

# The Baptist Examiner

## Baptist Is Our Middle Name

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. 41, No. 7

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, MARCH 18, 1972

WHOLE NUMBER 1730

## THE SECURITY OF THE SAVED

**WILLARD WILLIS**  
Pastor Northland Baptist Church  
Abington Road  
Columbus, Ohio

"Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Phil. 1:6).

We meet many well meaning people who say they are saved. Yet these same people are not sure that they will make it to heaven. If asked, "Are you going to heaven?" their reply is, "I hope so." One cannot keep from feeling sorry for these poor people in view of the fact that they are so full of doubts and fears.

There is a story which reminds me of the plight of these poor people. It is the story of a man who was walking across a frozen river. The man became so afraid as he thought of sinking beneath

the ice, that he bowed down on his hands and knees and proceeded across the river in that very awkward position. Suddenly, while on his hands and knees, he heard horses behind him, a wagon rolling, and a man singing a hymn. He looked back, and to his utter surprise he saw a team of horses pulling a loaded wagon. On the wagon, driving the team, was a man and he was singing a hymn. One can imagine how very foolish the man down on his hands and knees must have felt.

The message, beloved, is that we have a great multitude of people who are crawling through this world on their hands and knees while not having the assurance of everlasting salvation. On the other hand, there are many others who are riding in the wagon and singing "Blessed Assurance."

A careful study of the Bible

will reveal that all the men of the Bible had blessed assurance. We can safely say that they were all in the wagon and singing "Blessed Assurance." The following passages show clearly that they all were filled with assurance.

"Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform



WILLARD WILLIS

(finish) it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Phil. 1:6).

"For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." (II Tim. 1:12).

"And being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He

### BULLETIN!

The Missionary Baptist Church of Hayward, California which is pastored by Elder Lawrence Crawford has withdrawn its endorsement of Brother R. L. Berkey as Missionary to New Guinea. Any information desired as to the reason for this action can be had by contacting Brother Crawford.

was able also to perform." (Rom. 4:21).

"For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." (Job 19:25, 26).

Beloved, are you on your hands and knees or are you in the wagon? Some one may reply, "I'm

## GIVE ME THE K.J.V.

**BILL FARMER**  
Lincoln Park, Michigan

If there were no other reason for rejecting the modern "up-to-date" translations, this one would be enough, and that is, that they are not the King James Version. The modern translations, with the exception of the C. B. Williams Translation, are reflections of pure modernism. Up-to-date? Yes. Easy to read? Yes. True to the great doctrines of God's Word? No. Reverent, reliable? No.

The charges against the K. J. V. are usually three in number. First, that the translators of the K. J. V. were of poor character and even immoral. This charge has no documented evidence. Also, the facts indicate that these men, although working under the order of the infamous King James, were of high moral repute. The translators of the R. S. V. (Revised Standard Version or "Revised" Standard "Perversion") were modernists, Jews, and the chairman a Socialist! So for you R. S. V. fans, you'd better try again.

Second, the charge is often made that the K. J. V. is poorly translated. This charge is usually made by people with no knowledge of Greek and Hebrew. Admittedly, no translation can catch the full original meaning in every passage, but the K.J.V.

is as good or better than any of those widely acclaimed versions of the past twenty years.

R. S. V. denies the virgin birth in Isaiah 7:14. Good News For Modern Man makes baptism necessary for salvation. The New English Bible questions the mir-



BILL FARMER

acles and deity in Christ. The Phillips Translation makes the Saviour a hippie. Such can be said of most of the present day perversions.

The third charge many make is that the 1611 A.D. language of (Continued on page 8, column 5)

## The Most Remarkable Day In All Of Human History

**MILBURN COCKRELL**  
Mantachie, Mississippi

The most remarkable day in human history was the day when the Ancient of Days died. The Christian religion rests upon the truth of the death of Jesus according to the Scriptures. The day Christ died divides the chronology of man's existence on earth. We refer to the time before His death as the Old Dispensation. We call the time after His crucifixion the New Dispensation.

The death of Jesus Christ was no accident or incident, it was predetermined. He stood as a "Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Rev. 13:8). We learn from I Peter 1:19-20 that



MILBURN COCKRELL

we were redeemed "with the precious blood of Christ, as a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was fore-ordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifested in these last times for you." Acts 2:23 reveals how Christ was "delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God." God the Father had chosen Christ to be the Redeemer of His chosen people before the foundation of the world. Christ came in the fullness of time in the likeness of human flesh to die the awful death of the cross to do the work the Father sent Him to do.

Face Set Like A Flint

The prophet Isaiah discloses in

chapter 50 verse 7, that the Redeemer had set His face like a flint toward His death at Calvary. Jesus Christ viewed every step He took on earth as another step in the direction of "his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem" (Luke 9:31). He was about His heavenly Father's business by the time He was twelve years old (Luke 2:42,49). When the first Baptist preacher saw Christ, He declared Him to be the antitype of the sacrificial lamb of the Old Testament. When John cried: "Behold, the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world," he had reference to His coming death at Calvary.

The second year of His earthly ministry, He began "to shew unto his disciples how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day" (Matt. 16:21). In Matthew 20:18-19 He again gave a foreview of His impending death: "Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him; and the third day he shall rise again." When Pilate warned Him of approaching

(Continued on page 7, column 5)

## Bro. Wilson Holds Meeting For Sound Florida Church

By **JOE WILSON**  
Winston-Salem, N.C.

It was my high privilege and holy honor to go to Hollywood, Florida recently for a week of special services. It is always a privilege to be invited by one of the Lord's churches to preach for them. I had been hoping to get an invitation to this church since the Bible Conference of 1967, but had just about given up on the idea.

I left home on Saturday Jan. 29th and arrived in Miami at 10:00 p.m. There I was met by Jim Washer and Harry Danner. They took me to the home where I was to stay during the week. We had some fellowship there, and then they left, and I soon retired for the night.

After arising Sunday morning, I went outside to view the place, and what a sight met my bewildered eyes. Why! it was as if I had gotten on the plane in one world and gotten off in another. I could hardly believe the beautiful scenery. The green grass, the palm trees, and the pretty flowers were just amazing in their God-given beauty. I will be forced to admit that Southern Florida is one of the prettiest spots on the globe. Brother Jim took me over much of the country during my week there, and I was continually astounded by the beauty of the scenery and by the awful majesty of the sea. What a mar-

velous God we have! And how His creation does bear witness of His majesty and power.

During my week in Hollywood, I stayed in the homes of Sister Gales and Sister Washer. What a blessing it was to me to have fine fellowship with these dear sisters in the Lord. They treated me right royally. The hospitality was all that could be expected. The meals were delicious. It was a real spiritual treat to talk with these Christian ladies about the things of the Lord and His Word. I shall not soon forget my stay with these sisters in the Lord.

Soon it was time for our first service. I spoke at the Bible study hour and the morning service hour, and then each night through the week. Here is a sound church. Here is a church to which it is



JOE WILSON

a joy to preach, for they have a hunger for the Word of God. My messages were listened to attentively, and received warmly. I felt a common bond of feeling and belief between us and as I talked with them of the things of God, surely our hearts did burn within us as we were blessed by the One who caused the hearts of the disciples on the way to Emmaus to burn in them. A man who is a sound Baptist will feel free and at home in the pulpit of the Missionary Faith Baptist Church of Hollywood, Florida. I preached my usual revival messages of Church Truth, Sovereign Grace, Responsibility, appeal and exhortation to the saved and (Continued on page 3, column 5)

## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

### "A WOUND THAT GIVES LIFE"

"Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?" — Acts 2:37.

This was Simon Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, the first memorable Pentecost following the death of the Lord Jesus Christ. Simon Peter preached an unusual sermon. To be sure, it wouldn't be considered as a great message today when compared with the messages that are preached by

modern evangelists. I imagine it would be considered a very mediocre sermon if you would compare it with the sermons that are preached by the modern evangelists of today. Certainly, there was not any display of worldly eloquence about it. Surely, you fail to find in it any idea of eloquence as far as his message was concerned. You fail to find in it any pathetic appeal, whereas the average evangelist of today makes his message to be a message of pathos.

When I was just a boy preacher I heard a man say that for a man to be a good evangelist, in the beginning of his sermon he had to be able to cause you to laugh a lot and toward the end of his sermon he had to be able to make you cry a lot. Of course, you know how I feel about such a message as that. I certainly do not agree, but the majority of people, I think, feel that such is a good sermon, and they feel that the average preacher, if he can (Continued on page 2, column 1)



## 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  
Five years — \$7.00; Life — \$25.00  
CLUB RATES: 15 or more — each \$1.50

When you subscribe for others or secure subscriptions — each \$1.50  
BUNDLES: 10 to 50 copies to one address \$10.00 for each 10 yearly; 60 to 100 copies to one address, \$9.00 for each 10 yearly.

FOREIGN: Same as in the United States.  
PLANNING TO MOVE? Notify us three weeks in advance. The Post Office does not forward second class mail and they charge us 10c for each "change of address" notice. Please save us this expense.

Entered as second class matter MAY 9, 1961, in the post office at Ashland, Kentucky, under the act of March 3, 1879.

## "Wound... Life"

(Continued from page one)

cause you to smile one minute and cry the next, is a "cracker-jack."

You don't find anything like that in the message of Simon Peter on the day of Pentecost. There is not any idea of pathos about it. There is no appeal to sentiment. There is no appeal as far as working on their emotions is concerned. There was not any shouting, "Believe, believe, believe" in this message of Simon Peter.

We have come to the place in life that the message of the majority of evangelists is "Believe, believe, believe." I am satisfied that a man must believe on the Lord Jesus Christ to be saved. I am sure that that is the teaching of the Word of God. However, in 99 per cent of the sermons that are preached, men are told to believe, but they are not told what they are to believe.

Sometime ago, I attended a service conducted by a modern evangelist, and in his message he exhorted people 31 times to believe, but there was never an indication as to what a person was to believe. I said to a woman after the service was over, "How are you supposed to be saved?" She said, "Believe." I said, "Believe what?" She said, "Just believe." That was all she knew, and she was a member of the church.

Beloved, that was not the kind of preaching Simon Peter did on this day of Pentecost. It wasn't an eloquent sermon. It wasn't a pathetic sermon. It wasn't an appeal to pathos. It wasn't a sermon exhorting the people to believe without telling them what

to believe. It was a simple message that was earnestly delivered by a sincere man, who wanted to honor God and His Word.

