baptists are going to be in a crowd by themselves in Heaven. They are going to have a wall around them to shut them off from everybody else. What is our Lord doing? He is getting that place ready now. He is preparing a place for His Bride.

II

JESUS CHRIST IS CARRYING ON AN INTERCESSORY WORK FOR US.

I believe that Jesus Christ is interceding for me this morning. I believe that He is interceding for every one of you. You need intercession. Listen:

"But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. 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. 7:24,25.

Notice, this is talking about Jesus, and it says that Jesus has an unchangeable priesthood. In other words, He has an unalterable priesthood; His priesthood doesn't pass to somebody else.

The Catholics say that when Jesus Christ was here, He handed His priesthood over to Simon

But as there will be only a comparatively short interval between the two stages in the second coming of Christ, the Signs which proclaim the one announce the other. If the fulfillment of certain inspired predictions declare that the return of Christ to the earth is near at hand, then His descent to the air is so much nearer still. If we know that the end of the Age itself is now almost reached, then it is doubly certain that the rapture of the saints may occur at any hour. Yet, we repeat, the various Signs to which we shall call our readers' attention have to do with our Lord's return to the earth. We repeat this for the sake of warning, for as another has said, the business of the Christian is not to be looking for signs but listening for a Shout (Halde-man). Yet, while we ought not to be looking for signs we may look at them (W. Scott).

As we have said, the Old Testament Scriptures foretold certain things concerning the Lord when He should appear: fore-announced Signs were to characterize the times of His advent. But the Jews failed to discern these Signs and the Saviour reproached them for their failure. Said He, "When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the Signs of the Times?" (Matt. 16:2, 3). The reason why the Pharisees and Sadducees were blind to the significance of the things which were then transpiring before their eyes, was that they were ignorant of the contents of that Book in which these Signs were recorded. This is clear from the words of our Lord on many occasions—"Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures" (Matt. 22:29). The reason why they were ignorant of the contents and real meaning of the Scriptures was because they had substituted their own "tradition" for the Word of God (Mark 7:13). And history has repeated itself! We are living in a day when the vast majority of people are unable to "discern the Signs of the Times," when our religious leaders "err, not knowing the Scriptures" because they are following their own "tradition" rather than the Word of God. The Lord Jesus rebuked the Pharisees and Sadducees because they could "discern the face of the sky" but would not take the necessary pains to "discern the Signs of the Times." Then let us beware lest we fall through the same example of unbelief. Let us approach the Scriptures reverently and prayerfully, seeking to discover our position on the calendar of prophecy and thus be prepared for the solemn yet blessed events now so near at hand.

(To Be Continued Next Week — D.V.)

Peter and Simon Peter handed it over to the next Pope, and they have been handing it down until the priesthood is in the hands of the Pope today.

I tell you, beloved, Jesus Christ has an unalterable priesthood. He doesn't turn His priesthood over to anybody else. He is still the priest, and what is He doing? "He ever liveth to make intercession for them." Thank God, Jesus Christ is up yonder in Heaven making intercession for you. I don't think there is a saved person here but what realizes that he needs the intercessory work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Notice again:

"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world."—I John 2:1,2.

First of all, every man sins. In fact, we have sinned many times since we have been saved. But if any man sin (that takes in you and me, because all of us sin), we have an advocate, and that advocate is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Here is a man who has a business and he hires a legal firm to represent him. He gives them what we call a retainer fee so that they are hired in his behalf. At any time any legal difficulty comes up, he calls on that firm and asks them for advice. This man doesn't wait until trouble arises or he needs advice, but he has a retainer by way of this legal firm standing by.

Thank God, I have a retainer in Heaven. The Lord Jesus Christ is my advocate, and He is the propitiation, or the sacrifice for

my sins. He isn't there to make an excuse for me. A lot of people think that the Lord Jesus Christ is up in Heaven making an excuse for His people. Not at all. He isn't there to make an excuse, He isn't there to ask God the Father to be lenient. Rather, He is there to present His blood.

His blood was spilled for our sins. This is the reason why we are saved on earth. This is the reason why we are being kept saved. Because of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, He is there in Heaven today, keeping our sin debt paid from day to day. I say, beloved, that is part of His work today — He is carrying on an intercessory work for us.

Notice a similar Scripture:

"For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."—Heb. 9:24.

Where is He, beloved? He is entered into Heaven. Why is He there? To appear in the presence of God. Why does He need to be in the presence of God? He does not. Then why is He there? Beloved, He is there to appear for us.

Thank God, if you are saved, you have an advocate. You have a lawyer at the right hand of God. That advocate, that lawyer, is the Lord Jesus Christ. What is He doing today? He is preparing a place for His Bride and He is carrying on an intercessory work for us.

III

JESUS CHRIST IS WAITING FOR HIS ENEMIES TO RUN THEIR COURSE.

We read:

"But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand

of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool."—Heb. 10:12,13.

Notice, the Lord Jesus Christ is in an attitude of expectancy. What is He expecting? He is expecting His enemies to be made His footstool.

You see a woman walking along the street who shows unmistakably the signs that pregnancy has taken place so far as her physical body is concerned, and you would say, "She is expecting."

Beloved, the Lord Jesus Christ is expecting that His enemies be made His footstool and He is just waiting today for His enemies to run their course.

Take all these false churches. Do you believe that all the churches in the world today are true churches? No, you couldn't believe that. There are a thousand or more in existence today and of those thousand or more churches, some of them teach that you are saved by grace and some teach that you are saved by works; some teach baptism by immersion and some teach baptism by sprinkling; some teach close communion and some teach even closer communion like we do, that communion is just for one local church, and some throw it wide open to the world. Do you mean to tell me that the Lord is back of all that? Beloved, you know better.

These churches, the most of which are false, Satanic-built, man-constructed churches, have come into existence because of the work of man and the work of Satan. What is going to happen to them. Listen:

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

Notice, it says that they are going to be rooted up.

Listen again:

"And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall HATE the whore, and shall MAKE HER DESOLATE and NAKED, and shall EAT HER FLESH, and BURN HER with fire."—Rev. 17:16.

The whore that is spoken of here is the false churches of the world, headed up by Roman Catholicism and all the Protestant churches that have come out of Rome, and it says that the beast, whoever he may be, is going to hate the whore and is going to make her desolate and naked, and eat her flesh and burn her with fire. In other words, there is going to be a literal destruction so far as these false churches are concerned.

What is He waiting for? He is expecting. He is waiting for His enemies to run their course. These false churches have to run their course.

There isn't a doubt in my mind but what the Lord allowed these false churches for a purpose, and I think that purpose is to make Baptists to be more Baptist. The sad thing is that the majority of Baptists compromise. I heard a Baptist say just a few days ago to a fellow that was a Campbellite, "There's not much difference between us and you." For shame that a Baptist would ever compromise in that respect! For shame that a Baptist would see how near like somebody else he could be! We ought to magnify our differences, so the world would know that there is something about us that is different from them.

But what is Jesus doing? He is waiting until His enemies have run their course. All these false churches are going to go right on just as they have. They are His enemies. They are not the friends of Jesus. He said, "You are my friends if you do whatsoever I have commanded you." They are not His friends because they do not do what He commanded. They preach things contrary to what

He has commanded. They are not His friends. What is going to happen? He is going to wait until these enemies run their course.

That not only takes care of the false churches, but it takes care of the unsaved. He is waiting on the unsaved to run their course. Listen:

"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."—Acts 17:30,31.

What is He doing now? It says, "The times of this ignorance God winked at." He is just letting men go on and do as they please. If men want to get drunk, let them get drunk. If men want to live for the world, let them live for the world. The Lord Jesus Christ is just letting this world run its course. Like a horse on a tether that is staked out, that horse can go just as far as that tether allows it. The Lord Jesus Christ has this world on a tether and the world will go just as far as He allows it. What is He doing? He is waiting for His enemies to run their course.

IV

JESUS CHRIST IS WAITING TO RECEIVE HIS KINGDOM.

As I have said, Jesus Christ is not a mystical, spiritual king over a spiritual kingdom today. But, beloved, He is going to have a real kingdom someday, and He is going to be king over that kingdom. He is waiting to receive His kingdom. Listen:

"He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come."—Luke 19:12,13.