You'll notice that it had an effect. The people listened as long as they could. Finally, they interrupted his sermon and said, "What shall we do?" This sermon that was very much unlike the average sermon of today had a tremendous impact.

How many times in your lifetime have you gone to church and some unsaved person was so much burdened for his sins that he stopped the preacher and asked what to do. In all my ministerial experience, I have never had that to happen but one time. On one occasion, a man stood up in the service and said, "Brother Gilpin, pray tell me what I might do."

On the day of Pentecost, they stopped Peter as he was preaching, and they said, "What shall we do?" This simple message that was so earnestly delivered by this man who was trying to honor and glorify God and the Word of God — this simple message wounded the audience to the heart. The Word of God says that "they were pricked in their heart."

The majority of wounds that a person gets tend toward death. If a man is wounded by a gun, or by a knife, or in any other manner, unless he is treated immediately, that wound will tend toward death. Here is a wound that does not tend toward death, but rather, tends toward life. They were pricked in their heart. They were wounded in their heart, and that wound that was delivered to this crowd that day by this simple sermon, was the type that brings life, and not death.

### A CONTRAST

My text says that this crowd was pricked in their heart. That brings salvation.

A little later, we find a crowd that was cut in the heart. Listen: "When they heard that, they were cut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them."—Acts 5:33.

There is a lot of difference in being pricked in the heart, and cut in the heart. Pricked in the heart is saving; cut in the heart is deadly.

Beloved, when the Gospel is preached in the power of the Holy Spirit, it either convicts or it enrages. It either convicts unto salvation, or else it enrages men unto their damnation.

Here in this Scripture they were cut to the heart. They were enraged, which resulted in their damnation. In my text, they were pricked in the heart. The Holy Spirit had done His work and the result was that it led to their salvation.

So I say, by way of a contrast, the Gospel either convicts or it enrages. Any time a preacher preaches the Word of God faith-

## WANTED

**ALIEN BAPTISM AND BAPTISTS—W. M. Nevins**  
**CONCISE HISTORY OF BAPTISTS—G. H. Orchard**  
**BACK ISSUES OF TBE—Bound Volumes, 1971 and back.**

Name Your Price — State Condition of Book

**EDWARD R. CROWSON, Jr.**  
**Box 95, 6981st Scty Gp      APO Seattle 98742**

fully and the Holy Spirit accompanies it, that message will do one of two things, it will either convict a man by pricking him in the heart, or it will enrage him — it will cut him to the heart.

We have a good example of a man that was pricked in the heart, as recorded in Acts 9. Saul had run out of Christian kindling wood, in the city of Jerusalem. All of God's people round about were in hiding, or had fled and there just wasn't enough Christian kindling wood left in the city of Jerusalem. Paul went to the rulers of the synagogue and asked for permission that he might bring them bound to the city of Jerusalem.

The Word of God tells us how Saul started from Jerusalem to go all the way to Damascus to look for Christians. If he could find any, whether they were men or women, he would put a noose on them and bring them bound all the way from Damascus to Jerusalem, that they might be put to death. But as Saul journeyed, a light shined round about him from Heaven, above the brightness of the noonday sun, and he fell to the earth. The Lord spoke to him and said, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" Then we read:

"And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks."—Acts 9:5.

God had pricked Saul just like God had pricked these people in the heart on the day of Pentecost, and it led to Saul's conversion.

I say to you, beloved, there is a tremendous contrast. The Word of God will have an effect in one manner or another. You'll either be pricked in your heart to your salvation, or you'll be cut to the heart to your damnation. It will result in either conviction or to enrage you.

### ALL RELIGION MUST BE OF THE HEART.

We read: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

For WITH THE HEART MAN BELIEVETH unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."—Rom. 10:9, 10.

This certainly ought to indicate to us that religion has to be in the heart. It isn't an outward profession. It isn't a matter of ceremonies. It isn't a matter of orthodoxy that you have in the head. It isn't a matter of profession. But religion has to emanate from the heart. "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness."

The Old Testament teaches us the same truth. We read:

"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.

How do people come to know the Lord? God gives them a heart to know Him. Whenever a preacher tells you that all you have to do is come forward and make a profession and believe, mark it down, that preacher is a false prophet. The Word of God says that God will give them an heart to know Him. If God doesn't give a man a heart to know Him, all the professions that a man may make are "worthless and useless."

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MARCH 18, 1972

PAGE TWO

saying, The temple of the Lord, The temple of the Lord, The temple of the Lord, are these."—Jer. 7:4.

That was what the people were doing in Jeremiah's day. They were pointing to the temple and saying, "The temple of the Lord." They were shouting high and long about the temple of the Lord. Jeremiah said, "You are just trusting in lying words. You have it in your head, but you don't have it in your heart."

That is to say, beloved, if religion isn't in the heart, orthodoxy of the head is all in vain. I came to this conclusion a long, long time ago that there are a lot of Baptists that are classified right here. All they know is what they know in the head. They have a head orthodoxy, a head knowledge, but they have nothing whatsoever in the heart.

I'll go further and say that unless religion is in the heart, a profession is absolutely worthless.

Sometime ago, a man whom I know well, said to another man that he worked with, "What you ought to do is to come on to church and make a profession whether you feel it or not; after a while you will get the feeling," and he used an illustration that was very good. He said, "You cut your hand. When do you feel it? Before you cut it? No, you feel it afterwards." He said, "You come, make a profession, whether you feel it or not, and you will feel it afterwards."

When that unsaved man told me this, I said to myself, "Can it be possible that a man could be so blinded as to tell an unsaved man anything like that?" Beloved, a profession is absolutely worthless unless an individual has an experience with God in his heart. These people on the day of Pentecost were pricked in their hearts.

We read: "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."—II Tim. 3:5.

Paul is writing to Timothy and he is talking about apostasy. He is talking about the last days, and he says that there are going to be people in the last days that will have a form of godliness but they will deny the power thereof.

Beloved, there are plenty of people just like that today. They have a form of godliness; maybe it is a Methodist form, or a Baptist form, or a Presbyterian form, or a Catholic form, or a Holy Roller form, but it is only a form of godliness. They have no power. They have no evidence of the power of God within their lives.

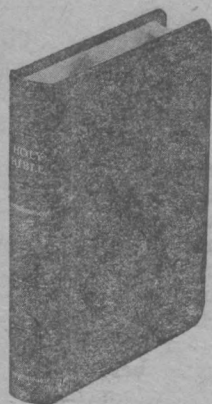
I would remind you that Paul said to Timothy, "From such turn away." In other words, he said to turn away from that false profession.

I do not urge people to make a profession of faith. I would like to see them do so. I would to God as we bring this service to a close and stand to sing that ten people who are in this service this morning might come forward and profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. But, beloved, I don't want any of you to do so unless you have been pricked in your heart — unless the Spirit of God has worked within you. When the Spirit of God works within you, then a profession is of value. Otherwise, it is worthless.

I am trying to say to you that all religion must be in the heart. (Continued on page 3, column 1)

## A Lifetime Possession...

## THE CAMBRIDGE CAMEO BIBLE



BOUND  
IN  
REAL MOROCCO

Leather Lined

ONLY  
**\$14.00**

Available In Black, Red, or Blue

SAMPLE  
TYPE FACE

13 "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."  
1st Ch. 1, 8.  
2nd Cor. 11, 1.  
3rd Mt. 24, 17.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BOOK STORE

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101

## NOW... DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE COMPANION SWEET CORNS



ILLINI  
"Xtra Sweet"  
SWEET CORN

2. EARLY  
"Xtra Sweet" SWEET CORN  
1971 ALL-AMERICA  
SELECTION

1. TWICE AS SWEET as any other corn at harvest. Four times as sweet 48 hours later. New hybrid breeding discovery by University of Illinois doubles sugar content... checks conversion to starch after picking.

Makes "sweeter" corn for eating fresh, for premium markets, for freezing or canning.

Big 3-oz. packet (600 seeds) only \$1.00 postpaid. Mail dollar bill or check and get yours by return mail. One pound (3000 seeds), \$3.00 postpaid.

ILLINOIS FOUNDATION SEEDS, INC., 107-K, P.O. Box 722, Champaign, Ill. 61820

First ALL-AMERICA sweet corn in 15 years! All the super-sweetness and great flavor of ILLINI XTRA SWEET.

Matures two weeks earlier. Make two plantings of each variety and enjoy delicious corn for four weeks.

Big 3-oz. packet (600 seeds) \$1.50 postpaid. One pound, \$4.00.



## "Wound . . . Life"

(Continued from page two)

Without it, the ceremonies are useless. Without it, orthodoxy of the head is all in vain. Without it, a profession is worthless.

Furthermore, unless your religion is in your heart, a profession merely leads to a false hope.

How many people are there today that have made a profession of faith and all they have is a false hope? I remember sometime ago a man got quite furious and mad at me because I said something about the Freewill Baptists. In some manner, he thought that he was a member of a Freewill Baptist Church. You can say he was pretty ignorant to know that he was a member of a Missionary Baptist Church, and his pastor was plenty ignorant too. If a man was a member of a church and didn't know what kind of church he was a member of, I would say that the man was not only ignorant, but the pastor was plenty ignorant too.

I hope none of you ever embarrass me that way. I tell you, beloved, I would consider that quite highly embarrassing if you would go out and say that you were a Freewill Baptist.

This fellow got very angry with me over my message because of what I had said. The fact of the matter is, that man later on, as a result of finding out that he was wrong and was not a member of a Freewill Baptist Church, went to another Missionary Baptist Church and united. He was entirely ignorant of the things of the Lord. He knew nothing at all about the Bible. He knew nothing at all about Jesus Christ. He did not even know which church he was a member of, but he joined another Missionary Baptist Church later on after he found out his circumstances. He still has nothing else but a false hope.

I say to you, beloved, all religion has to be in the heart, and without it a profession is nothing but a false hope.

### III

#### WHAT TRUTHS PRODUCE A PRICK?

My text says, "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart." What was it they heard? What is it that a man needs to hear today to be pricked in the heart? What is it that you need when you come here to these services? What is it that you need to hear to cause you to be pricked in the heart?

The Gospel is one truth that delivers a prick to the heart. When a man hears the Gospel — that Jesus Christ left Heaven, came to this world, took upon Him the form of a man, lived here for 33 years, died in our place on the cross, went back to Heaven and now is interceding for us — when a man hears that, I tell you, it ought to prick his heart.

Would it prick your heart if some friend were to do something for you? Yes. Would it prick your heart if your mother and father were to go out of their way to sacrifice for you? Yes. Well, beloved, Jesus Christ came all the way from Glory down to this world and gave Himself to die for our sins on the cross. I say to you, that ought to prick

your heart.

Another truth that will prick your heart is the heinousness of sin.

In the sight of God, sin is a heinous thing. Listen:

"For the wages of sin is DEATH; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."—Rom. 6:23.

"Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth DEATH."—James 1:15.

Beloved, I say to you, the heinous nature of sin, resulting in spiritual death, ought to prick your heart.

How do you think you ought to feel when you realize that you are a sinner, and when you realize that sin is going to bring forth death? Don't you think that ought to prick your heart today? It will, when you pause to meditate upon it.

Another truth that will prick your heart is the truth of the law of God.

God has given us a law — ten separate commandments. You know that you have not lived in the light of those ten commandments. You know that you have violated the law of God. What does God say about it? Listen:

"Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceedingly sinful."—Rom. 7:13.

Paul says that the law was good and when you read it, it does something to you. Sin stands out in a different light when you read the Bible. When you read the law, sin stands out in an entirely different manner. It becomes, then, exceedingly sinful. Beloved, that ought to prick your heart.

This law of God says:

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image."

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."

"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy."

"Honour thy father and thy mother."

"Thou shalt not kill."

"Thou shalt not commit adultery."

"Thou shalt not steal."

"Thou shalt not bear false witness."

"Thou shalt not covet."

Beloved, when you read these laws, what effect does it have? It makes sin look entirely different. It pricks your heart.

Another truth that will certainly produce a prick in the heart is the truth of the judgment of God.

Do you realize that there is a judgment day coming?

When the Apostle Paul was in the city of Athens, the Word of God tells us that he preached to those Athenians — and what a sermon it was! When he talked to them about "the unknown god," they didn't pay too much attention to it. I am not sure how much good Paul did to the city of Athens, but he closed his message by saying:

"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.

Beloved, I say unto you, the thought of the judgment ought to prick a man's heart.

It did one day when Paul was preaching to one of the men that was trying Paul. We read:

"And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ."

And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and JUDGMENT TO COME, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." — Acts 24:24,25.

I ask you, do you want to meet your sins at the judgment bar of God? Do you want to stand in the presence of Almighty God and have God read off every deed of your life that is contrary to this Bible? Do you want to stand at the judgment bar of God to face, not a judge with a smile, but an angry judge, because you have violated His law, and to hear Him say, "Depart from me, ye that work iniquity," and to be sent from the judgment bar of God into a Devil's Hell? That is exactly what is waiting for every man outside of Jesus Christ.

Beloved, the judgment ought to prick your heart.

There is another truth that certainly ought to prick your heart and that is God's goodness.

Listen:

"Or despiseth thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?"—Rom. 2:4.

How good God is to us! How good God has been to you! God has given you maybe a Christian father and a Christian mother. God has given you perhaps the opportunity to attend services and listen to the Word of God time after time. God has borne with you in your sins. When I think about the sins of my own life, I think how good God has been that He has put up with me and let me live here in this world. How good God has been to us! When you think about the blessings, the physical health, the material blessings, the light we see, the air we breathe, the sunshine we enjoy, and all the blessings of God, certainly we ought to remember how good God has been to us. Beloved, the goodness of God ought to prick your heart.

### IV

#### WHAT HAND MAKES THESE PAINFUL PRICKS?

The same hand that wrote the piercing truths of the Bible is the hand that makes the pricks in the heart. He wrote the Book. He wrote these truths that I have told you about that would prick your heart. Beloved, the hand that wrote these piercing truths applies them and causes you to be pricked in your heart.

Sob stories and pathetic appeals don't do such. The Romanists will tell you to do penance, but penance won't prick your heart. There is only one way whereby your heart can be pricked and that is for the same hand that wrote these piercing truths of the Good Book — the heinousness of sin, the fact of the law, the judgment of God, and God's goodness — the same hand that wrote these truths has to pierce your heart in order to bring the prick in your heart that leads to your salvation. We read:

"So will not we go back from thee: QUICKEN US, and we will call upon thy name."—Psa. 80:18.

When are we going to call upon the name of the Lord? When He quickens us, I say, beloved, Arminians will stay clear of this verse. This is one an Arminian preacher will never deal with. No man will ever call upon the name of the Lord until God quickens him — when God pricks him in the heart.

Why did the Lord Jesus Christ come to this world? One day, He went into the synagogue at Nazareth, and as all eyes were fastened upon Him, He picked up the Word of God and read it. Listen:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; HE HATH SENT ME TO HEAL THE BROKENHEARTED, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised; To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down."—Luke 4:18-20.

Notice it says, "He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted."

I say to you, the only way that you will ever be saved is for God to quicken you, for God to break your heart, for God to work in your heart. If God doesn't quicken you, you will never be saved.

Listen again:

"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins."—Eph. 2:1.

Once upon a time, these Ephesian Christians were dead in sin. Now they are alive. Who quickened them? "You hath he quickened."

Notice another Scripture:

"Even when we were dead in sins, hath QUICKENED US together with Christ."—Eph. 2:5.

Beloved, the only way that any man will ever be saved is for God to quicken him when he is dead in sin.

I say then that religion is something more than an outward profession. Religion is something of the heart. God pricks your heart, and the same God that pricks your heart is the God who thereby quickens you and brings you to salvation.

### V

#### HOW CAN THESE PRICKS BE HEALED?

When God pricks you in the heart, is there any way for these pricks to be healed? Yes. There is only one who is divine, and that is the Lord Jesus Christ; and only one who is divine can heal a wounded heart.

I read in prophecy how that Isaiah says:

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."—Isa. 53:5.

How do we find healing for the pricks that He gives us with His Word? "With his stripes we are healed." That was the prophecy.

Eight hundred years pass by and Jesus came into the world, born of a virgin. He lived and He died. Simon Peter, thirty years later, took up the well-worn pen of time and wrote by saying:

"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by WHOSE STRIPES YE WERE HEALED."—I Pet. 2:24.

I ask, how can these painful pricks be healed? This text says, "By whose stripes ye were healed." The only medicine that can help one who has been pricked

in the heart is the medicine of the blood of Jesus Christ. The only hand that can apply that medicine is the hand that was pierced at Calvary.

### CONCLUSION

You go to a doctor and there is always a fee. Do you know what the fee is to have the healing blood of Jesus Christ applied to that heart of yours that has been pricked as a result of the study of God's Book? The only fee is to receive Him.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE through Jesus Christ our Lord."—Rom. 6:23.

Beloved, the only fee that you will have to pay is to receive God's Son, Jesus Christ.

As I read this text that tells how these people were pricked in their heart, and as I see others who have been pricked in their heart through the years as a result of the preaching of the Word of God, how I thank God that the heart-maker becomes a heart-breaker, and later a heart-healer. May He who created your heart, and may He who pricked your heart, become the heart-healer this morning, in that you see that it is through His death and by His stripes we are healed. May God bless you!

## Bro. Wilson

(Continued from Page One) unsaved, and words of comfort. God was with me, and I greatly enjoyed the blessing of being in this meeting.

Elder Jim Washer is the able and devoted pastor of this fine church. It was truly a blessing to have the many hours of fellowship with this fine young preacher. I have known him since 1967. Many of us thought that he was called to preach before he finally announced this publicly. It was a joy to me when I learned that he had been called to preach and called to pastor this church. I have been remembering him in prayer since that time. Jim is young in the ministry and needs our prayers. (Who of us in the ministry does not need the prayers of God's saints?). Brother Washer is a very sound young preacher. He is one of the most sincere and dedicated young men that I have ever met. I guess that the one thing that stands out about Jim Washer is his devotedness to getting the gospel to the unsaved. I marveled at this in him, and hope that my hours with him will have a deep and permanent influence on my own ministry in this respect. I know that I have emphasized the gospel in my sermons since that meeting more than I did before. I predict that God will greatly use this man in the ministry.

It was a joy to have fellowship with Brother Washer's family. I was greatly impressed and blessed by this. His wife and children are a joy to be around. His mother is a real spiritual treat. His sister has joined the church since I was there, and his brother-in-law had already become a member.

(Continued on page 6, column 3)



## ALL ABOUT THE BIBLE

By  
SIDNEY COLLETT

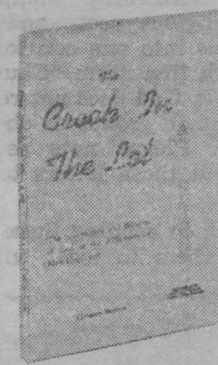
324 Pages

\$3.95

This little book is one of the most popular volumes of its kind of all time, having gone through several editions. The author traces the Bible from its origin, through its many translations down to our present day.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P. O. Box 910, Ashland, Kentucky, 41101



## THE CROOK IN THE LOT

By THOMAS BOSTON

Krome-Kote Cover—143 pages

\$1.50

A marvelous presentation of the Sovereignty and Wisdom of God displayed in the afflictions of men. Read it and thank God for the stimulation and encouragement brought thereby.

— ORDER FROM —

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101



# The Baptist Examiner FORUM

What is the lesson of the seven churches in Revelation 2-3?

AUSTIN  
FIELDS  
PASTOR,  
ARABIA BAPTIST  
CHURCH  
610 High Street  
Cool Grove,  
Ohio



There are many lessons to be learned from the seven churches of Asia. Though there are many things that we can learn, I believe that the primary lesson is revelation of the great love of Jesus Christ for His churches. These two chapters (Rev. 2-3) are in reality seven love letters from the bridegroom (Jesus Christ to His fiancée (true Baptist churches). As we read these love letters, we become aware that Christ is a jealous lover, demanding His bride be faithful to Him.

"Do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? are we stronger than he?" I Cor. 10:22.