That is Jesus. What is He doing? He has gone into a far country to receive His kingdom. He has gone to Heaven. When He comes back again, He is going to set up His kingdom, and He says to us, "Occupy till I come." He is just waiting to receive His kingdom. I am glad, beloved, that the Lord Jesus Christ, some of these days, is going to be King of kings and Lord of lords.

Listen again:

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

And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God.

Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned."—Rev. 1:15-17.

Some of these days, Jesus Christ is going to set up His kingdom right here within this world, and all the kingdoms of the world are going to become the kingdoms of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Roman Empire is going to be revived. Russia, Great Britain, the United States, and all the kingdoms of the world are going to become the kingdoms of our God and of Jesus Christ. Beloved, He is waiting to receive His kingdom, and while He waits, He says to us, "Occupy till I come." In other words, He is saying to us, "You keep my house until I get back."

V

JESUS CHRIST IS CALLING OUT A PEOPLE UNTO HIMSELF.

As I have said, Jesus isn't trying to save anybody. He isn't trying to do anything. He doesn't try to do anything — He just does

(Continued on page 4, column 2)

Beloved Caribbean Missionary Tells Of Work There

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power; for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."—Rev. 4: 11.



HAMZA MOHAMMED

Greetings once again in the name of our Great and Sovereign God, the Lord Jesus Christ. We do earnestly trust and pray that this report meets each of you, our dearly beloved friends, in good health and under the direct will of our Great God and King.

It has been quite some time since we have written to you and this is because of more than one reason. First, because of pressure in the work, and then ill health, which makes it difficult to move around as we would like to do. However, amidst it all, the good Lord is most kind, gracious and good to us in that He gives us the necessary grace and strength to carry on His work.

Since our last report, the Lord has blessed us abundantly. The church building in Arima is almost completed and we now have comfortable seating accommodations. We bought fourteen pews. They cost us forty-two dollars for one that was roughly done and we had to do the sanding and polishing ourselves. Otherwise, it would have cost us fifty dollars for one. The floor needs to be tiled and the place needs fencing, which we are working on at the present time.

The Lord made it possible for me to visit the brethren in Barbados in February of this year, where I spent two most profitable weeks. This entire trip was sponsored by the church in Barbados, and the pastor and the members were all very kind and generous to me. I enjoyed preaching to them very much for I found them to be sound in the faith.

Well, here is some bad news. Since the 20th of April, a curfew has been placed on the island. We cannot be out of doors from 6:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. If you are caught out of doors, you are imprisoned and fined. This is because a group of people calling themselves the "Black Power" is seeking to overthrow the government, and destroy everything that is not black. The Government had to seek help from England. The Army sided with the "Black Power" movement and tried to overthrow the Government, but they failed. The place is in a very nasty situation, with the burning of houses and business places, shootings, raping, etc. Our work is badly hindered because of the present situation, and all we can do is to trust the Lord to overrule and undertake for us.

We have missed the supply of

TBE very much and do wish that some church would be so kind as to pay the postage for us. This is the only publication we can use freely. We do trust the Lord would touch the heart of some of our friends to this end.

The Lord is blessing our efforts here wonderfully, despite my ailments. Do pray for us and our needs that the good Lord will undertake. The work is still under the sponsorship of the Woodlawn Terrace Baptist Church. Do pray that the Lord will use her for His glory. Well, we trust that you will have an idea of what is taking place here, and remember us in your prayers. God bless each of you richly.

Your servant on the field,

HAMZA MOHAMMED

EDITOR'S NOTE: We used to send Hamza 15 copies of the paper each week, but when the Post Office raised the price of mailing to the extent that we had to pay six cents each or ninety cents per week, we had to quit sending these papers to him. If any of our friends would like to pay for the sending of these papers to him each week, we would be only too happy to receive such a contribution and forward them weekly in his behalf. It will cost ninety cents per week or \$46.80 per year.



"What Jesus Is Doing"

(Continued from page three) what is His will. But right now He is calling out a people for Himself. Listen:

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

And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written, After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world."—Acts 15:14-18.

This was at the time that they were having that great Jerusalem conference on the subject of whether a person had to be circumcised or do works to be saved. As they discussed the matter of works for salvation, the final conclusion was brought when James stood up and said, "Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name."

Beloved, that is what He is doing today. He is taking out of this Gentile world a people for His name.