Because He is a jealous lover, Christ will not condone His churches showing affection for any other than Himself. Thus, He pictures Himself as the one with eyes like a flame of fire (x-ray vision, walking among the seven churches). Chapters two and three reveal the things He found pleasing and displeasing in them to Him. Brethren, I am aware that many interpret these seven churches to be seven dispensations, but I do not agree, rather I believe that in every age there are churches similar to these seven; thus, they should be applied to churches of every age. Also, it is my firm conviction that Christ in this age is still walking among His churches observing the actions of each one. Oh, I wonder what He sees as He walks among the churches of which I am pastor. My goal is that we be like the church of Philadelphia.

Though the bridegroom (Jesus Christ) loves His bride (true Baptist church), He will not sit idly by while she leaves (not loses) her first love (making of disciples). Neither will He remain silent when she suffers Jezebel (Catholicism and Protestantism) to seduce His loved ones to commit fornication (followers of Jezebel's false doctrine). Neither is the lover of the church pleased when she entertains the doctrine of Balaam (greedy and of filthy lucre); neither is He pleased when His people stain their garments (wedding dress with spots — doctrine of His enemy, Satan). He was displeased with Laodicea's indifference, and He is still pronouncing judgments on churches who have been characterized by these seven letters to the seven churches of Asia.

We also learn from the seven churches that the bridegroom in choosing His bride has predestinated that He, and He alone, is to be her Lord. Therefore, she has no overlords such as a pope, conventions, associations, or mission boards; rather, the Lord speaks directly to the church through her angel (pastor). Loving her as He does, He gave her,

and her alone, the Holy Spirit (comforter) to lead and to guide her into all truth, and commanding her to heed what He (Spirit) saith unto her.

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death." Rev. 2:11.

It behooves every true Baptist Church to listen only to the voice of her lover, and to put from her everything that is displeasing to Him. If this procedure is not followed, then the warnings of chapters two and three will become a reality for He will remove the candlestick out of its place (move it somewhere else). He will fight against her and not for her. He will come as a thief to punish, and thus correct the error in her, or will spue out of His mouth as unfit to be a part of His bride.

To the angels (pastors) of true Baptist Churches, may I encourage you in your stand for the truth, by reminding you of the promise that the bridegroom gave to the church of Philadelphia when He said, "Behold I will make them of the synagogue of Satan which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie: Behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet and to know that I have loved thee." Rev. 3:9.



ROY  
MASON  
RADIO MINISTER  
BAPTIST PREACHER  
Aripeka, Florida

"I don't think there is merely a 'lesson' in this passage; rather there are many LESSONS, and to give them would require a good sized book. The questioner is urged to sit down and read those letters to the seven churches, one by one, and to note the many lessons that should be considered by Christians and churches.

I am hoping that the questioner has not become inoculated with the theory that is held by so many fundamentalist writers. It is a theory that affects me with theological nausea every time I read it. Those who hold it believe that each church represents a certain period of the "Church age." And, by the way, the talk we hear about the "Church age" is pure bolony. The term is not found in the Scriptures.

Those who hold that the seven churches represent so many periods of the history of the "Church" necessarily dump all of the religious sects and denominations into one conglomeration which they term "Church." The truth is, God does not recognize man-made groups as churches at all. Please note several things about those letters to the churches.

1—Christ, in sending these letters, sent them to local, visible

churches — not "the Church." We thus get a clear notion as to what He meant by the term church. He meant an actual, visible body — not a universal something.

2—Seven is the number of completeness. Thus Christ picked out seven churches to communicate with. I believe that He meant to set forth the virtues, and likewise the faults and failings that should characterize His churches through the centuries. Read the letters and see if this is not true. We have all known churches that had the faults and also the virtues that characterized the seven churches of Asia. This was Christ's means of letting us know what He thinks of those good things that were found in those churches. It was likewise His means of showing His stern disapproval of those wrong things that are revealed as existing in the churches. In other words, He chose some typical churches, to illustrate His true churches, with their faults and their virtues as they would exist through the centuries. These letters make fine preaching material today. I know, because I have tried it.

If I were to seek to identify any one LESSON to be derived from these letters it would be this: Let us look at those letters and see our church faults and get rid of them, and let us look at them and rejoice when we see that our church is living up to the things that Christ commended.



JAMES  
HOBBS  
Rt. 2, Box 182  
McDermott, Ohio  
RADIO SPEAKER  
and MISSIONARY  
Kings Addition  
Baptist Church  
South Shore, Ky.

I am sure that there are many lessons that can be found in these chapters. This passage is showing positively that the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is actually a local organization. Here is proof that there is no such thing as a universal invisible organization.

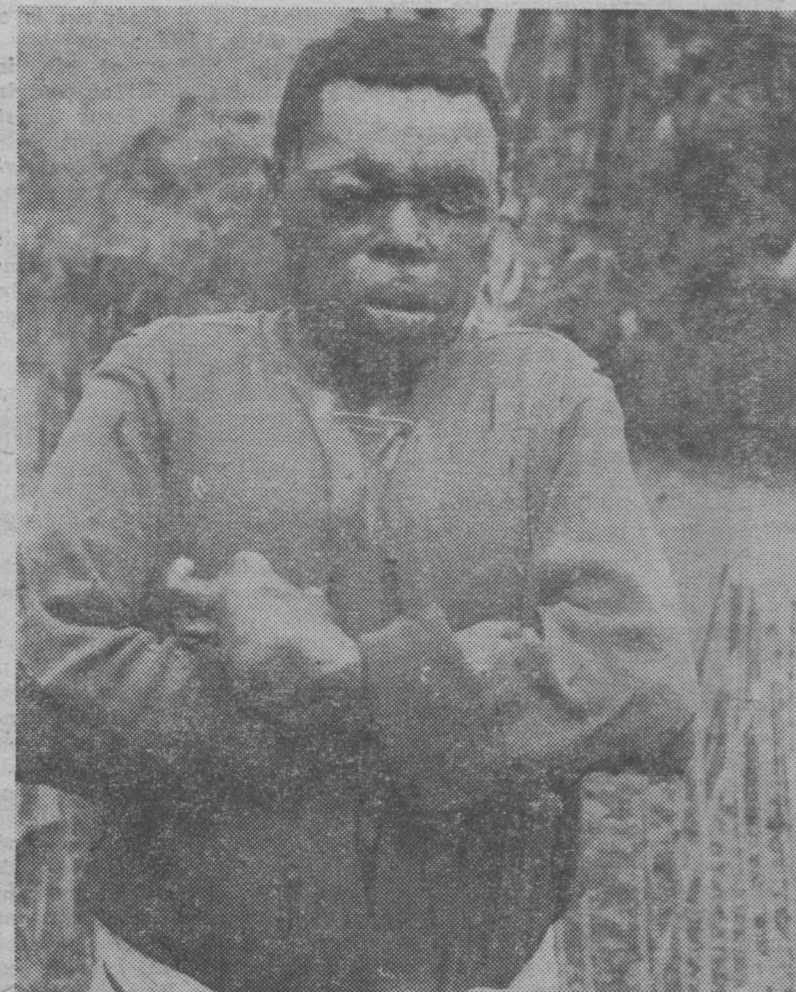
Chapter 1, verse 12 speaks of seven candlesticks, each representing one of the churches of Asia. Each one is shown in the next two chapters to be a separate church with separate problems and different accomplishments.

In order to learn the individual lessons it would be necessary to study each church and notice the warnings given in each case. For the purpose of this answer let us just generalize. We must study each church to learn its failures, its problems, its good points, and its warnings.

There are a couple of lessons that I think are important which apply to all churches. The first, and most important, is that Christ is walking in the midst of all the churches. "And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle." (1:13). We know that Christ is the head of the church. "... even as Christ is the head of the church: and He is the Saviour of the body" (Eph. 5:23). It is comforting to know that He is walking in the midst of each of His churches. We know He watches over us.

Another lesson for us to consider is that each church is to be a lighthouse in the world. The purpose of a candlestick is to provide light. However, let me remind you that a candlestick does not provide the light but holds the light. The church is made up of members who are the candles or the light. "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do

## New Guinea Photo Story



To ask the question, "Can the Ethiopian change his skin," is to answer it. It goes without saying that an Ethiopian can no more change his skin than a leopard can change his spots. However, that does not rule God out. If God so desires He can make a black man white or a white man black. In this picture is definite proof of this.

The fellow that you see in this picture has one hand (i.e., what is left of it) and a good part of his face that is almost as white as any white person's where it used to be black.

Up to about three years ago this man was a fine looking man insofar as New Guinea natives go, and was the picture of health. When the Local Government Council was formed at Koroba in 1967 he became a Councilor. Before this posting he was a man of great authority among his people. After he became elected to the office of Councilor he really began to throw his weight around, and was not too much unlike Saul in persecuting the Christians and the Lord's churches. He tried, unsuccessfully, several times to get some of our pastors locked up in jail. He would organize native dances where they practice spirit worship right next to the church in his area, and finally told the church and pastor that if the old people wanted to come to church he would not try to stop them, but that all the young men and women had to renounce their professions of faith in Christ and that no more young people could be baptized.

At the height of his making havoc with the churches and pastors I asked several to join me in prayer about the situation. I told the people, publicly, that I thought that we should pray that the Lord would either save him or kill him and get him out of the way.

About four months after we started praying about this matter, I was called to the Mission Aid Post one morning about 5:30. They had just brought this man in on a stretcher. About two hours before that, according to his own story, something literally threw him in the fire.

The usual custom of the natives is to build a good fire in their house at night and they sleep along side of this fire. Whatever the cause of him being in the fire, had it not been for a friend that was sleeping with him on that particular night he would have been dead within a short time. His friend heard him scream and rushed over and pulled him out of the fire. By the time they got him to the Mission Station his face and one of his hands was a swollen mass and he was hardly recognizable. The first look at him told me that I could do nothing for him other than to lightly bandage him to keep all his skin and some flesh from falling off until I got him into Koroba. This I did and then gave him the limit of pain killing drugs and shortly after 7:00 a.m. I had him in Koroba.

At Koroba they rushed him to Tari, the next largest center. There they had to slit his throat and insert a tube for him to breathe as all passages had swollen closed. As soon as they could give him emergency treatment at Tari they sent him to the hospital at Mount Hagen. Later I talked to one of the doctors there, and he said they did not think he would pull through the day when they first saw him.

He spent the next several months at Hagen and then was sent to Lae to see if anything could be done to salvage his right eye — his left eye had already dropped out of the socket. In all he spent nearly two years in various hospitals and one day he arrived back at Koroba, just as you see him (Continued on page five, column one and two)

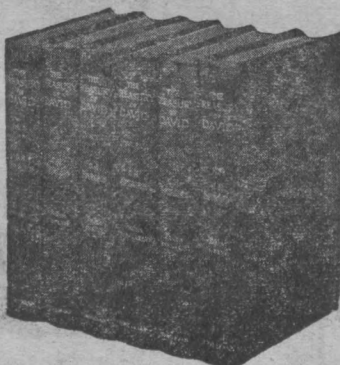
men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick, and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that in my right hand, and the seven they may see your good works, golden candlesticks. The seven and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 5:14-16). A of the seven churches: and the Christian is to put his light on a seven candlesticks which thou candlestick; or join a church. (Continued on page 5, column 4)

## Treasury of David

A Commentary on the Psalms  
By C. H. SPURGEON  
3 Volumes — \$29.75  
(Formerly 6 volumes)

Spurgeon regarded this work as his greatest written effort. It is a verse-by-verse commentary on the Psalms, with a great host of quotations from other writers added. On the Psalms there is nothing better than this set.

Calvary Baptist Church, P. O. Box 910, Ashland, Kentucky





in this picture, with the message that all had been done for him that could be done.

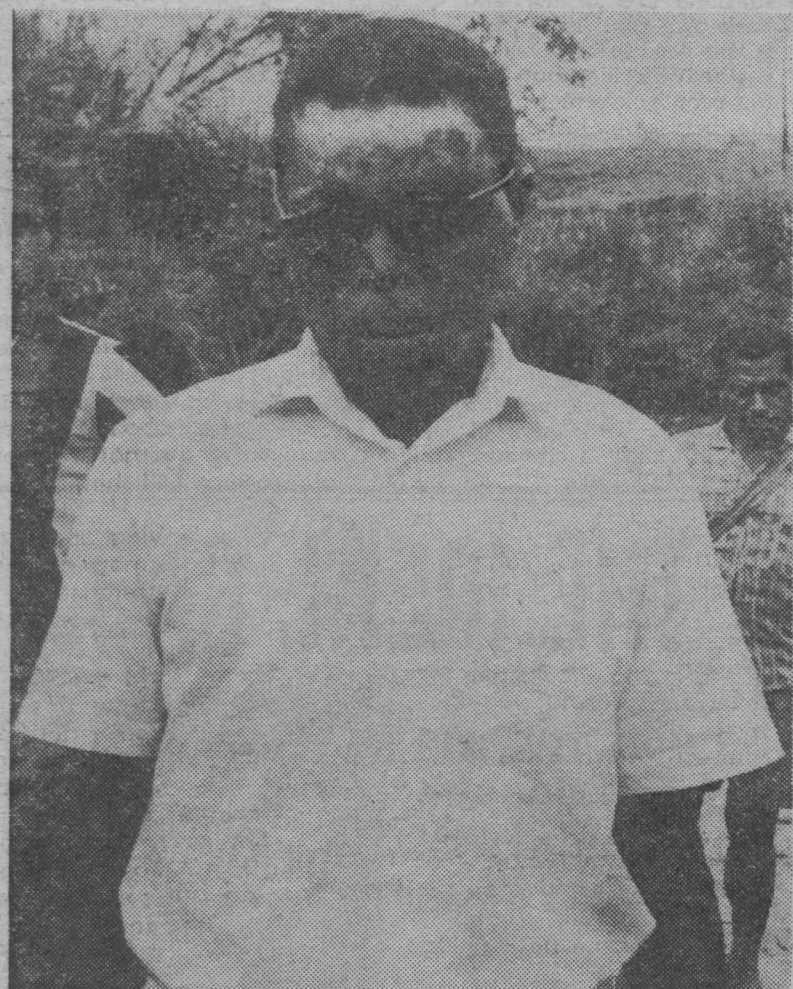
He soon sent me word that he would like to come back to the Mission Station and stay at our little hospital — he could not go back to the bush in his condition and he wondered if we would sort of look after him until things worked itself out for him. They had managed to save his right eye and he has partial sight in this eye. However, this eye has only a little hole in the matted mass of eye lid, sort of like a little window, so that he can see enough to get around during daylight hours.

Is this proof enough for you that God can change a black man's skin? This man whose name is Yeti, not only believes that God can, but he believes that God actually did in his case. Following are two more pictures of him with more information concerning him.



We will finish the story of this man, to date, and let you see two more pictures of him. In this picture the man is being baptized.

Before he came back to the Mission Station after being away for nearly two years in various hospitals, I visited him in Koroba two or three times and each time he wanted to talk about the Lord. About two weeks after he arrived here he started attending church services, and except once or twice when he has been sick he has not missed a service. About three months ago he made a profession of faith at one of our services. About a month ago we held a baptizing here on the Mission Station and he was baptized along with 62 other people.



In this picture you see Yeti as he normally looks on a Sunday as he goes to church. He wears these dark glasses all the time to help hide his scarred face and the condition of his eye. Not long ago Yeti announced that the Lord had called him to preach, and as a lead-up to reduce the "pulpit fright" for the first time or two we have been letting him lead the singing in some of our church services. This Friday he will hold his first service with the school children in the school building. Then on the week end of the 18-21 of February he will be in charge of the four services here at the Tanggi Baptist Church while myself and the pastor are away at Lake Kapiago in a combination church building and Pastor-Missionary Conference.

What a marvelous testimony this man has been to the amazing grace of God. About the only thing that God left untouched about this man when he got burned was his voice. Even with his face badly scarred and twisted on his left side and upper lip burned smooth with his face, his voice has not been affected and he can talk as clearly as he ever could. Now God has touched not only his heart but also his voice for His service. To see God work in and through this individual has indeed added new dimensions to my ministry and will always stand out as a highlight in my work among the people of New Guinea.

## ADAM'S RIB

WRITTEN BY A WOMAN  
AND FOR WOMEN

### "OBITUARY OF DORCAS"

Acts 9:36-42

"Tabitha, better known to her friends as 'Dorcas,' is dead. She died quietly in her sleep at home after being ill several days. She is lying in state in the upper chamber of her home and may be seen anytime before 6 P. M. Dorcas was a member of the First Baptist Church of Joppa where she has lived most of her life. She was a seamstress and took care of most of the tailoring needs of Joppa. She was well known for her many charitable deeds. Whenever she heard of anyone in need, she would sew for that one a garment or coat, taking much care that it be of the finest material and workmanship. The stories seem unending that are told of her. Not only did she give hours of her time to others — she also gave financially without hesitation. She was a woman of strong faith, believing, no doubt, that her Saviour, Jesus Christ, was able to supply all her needs. She was pleased to be used of the Lord to minister of her goods to others. She is survived by a multitude of friends."

The above obituary might have been printed in the Joppa Daily News about 38 A.D. Although there isn't too much said about this woman, there are many good examples for us ladies in the obituary of this godly woman. Take her name, for instance. Tabitha or Dorcas means "gazelle." When we look in the dictionary, this word means a small, swift, graceful antelope. It is known for its large lustrous, soft eyes. Doesn't that seem to fit Dorcas perfectly? A small, quick, graceful woman with huge soft brown eyes. Even though we didn't know her personally, it saddens us to think of her being gone. She was an efficient woman. She had to be to get everything done that is attributed to her. She wasn't one to procrastinate. She wasn't one who waited for someone else to do the job. She had no time to gossip or to feel sorry for herself. She was too busy. The widows of Joppa felt the loss of this dear friend more than anyone else. They shed many tears when she died. It would seem as though Dorcas had time in her busy schedule to visit them and be a source of strength and comfort to them. She may have experienced the loss of a husband herself and knew the extreme loneliness of widows. She was a good example of what the apostle James said in James 1:27, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

The Joppa Daily News may have carried a correction a couple of days later that read something like this: "The Joppa Daily News regrets that we published the obituary of Tabitha (Dorcas) in error. Her friends report that she is alive and well. We sincerely apologize for any embarrassment we may have caused Tabitha, her family, and friends."

The same day, back on page 4, we might find an unusual human interest story. "An amazing story is being circulated all over Joppa. This reporter is dubious of the truth of it, but many prominent and trust-worthy citizens insist it is true. Tabitha, a local seamstress, was sick and

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MARCH 18, 1972

PAGE FIVE



In this picture you see another trophy of God's grace. This man is a leper. You may be able to detect in the picture that he only has stubs for hands. On the rocky bottom of this river that we are standing in where his feet should be are, instead, only stubs of legs. His feet have long ago been eaten away by this disease and he hobbles to church and back for each of our services.

As has been previously mentioned there were 63 baptized the day that these two were baptized. There were five different churches in this area that had folk to be baptized so they all gathered here after their morning services and we had a great service together as we baptized the candidates of each church.

Regards the trip to Lake Kapiago that I mentioned in another paragraph, most of the missionaries and pastors will meet me at Kapiago on the 14th of February for the purpose of trying to get up a church building as well as holding our Conference. We will work on the building during the day time and have preaching at night, there will be about 20 preachers there and we are expecting several other Christians to come. We are looking forward to having a great time in the services of our Lord both from the physical and the spiritual aspects of it. I expect to have a report of this trip for you after I return.

### The Forum

(Continued from page 4)

sowest are the seven churches." (1:20). For this reason we must be careful how we treat a pastor of the Lord's church.

E. G.  
COOK

701 Cambridge  
Birmingham, Ala.

BIBLE TEACHER

Philadelphia  
Baptist Church  
Birmingham, Ala.



There are many people who say the seven letters to these churches are just admonitions to these churches. They refuse to see any prophecy connected with these letters at all. But our Lord calls the Book of Revelation a Book of prophecy five times, 1:3, 22:7, 10, 18, 19. And if there is any prophecy in this entire Book concerning this church age it simply has to be in chapters 2 and 3. After we leave chapter 3 we see no more of the churches except the destruction of the false churches in chapter 17.