We are living in a day when churches are building immense church plants. Great big colossal church buildings, the like of which the world has never seen, are being built today. We are living in a day when those churches are spending multiplied thousands of dollars for recreational equipment; when these big ecclesiastical monstrosities are spending great sums of money in order to entertain the bellies and the bodies and the flesh of their members.

I was in a Baptist Church a short time ago that had a kitchen that cost better than \$50,000. I know of one Baptist church in the Southern Baptist Convention that their budget calls for \$600,000 for the recreational facilities of that church each year. I say, beloved, we are living in a day when these immense church plants are being built and they are spending thousands upon thousands of dollars for recreational equipment. Yet, few are concerned about God calling out a people for His name.

We are living in a day when

hospitals are being built in the name of the Baptist denomination. Great scholastic systems are being built in the name of Baptists. I tell you, beloved, you will never read in the Word of God where a hospital or a school to teach secular education was ever a part of the program laid down by Jesus Christ. You just won't find those things in the Word of God.

What is He doing if He isn't in the business today of entertaining through His church; if He isn't in the business of having recreational equipment for these big churches that are being built; if He isn't in the hospital business and in the teaching business whereby algebra and geometry and the material things of this world are being taught — if He isn't in that business, what is His business? I can tell you what His business is. He is visiting the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name.

I am glad to be aligned with a program like that. I believe that as a church we have one business and that is to present Jesus Christ to the world and it is God's business to take out of the world a people for His name.

CONCLUSION

What is He doing today? I have told you five things that He is doing today.

He is preparing a place for His Bride. Glorious day when that time comes!

He is carrying on an intercessory work for each of us. It is glorious to know that He is interceding for us now.

He is waiting for His enemies to run their course. Sometimes you and I get tired of waiting on our enemies to see how they are going to react. Sometimes I think that God is awfully slow in waiting on some of my enemies, when He makes me wait to see what He is going to do. But God is letting His enemies run their course today.

He is waiting to receive His kingdom. He is going to be a king. He is waiting to receive that kingdom.

He is taking out from among the Gentiles a people for His own name.

I ask you, are you one of those that He is waiting on to let you order your course now? I think that every unsaved person is ordering his course today and is just going his way and God is letting him go his happy way. But some day it is coming to an end. Is God allowing you to run your course, unsaved one? May I insist that Jesus Christ died on the cross for your sins, and may you today trust the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved. Might it please God this morning that He might call you out from among the Gentiles, to be a part of that group that will be a people chosen for His name.

May God bless you!



A Heart

(Continued from page one)

be an Arminian and become a believer in the doctrines of grace.

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them."—Ez. 36:26,27.

Here we learn from the fountain of all truth that salvation does not consist in what one does with the old heart. Salvation is not letting Jesus in or giving Him the old heart. Salvation is a work of Sovereign and Almighty grace wherein God gives a new heart. Salvation is not a seeking to cure or repair the old heart, but the giving of a new heart, one freshly created by the sovereign God.

How this truth does lay the axe to human pride and human thinking in the realm of salvation. How this truth does make

salvation to reside in the sovereign will of God. How this truth does leave man in the hands of God to do with as He sees fit. How this truth does drive man to despair as to ever being able to save himself. You see man cannot give himself a new heart. If salvation depended upon what man did with the old heart, then man might have some hope of self-salvation. But since salvation is the creating within of a new heart, then this work is completely and eternally beyond the power of man.

II

If you will look at the first text which heads this article, you will see that there are some to whom God does not give this new heart. If you will honestly observe the history of men around you, you will likewise see that there are some of fallen mankind who live, die, and go into eternity without God ever giving them this heart to know the Lord. God is not obligated to give this heart to any. It is His sovereign prerogative to do as He will in this matter. The giving of this heart is a matter of grace and not of justice. No man has any claim upon God in this respect. All men by nature have the depraved heart described before. They do not desire this new heart. God, in the high and awful exercise of His sovereignty, passes by a number of mankind, leaves them in their natural condition, and to the eternal results of such a condition, and does not give them this "heart to know the Lord." We may argue with this truth all we desire, but we will not change it one iota. It is the truth of God's Word confirmed by the evidence of history. Some men go into eternity without ever having a "heart to know the Lord." God could as easily give them such a heart as he does to His elect. They are no more unworthy and hell-deserving than those to whom God does give "an heart to know the Lord." It is in the mere exercise of sovereignty that God leaves some to the just consequences of their depraved condition.