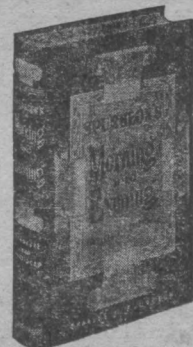
Then there are others who say these letters to these churches are prophecy concerning the church age, but they hold the view that each one of these churches represents a certain

period of church history. I was taught this view, and for a long time I thought it myself. It seemed to be the most plausible view to take until all the prophecy concerning the church age had become history. You don't have to be too awfully smart to be able to know what a certain prophecy meant when it is fulfilled before your very eyes. I am fully persuaded that we are in the very last days of this church age and that all the prophecy that pertains to this age has already been fulfilled. The prophecy in chapter 17 concerning the destruction of the old whore (false Christianity) is a vital part of the tribulation time after the rapture of the saints.

I want to be as brief as possible on this subject. But first of all I want to make it crystal clear that I believe these seven churches were churches of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that they were in existence at the time John wrote Revelation about 96 A.D. But I also believe that these seven letters contain the prophecy concerning all of Christendom during this age.

As I see it Ephesus, Smyrna and Philadelphia represent our Lord's true churches throughout this age. I hold that Ephesus represents all the churches during the early stage of church history. There were no false churches for some two hundred years. During that time old Satan was spending all his time and

(Continued on page 6, column 1)



### MORNING AND EVENING

By

C. H. SPURGEON

744 PAGES

\$4.95

This devotional classic has never grown old nor out of date. This edition of the book is complete and unabridged, published just as Spurgeon wrote it. Each devotional is one page in length, printed in large, easy-to-read, bold type. There are two devotions for each day of the year — one for the morning and one for the evening.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P. O. Box 910—Ashland, Kentucky



# JOHN GILL'S COMMENTARY

SIX VOLUMES — APPROXIMATELY 1000 PAGES PER VOLUME. MOST COMPREHENSIVE

COMMENTARY WRITTEN COVERING THE DOCTRINES OF GRACE.

ORDER FROM CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BOOKSTORE

"CAUSE OF GOD AND TRUTH" — By Gill  
\$4.50

"BODY OF DIVINITY" — By Gill  
\$8.00

\$65.00

POSTPAID

## The Forum

(Continued from page five)  
energy in an effort to literally destroy the churches. But by the third century he realized he could not destroy them, so he began to join up with them in an effort to weaken their influence in the world.

So if you notice in Rev. 2:6 he was able to get some of his tares into some of the churches, and they were practicing the deeds of the Nicolaitanes which thing God hates. In these true churches Nicolaitanism never became a doctrine, but their deeds were being practiced in some of them. This was one of the main things that brought about the first split in the churches in 251 A.D. The true churches were forced to withdraw fellowship from the ones who had gone astray from the teachings of God's Word. From that time on for some 1500 years our Lord's true churches were represented by the church at Smyrna.

In 2:6 we saw the deeds of the Nicolaitans in some of the churches represented by Ephesus. But you will search in vain for any trace of Nicolaitanism in the letter to Smyrna. Our Lord's churches had purged themselves of this hated thing, so now we see no trace of it in the letter to Smyrna. But it is a different story when we come to the letter to Pergamos. In 2:15 we see that what was only deeds in the Ephesus type churches have now come to be a doctrine in the Pergamos type. These churches not only practiced the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, they taught it as a doctrine. These Pergamos type churches were the apostate churches that the true churches withdrew fellowship from in 251 A.D.

The meaning of the names of these churches is heavily loaded with helps in the interpretation

of this Scripture. The name Ephesus means desired or beloved. And certainly that was true of the early churches. Smyrna means myrrh. This was a substance used in embalming in ancient times. The more this myrrh was crushed and beaten, the sweeter was its fragrance. And how this does speak of our Lord's precious churches during the awful Dark Ages. Pergamos means exalted through marriage. And it was only about sixty-five years after these churches had their beginning in 251 A.D. until they became married to the state. About 316 A.D. the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great supposedly became a Christian and took these churches under his wing, so to speak. And while our Lord's true churches were having to hide out in dens and caves for fear of the government, these Pergamos type churches were the government's pride and joy.

The doctrine of the Nicolaitanes finally culminated in the hierarchy of the Catholic Church. So we might say the Pergamos type churches made up the embryo of the Catholic Church. Even Protestant writers and commentators have to admit that the church at Thyatira represents the Catholic Church. Thyatira means a continual sacrifice. And every hour of the day and the night the Catholic Church is sacrificing the Lord Jesus Christ afresh in their mass somewhere around the globe according to their teaching.

When we come to the church at Sardis there should be no doubt as to what she represents. The name Sardis means separation. So this church represents the Protestant churches who separated from, and came out of the Catholic Church. On the surface this looked awfully good. But they came out dragging along their mama's old homemade baptism, and a lot of other things they had

no business with. Then, too, instead of going all the way and becoming a part of our Lord's churches they built them churches of their own. As a result, our Lord says in 3:1, "thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead." These Protestant churches no doubt have some saved people in them, but the churches themselves have no spiritual life in them because they were started by the wrong person and according to the wrong blueprint.

Philadelphia means brotherly love, and this church represents our Lord's true churches in our day. These are the churches our Lord promises to keep out of the awful tribulation that is to come upon this old world, 3:10. He will do this by coming for His saints before this terrible time begins.

Until very recent times, say the last three or four decades, the letter to the church at Laodicea was quite a puzzle. The churches represented by Laodicea were, or at least had been some of our Lord's own churches. He says nothing about spueing the churches represented by Pergamos, Thyatira or Sardis out of His mouth, because they had never been in His mouth. But He does spue these Laodicean churches out of His mouth. And He gives two reasons for His doing so. In 3:16-17 He tells us that it is because they are lukewarm, and because they say they are rich and have no need, but now they go to headquarters for them. If you cannot recognize these churches by this description, you would not believe it if I told you who they are.



## Bro. Wilson

(Continued from page three)  
ber. May God bless this fine family in the things of the Lord.

An added blessing, I should say blessings, was the privilege of seeing many folk in the services that I had known before in other places. A fine family from Michigan with whom I had had fellowship was vacationing there and attended some of the services. This was a real blessing. Brother Willis and his family were a blessing to me. I had met him in Noblesville, Ind. in a meeting at the Fall Creek Baptist Church. He and his wife have moved to Florida and are members of the church there. They were a great blessing to me. I can't forget my dear friends from Tullahoma, Tenn. — the Harry Danner family. What a real joy it was to see them again. They were in the church in Huntsville, Ala., where Don Hackney is the pastor. I held two meetings in that church, and also an added weekend with them. The Danners had been with us in these meetings, and I had learned to love them greatly. I wish you could see Brother Danner. He was all decked out in Hollywood sport clothes. I told the church that I knew Harry Danner when he was a Tennessee plowboy, and now he looked like a Florida playboy. He led the singing for the services and he and his family were indeed an added blessing to the church there and to me personally.

The pastor and several of the members of the Temple Baptist Church — a sister church of like

precious faith — visited with us often during the week. The pastor brought a fine message to us on the last Saturday night and these folk added to the meeting by their presence. How good it is to have sister churches to fellowship with. Brother Wayne Crow was present in some of the services with his family. It was good to see them again, as I had learned to think much of them from fellowship at the conferences. W. W. Wilkerson came over from Tampa, Florida to be with us one night and brought a singing friend. They added to our Tuesday night service by their presence. A preacher brother from New Mexico was present one night. Then there were other visitors with us in the services, and each one added to the blessings of my privileged visit to Florida.

I closed the services on Sunday morning and raced to the airport to catch a plane and return to my beloved North Carolina,

## SUBSCRIBE FOR THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

and the wonderful people of the Grace Baptist Church, and my dear family. I left that world of sunshine and beauty and came back to a cold, rainy world, but it was good to be home. I greatly enjoyed Florida, but, as I told the people, I kept looking off in the distance — looking for a hill of somekind, and there were none to be seen. It is good to go. It is good to have friends and fellow believers in different parts of the world. It is good to return home to those who hold special places in the heart.

Pray for the Missionary Faith Baptist Church of Hollywood, Florida, their people, and its pastor. Pray for me, mine, and for the Lord's work here at Grace Baptist Church. God bless you all.

## Security

(Continued from page one)  
holding on to Christ Jesus with all my might and I'm hoping that I will make it through." If this is your testimony, then you are on your hands and knees. No where do the Scriptures admonish us to hold on to the Lord. The Scriptures, in every place, teach that He holds on to us. Suppose that you were walking down a busy street with your little boy or girl. Would you hold on to them, or would you have them hold on to you? The answer, of course, is obvious. God knows that we would surely be lost if we were required to hold on to Him, thus He holds on to us. Please listen carefully to the following precious Scriptures:

"For by grace are ye saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast." (Ephesians 2:8,9.)

I feel very sorry for people who live under the constant fear that God may one day forsake them. This fact reminds me of a news report I heard regarding a little ten year old girl who had been forsaken by her mother and dad. The poor little girl had been locked in a closet and starved to the extent that she only weighed twenty six pounds when she was found.

It is true that mother and dad may forsake their children; it is true that friends may forsake their friends, but the Word of God assures us that our Father in Heaven will never forsake His children.

"I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor His seed begging bread." (Psa. 37:25).

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are persecuted..." (Continued on page 7, column 1)

## Send TBE FREE!

## TO A YOUNG PREACHER

We are greatly interested in reaching young preachers with the "strong meat" of the Word—which we know they are not getting in most seminaries, Bible colleges and Bible institutes. In order to reach them, we are willing to send TBE to them for one year free of charge.

Naturally, we don't know every young man whom God calls to preach, but our readers can furnish us with names and addresses of many. We therefore ask you to send us the names and addresses of young men whom you know in the ministry. We will gladly send TBE to them.

Does this sacrifice pay off? It certainly does! We have before sent TBE to young men who—as a result of help received from the paper — are now standing firm as a rock for the faith. And, think of the good their preaching will do in years to come!

### USE THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Your Own Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to send more, use a separate sheet. If you can help on these "subs," we will appreciate your offering.

### CLIP AND MAIL TO:

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, P.O. BOX 910, ASHLAND, KY.

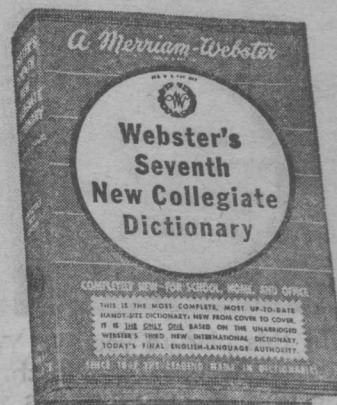
THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MARCH 18, 1972

PAGE SIX

## THE IDEAL GIFT!

GIVE TODAY'S  
HIGH SCHOOL  
GRADUATE  
THIS KEY TO  
SUCCESS IN  
COLLEGE...



## WEBSTER'S SEVENTH NEW COLLEGIATE

WORDS ARE THE KEY to success.

If you want to help today's high school graduate succeed in college or in that first job, give the new Merriam-Webster — required or recommended at schools and colleges everywhere.

This modern Merriam-Webster has 20,000 new words and meanings — 130,000 entries.

This is the handy-size dictionary based on a massive program of English language research: the only one that assures accuracy, authority, completeness based on 10 million records of educated language use.

For graduation, give Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary.

ONLY \$8.75

INDEXED

ORDER FROM OUR BOOK STORE



## Security

(Continued from page 6)

plexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed." (II Cor. 4:8, 9).

"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." (Hebrews 13:5).

There are those who question how Baptists can be so sure that they are going to Heaven. The answer to this question is very simple. The answer is that our hope and our assurance rests upon the Word of God. God, in His Word, has given us a multitude of passages to rest our hope upon. Let's note a few of these precious promises:

"I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before Him." (Eccl. 3:14).

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow Me: and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them Me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of My Father's hand. I and My Father are one." (John 10:27-30).

There are many who claim to have been saved, but who still believe that God may one day cast them out if they don't do such and such. However, it seems to me that any one who has read John 6:37 could never believe that God would ever cast out even one of His children. Let us note very carefully the wording of this precious passage:

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

This passage, beloved, should enable you to get up off your hands and knees and get in the wagon where you can sing "Blessed Assurance" with that great multitude who have blessed assurance.

I'm very much aware that the great majority of people do not believe in the security of the saved. However, most of these people will admit that salvation is a free gift from God. Their argument is that God will withdraw His gift if we sin. It appears to me that these poor people could get off their hands and knees and into the wagon if they would only read and heed the following passages:

"For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance." (Rom. 11:29).

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of

lights with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." (James 1:17).

These verses teach that our God does not change. He will not give us salvation today and change His mind tomorrow or a million years from now.

"I'm not saying that I do not believe that it is impossible for God's dear saints to sin. I'm only saying that it is not possible for us to lose the salvation which God has so freely given to us through His Son.

There are those who believe that the doctrine of security will cause loose living. They believe that people will live carelessly if they are assured of Heaven. Beloved, let me emphatically state that any person who claims to be saved and yet has no love for God, nor regard for His Word, was never saved. He or she have been badly deceived.

"... let God be true, but every man a liar..." (Rom. 3:4).

"For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." (I John 5:4).

There is a story which has been told regarding a slave who was being auctioned. The bids grew higher and higher until the slave was purchased. The man who purchased the slave handed a piece of paper to him. On the paper was written a statement which gave the slave his freedom. The slave was so jubilant that he asked the kind man if it would be satisfactory for him to abide at his house and be his servant. In like manner those who have been purchased and set free by the Lord Jesus Christ want to be His servants. They do not wish to trample Him under their feet.

There are those who say that they sometimes feel like they are saved, but they are not sure on other occasions. Let me say, beloved, that we cannot rely upon our feelings, but we can rely upon the Word of God. We, as far as our feelings are concerned, may be on the mountain top one day and in the valley the next day, but God's Word does not change.

"For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed" (Mal. 3:6).

There is a story which came out of Ireland years ago which emphasizes my point very well. A minister was conducting an evangelistic service and a young man was converted during the service. The young man's mother, through his influence, came to the service and also received Christ as her Lord and Saviour. However, she, before believing, found difficulty in accepting the fact that through simple faith in Christ she could have eternal life. The preacher pointed her to John 5:24 and emphasized, "He that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that

sent Me, hath everlasting life." The woman accepted this precious truth and went home rejoicing in the Lord. The next morning, the glorious feeling she had enjoyed the night before was gone. Her son, seeing the look of despair on her face, asked what was troubling her. She replied, "Oh, son, the feeling is gone." The boy went and got his Bible and opened it to John 5:24 and said, "Mother, the verse is still in the Bible." Let us learn that God does not change even though our feelings vary constantly.

Paul, in II Tim. 1:12, said that he knew God was able to save him. Paul was not relying on his own ability, but on God's ability. Let us learn from Paul's experience that it is not a question of whether or not we are able, but is a question of whether or not God is able. We know, of course, that He is able.

"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to pre-

ground of the finished work of Christ.

"And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." (Ephesians 4:30).

A good example and confirmation of this fact is to be found in connection with Corinthian saints. We know from the Bible record that the Corinthians were guilty of some of the worst sins, yet to these people we read:

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you." (I Cor. 3:16).

We see that they were still the children of God in spite of their sins. They had not lost the Holy Spirit.

It seems to me that all who are acquainted with Hebrews 10:14 would know that salvation is given to the elect for time and for eternity.

"For by one offering He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified." (Hebrews 10:14).

The promises of God would have no value if a saved person were to be lost. In fact, John 6:37 would be an out right lie if one of those for whom Christ died should be lost.

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

John 6:39 would also be an out right lie if one of God's children should ever be lost.

"And this is the Father's will which hath sent Me, that of all which He hath given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day."

Philippians 1:6 would be another lie:

"Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

The intercession of Christ would be of no value if believers were to perish. The Word teaches that our Lord died for us, and it also teaches that He ever liveth to make intercession for us. One will find this fact very clearly stated in Hebrews 7:25. This verse, after declaring that "He is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him" (Christ), continues to declare, "seeing that He ever liveth to make intercession for them." We find the same truth expressed in I John 2:1. John, after writing, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not," continues by saying, "and if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." We find this same truth boldly declared in Romans 8:33, 34. Paul, after declaring, "It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

The above boils down to this question: Are the prayers of Christ effectual? The Lord Jesus Himself answered this question in Luke 22:32 when He said, "Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard Me. And I know that thou hearest Me always."

We, on the basis of the above, should be able to see very clearly that the doctrine of "falling from grace" is foreign to the Scriptures, in view of the fact that it repudiates the value of our Lord's present intercession for us.

The blessed truths that we have expressed should cause the believer to rejoice with joy unspeakable. They should cause us to draw very close to the Master. These truths should never be the means of a loose walk, but they should be the means of a closer walk with Him. We should always guard against sinning in view of the fact that our sins cause our communion with God to be broken. Our sins even cause the joy of our salvation to be lost and prevent us from relishing spiritual things. Sins also hinder us from speaking to others regarding spiritual things and thus cause our power for service to be greatly hindered. Sin will even cause God to chasten His children:

"If they break My statutes, and keep not My commandments; then

will I visit their transgression with a rod, and their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless My loving kindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer My faithfulness to fail." (Psalm 89:31-33).

Sin may even endanger our physical life:

"Every branch in Me that beareth not fruit He taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit." (John 15:2).

The believer is to be a fruit bearer, but if we do not bear fruit, the Lord will not allow us to cumber His ground, but will take us out of the land of the living by way of death. The Apostle John referred to this fact in I John 5:16 when he said, "There is a sin unto death." The reference here is to physical death.

It is my prayer that God will use this message to the end that the lost will be saved, and the saved strengthened, so that our blessed Lord will be honored and glorified thereby.



## Remarkable Day

(Continued from page one)

death by crucifixion, Jesus Christ said: "To this end was I born, and for this cause came I unto the world" (John 18:37).

**The Indignities Before Calvary**

Mark gives the most detailed account of the indignities done to Christ before His crucifixion. "And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus when he had scourged him, to be crucified. And the soldiers led him away into the hall, called Praetorium; and they call together the whole band. And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his head, and began to salute him, Hail, King of the Jews! And they smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshipped him." (Mark 15:15-19).

As to how much Christ suffered during the scourging we will never know. This was an ignominious cruel punishment given to slaves before crucifixion. The number of lashes with the cat-o-nine-tails is uncertain since the Romans were not limited to the forty lashes of the Jews. This beating torn open the flesh of His body until His bones were exposed (Ps. 22:17).

The mob mocked Christ with the appearance of homage. They regarded Him as foolishly and madly claiming to be a king. Since kings wore purple robes, they in mockery put a purple robe on Him. Real kings in those days wore crowns, so they ridiculed Christ by thrusting a crown of thorns upon His sacred brow. Did not kings have sceptres? Yes, they did. Therefore the mob gave Him a reed in His right hand. It was a custom for subjects to kiss their sovereigns, yet they spit in the face of Christ. People in those days addressed kings on their knees. So the soldiers in laughter did so to Christ. Our Lord suffered the shame and contempt which was due His covenant people that they would not suffer the everlasting shame and contempt of Hell fire.

All of these things were a direct fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. His scourging was such. Years before the psalmist had written: "The plowers plowed upon my back; they made long their furrows" (Ps. 129:3). Isaiah had written: "I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting" (Isa. 50:6). In chapter 53, verse 5, the same prophet again had written: "The chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."

The mock trial was a fulfillment. (Continued on page 8, column 1)

## BOUND VOLUMES

CONTAINING EACH AND EVERY ISSUE OF TBE

For 1971

NOW READY

\$8.00

POSTPAID

sent you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy." (Jude 24).

There is no way in which one can merit the new birth. Consequently, there is nothing we can do to demerit it. Salvation would cease to be a gift if we could merit it. It would be a reward rather than a gift if we were able to merit it.

Some use Psalm 51:11 in an effort to prove that one can lose his salvation. Here, David prayed, "Take not Thy Holy Spirit from me." The significant point here is that this occurred under the law and not under the present dispensation of grace. The promise today is as it is recorded in John 14:16:

"And He shall give you another comforter, that He may abide with you forever."

The believer may and does grieve the Holy Spirit, but he cannot drive Him away. The reason is that the Holy Spirit did not take up His abode within us because of our personal fitness, but on the

**Your best value in a pocket reference Bible!**  
**only \$7.00**

The palm size Amethyst Bible from Cambridge has all the exclusive features of more expensive editions—the same sharp 'open' print, the same superwhite India paper, the same comprehensive Concordance and new maps. The brand-new Ariston binding gives the utmost flexibility and durability. And the 'Budget Amethyst' has all the extras that make it the perfect gift—gold edges, presentation page and two piece box. King James Version. No other Bible like it—anywhere!