III

But, praise God, I am not through with my message. There is more to tell. There is another chapter to write before the book is finished. There are some from among fallen mankind to whom God does give "a heart to know the Lord."

Look again at the second text that heads this article. "I will give them a heart to know me." Now these to whom He gives the new heart are by nature the same as those left in their sins. There is absolutely no difference by nature. There is no reason in them why God should give them this new heart rather than others. The giving of this new heart is an act of sovereign grace. It is not based upon anything the favored ones have ever done or will ever do. These blessed ones are known in Scripture as the elect of God. They are those who were chosen from among fallen mankind from before the foundation of the world, and given to the Lord Jesus Christ as His sheep whom He would save.

Oh, this glorious doctrine of election! Surely it is full of sweet comfort to those whose eyes are opened by the Holy Spirit. What melody there is in the song of electing grace to bless the hearts of the regenerated children of God. This doctrine, surely is a Baptist doctrine. It is the doctrine taught by sound churches from the times of Christ their founder, till the present day. No man may lawfully and honestly wear the name of "Baptist" unless he be a firm believer in the electing grace of God.

This "heart to know the Lord" is given by the effectual working of the Holy Spirit. It is not the result of man's free-will(?) decision, nor of good works, nor of an emotional experience down at the mourner's bench. It is a miracle of the grace and power of

God. The giving of the new heart is a work of sovereignty and irresistible power. To those who are chosen by the Father and redeemed by the Son, the Holy Spirit, at the appointed time, using the Word of God will give this new heart. This new heart is not the result of the preacher's personality, psychological tricks, long drawn out invitations, sob stories, but is of the Holy Spirit.

IV

Now there are some sure and certain results that will inevitably follow upon the giving of this "heart to know the Lord," and by which it evidences itself, and may be known. Those who have this new heart will repent. Their attitude toward sin and God will be a new and different attitude. Where there is no repentance there is no new heart. Those who have this new heart will believe savingly in the Lord Jesus Christ. Seeing themselves to be what they are by nature, they will trust for time and eternity to the Lord Jesus Christ as their very own personal saviour. They will turn from works and ritual and turn the matter of salvation over to the Lord Jesus Christ, leaving it entirely in His hands, being fully persuaded that He is able to keep that which they commit into His hands against that day.

Those who have been given a "heart to know the Lord" will come to Jesus Christ. Now this is simply a synonym for the above two things. Coming to Christ is repenting and believing. This coming which the world speaks of as so simple and easy that anyone can do it, is described in the Word of God as being absolutely impossible to the natural man, but when one is given the new heart, right gladly and speedily will he come to Jesus Christ. One who has been given this new heart would climb a mountain, swim an ocean, wade through hell to get to Jesus. He is done with excuses. He comes to Christ.

Those who are given this "heart to know the Lord" persevere in grace. They hold on their way. They continue with us. They are preserved by the love and power of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is absolutely impossible that they should ever fall away and return to their previous condition. They are in the hand of the Father, in the Hand of the Son, and sealed by the Holy Spirit. They are as safe and secure as God can make them. They travel to heaven on the train of free grace, precious blood has paid their complete fare, the Holy Spirit is their engineer and conductor, and as they travel they sing "to God be the glory, great things He has done."

Those who are given this "heart to know the Lord" will finally be glorified. They were predestinated in eternity past to be "conformed to the image of His Son," and they will in eternity be "like Him," for they shall see Him as He is." Oh, the glory of the wonderful consummation of this predestinated salvation!

V

In this salvation herein described, we see that all the glory goes to the God of all grace. He is the one who has done it all. He elected those who were to be the recipients of this new heart. He gave them this new heart. He did it all, and those who are the objects of such an amazing salvation are quite willing, and glad to give Him all glory and praise.

Let me now sum up. You do not have a "heart to know the Lord" by nature. You cannot produce a heart by self-effort. If you do not get such a heart you will go to hell. You are in the hands of a sovereign God who will give you such a heart, or not give it as it pleases Him. If He does give you such a heart you will believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you should live the remainder of your days to the glory of this sovereign and gracious God. God bless you all.