ONLY \$7.00

**Order this lovely pocket Bible now**

**Use order coupon for prompt delivery**

For the \$7.00 I am enclosing, please send at once the Cambridge Bible.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



## Remarkable Day

(Continued from page seven)  
ment of prophecy. How clear all of this was revealed in Psalm 22, Verses 6 and 7 read: "But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people. All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head." Of this same event Isaiah wrote: "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief" (Isa. 53:3).

### The Crucified Christ

At about nine o'clock on the morning of 14 of Nisan A.D. 31, the heavy cross was laid upon the bleeding shoulders of Christ and He was led away. As He walked toward the city gate of Jerusalem and toward Mount Calvary, He fell beneath the weight of the cross, physically exhausted. "And they compel one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear his cross. And they bring him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, The place of a skull. And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh: but he received it not" (Mark 15:21-23).

Our Lord may have refused the wine because it was drugged. He wanted to endure the full anguish of the cross.

As to the actual pinning of the Lord Jesus to the tree, the four evangelists give no details. Matthew simply says: "And there they crucified him." It was a dark day when Christ died. How awful must have been the scene when the husky Roman soldier took a huge hammer and drove the square-cut nails into the quivering flesh of the Son of God. The psalmist had written centuries before: "They pierced my hands and my feet" (Ps. 22:16).

After the nails were driven in to our Saviour's hands and feet, it is likely that, as the cross was dropped in the hole prepared for it, the sudden lunging of the full weight of the body from the hands and arms tore Jesus' shoulders from their sockets. Literally, His bones were out of joint as the psalmist had predicted (Ps. 22:14): The red blood must have run down from His hands and feet. It was the shedding of that blood which made an atonement for our souls. "Without shedding of blood is no remission" (Heb. 9:22). For centuries before on this day the blood of the paschal

lamb was shed, now Christ our passover was being sacrificed for us (I Cor. 5:7).

The day Christ died was the day of all days. On this day the Creator died for the creatures, the Just for the unjust, the Saviour for sinners. On this remarkable day the Judge died for the criminals, the Shepherd for the sheep, the Teacher for the pupils. On the cross the Innocent suffered for the guilty, the Good for the bad, the Lover for the unlovable. At Calvary the Master died for the servants, the King for His subjects, the Lord for His household.

How painful when Christ "poured out his soul unto death" (Isa. 53:12). What a shameful death was crucifixion. To the Romans it was the death of a slave or a vile criminal, yet Christ "endured the cross, despising the shame" (Heb. 12:2). What a cursed death! The Jewish Law said: "He that is hanged is accursed of God" (Deut. 21:23). "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree" (Gal. 3:13). Although at any moment He could have stepped down from a cross whose native tree He Himself had designed, yet in a very real sense, there was truth in the statement of His enemies. There was but one way to redeem men's souls, and if He was to "save others," then "Himself He could not save."

### Christ On The Cross

The Saviour hung upon the old rugged cross from nine o'clock in the morning until three o'clock in the afternoon. Just at noon when the day was the brightest, the sun ceased to shine and darkness came over the face of the earth. For three hours nature was in mourning. During those six hours on the cross something took place which mortal mind cannot comprehend. This was the most crucial day in the history of the world.

"The Scripture hath concluded all under sin" (Gal. 3:22). The high court of Heaven had declared that every sinning mortal was "guilty before God" (Rom. 3:19). Since every human being had sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23), we all deserved the wages of sin which is death (Rom. 6:23). Every one of us without exception deserved an endless life in a state of suffering and separation from God.

The Son of God came to pay the penalty for man's sins. As the sun ceased to shine, Christ gave an orphan cry: "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?" For a brief period of time the only begotten Son became the only forgotten Son. The Father turned His back upon Christ since He is of purer eyes than to behold evil. The Father laid upon Him the iniquities of us all (Isa. 53:6). God poured His wrath out upon His Son. He viewed Him as the vilest sinner who ever lived. He caused Him to go through the agony of a lost soul. In six hours on the cross the Divine Saviour suffered the equal of an eternity in Hell for all of Gods elect. The Infinite One suffered in a finite period of time what a finite creature would have suffered in an infinite period of time.

Christ's death was radically different from that of the saints and martyrs. It was not the passing of a misguided zealot. His death was redemptional and substitutionary. He who died on the cross knew no sin, yet He died as a sacrifice for our sins. His sinless life and virgin birth gave great meaning to His death.

When the Hell debt was paid in full, Jesus Christ looked up and said: "It is finished. Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit." He laid down His life and our redemption was purchased! Oh, wondrous transaction! Any one with even a fragment of gratitude must cry: "Thou art worthy . . . for thou was slain, and hast redeemed us to God by

thy blood." (Rev. 5:9)

### Who Really Crucified Christ?

The Roman soldiers did not really crucify the Son of God. Nor was the Sanhedrin directly responsible for killing the Prince of life. The sins of the world is what actually murdered the Son of David. You and I put to death the Friend of sinners! Our sins murdered Him just as surely as Bob Ford killed Jessie James. When He was beaten with the cat-o'-nine-tails, we were there. When the mob spit in His face, we were there. When they pinched, jabbed and kicked Him, we were there. When the hammer drove the nails into His raw, red flesh, pinning His hands and feet to the tree, we were there. When they raised the pole and dropped it into the newly dug hole, we were there. When the pole hit bottom and the blood spurted out of the nail holes, you and I were there cheering. We were there in the person of our sins putting to death the only Saviour the world has ever known!

You and I were personally responsible for slaying Jesus Christ. Isaiah said of the Messiah: "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." (Isa. 53:4-5). Our rebellion against God's laws and commandments caused every agonizing minute of His suffering. Have you ever stopped to consider the terrible death you inflicted upon Jesus Christ? Do you take the matter lightly or seriously? Were you worthy of such a sacrifice? Does not gratitude for such a Saviour cause you to fall as it were at His feet as did Thomas and cry: "My Lord and my God."

Child of God, are you entangled with the affairs of this life? Are you trying to fellowship the very world that crucified the Lord of glory? He died for us all "that we which live should not henceforth live unto ourselves, but unto him which died for us, and rose again" (II Cor. 5:15). May the love of Christ constrain us to perfect holiness in fear of God and to "follow His steps" (I Pet. 2:21).

## Adam's Rib

(Continued from page five)  
died. Her friends washed her and prepared her for burial. Word was sent to a close friend of hers by the name of Peter, who was staying in Lydda. When Peter arrived in Joppa, he went immediately to her home. He went alone into the room where the corpse was laid out. A few minutes later, he came out with Tabitha alive and well. Everyone is talking about a resurrection. There are many opinions about how this tremendous feat was accomplished. The one most insisted upon is that this Peter simply prayed to his God and by the power of his God, this woman was restored to life. Now I want.

this reporter happens to know for a fact that this Peter is not a prophet or one of our Jewish teachers but a simple fisherman. An interview with Peter in the home of our local leather merchant proved very unsatisfactory. This reporter asked Peter wherein lay his power to perform such a feat. He quietly replied, "Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." Many in Joppa apparently believe his story, because a great number have turned in faith to this Jesus of Nazareth.

Aren't you glad ladies, that we, too, believe in a God Who raises the dead? It is interesting to note that death cannot hold its prey captive when Jesus comes on the scene. (Jairus' daughter — the son of the widow of Nain — and Lazarus)

Eph. 2:1: "And you hath He quickened, who were DEAD in trespasses and sins."

I Cor. 15:3, 4: "-- Christ DIED for our sins according to the scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures."

I Peter 2:24: "Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being DEAD to sins, should LIVE unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."



K.J.V.

(Continued from page one)  
the K.J.V. is outdated. This, however, seems to be an advantage. The K.J.V. in Matt. 1:25 reads, concerning Joseph and Mary, "and knew her not." The Berkley Version reads, "They did not have intercourse." Which do you want your child to read?

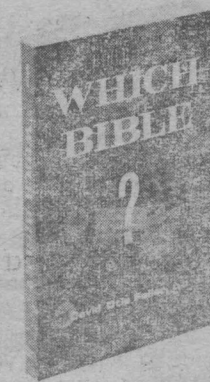
Billy Graham in endorsing the "Living Letters" says "It's like reading my morning newspaper." Mr. Graham preaches from his newspaper a lot but for a person that loves the Bible, it will be more important than his newspaper.

The word "charity" in I Cor. 13 is the Greek word "agapa" and is translated "love" in all the modern translation, but the word love in this society can mean almost anything. Charity cannot, and in 1611, charity had a much greater meaning than the "love" can ever mean to this generation.

This writer has gone through the gamut of translations but has always returned to the K.J.V. Too many people are being "amplified" and "simplified," when they should be horrified. I'll take the K.J.V.! Old fashioned, plain, stark, unpopular, but Christ-centered. It cracks like thunder, convicting the guilty sinner. Shines like the sun pointing toward Him who is the Way. The same version preached from by Spurgeon, Graves, Fuller, Watson, Williams, Dayton. The same version that brought comfort to Washington, Welling on, Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Pershing, MacArthur. Yes, this is the version that I want.

## A TRULY GREAT BOOK

This is a second edition — revised and enlarged — which actually is a defense of the King James Version.



I am not saying that the King James Version is perfect, but I do believe that it is by far the best version of God's Word. I do not care for the modern versions as they merely indicate the rising tide of modernism.

I would urge everyone to buy and read this paper bound book which contains almost 300 pages and sells for \$2.95.

— ORDER FROM —

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101

# MULTIPLIED THOUSANDS

... know nothing of the doctrines of grace, nor of church truth. They will never know unless you send them a "sub" to TBE. You'd never make a better investment than to send ten subs to ten of your friends today.

SEND US TEN SUBSCRIPTIONS, WE'LL RENEW YOURS FREE

10 SUBS . . . \$10.00

- Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_
- Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_
- Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_
- Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_
- Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_
- Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_
- Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_
- Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_
- Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_
- Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Subs  
Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_

GIVE US READERS  
We Will Give Them The Truth

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER  
MARCH, 18, 1972  
PAGE EIGHT