

The Baptist Examiner

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

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Further Exposition Of Epistle Of James

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

"Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? Let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom"—James 3:13.

Wisdom and knowledge go very well together. They, in fact, are an unbeatable team. I'm reminded of two large white horses we had back on the farm. They were a team that could be relied upon under the heaviest load and in the most adverse conditions. Wisdom and knowledge are, in like manner, a great and dependable team. A person, however, may have an abundance of knowledge and still not be wise. Wisdom is the ability to use knowledge.

There are many who have a lot of knowledge relative to the Scriptures, but many of these same people are not wise. They are not wise because they do not put into practice that which they know to be true. They, for example, know that I Corinthians 14:34 teaches that women are to be silent in the church, however, they are not wise because they turn a deaf ear to this passage.

It will be found that knowl-

edge without wisdom will only cause a person to be puffed up.

"And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know" I Cor. 8:2.

"... let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom"—James 3:13.

The word "show" means that the man who claims to have knowledge and wisdom should not let such a fine team graze in the pasture field — they should be hooked to the plow and "show" what they can accomplish.

The word "conversation" means "behavior" or conduct, therefore, the meaning is that the person who is full of knowledge and wisdom should conduct himself accordingly. He, in other words, should hear and heed the Scriptures.

"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight."—Isaiah 5:20,21.

"... his works with meekness of wisdom"—James 3:13.

It is not the habit (conversation) of the meek to bless God

and curse men, in view of the fact that meekness is the opposite of self will toward God and ill will toward men. It has been well said that "the meek are those who quietly submit themselves before God, to His Word, to His rod, who follow His directions and comply with His designs and are gentle toward men."

Meekness, however, must never be confused with weakness. True meekness yields only to God's will. It will not yield to the will of a heretic.

"But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory



WILLARD WILLIS

not, and lie not against the truth"—James 3:14.

One can be proud when he has knowledge that is well seasoned with plenty of wisdom, but one should be ashamed if he or she are given to strife — strife that has been hatched in the corrupt den of envy. We may say that envy is the egg from which strife is hatched, that is, if it is set on too long without being confessed. You will recall that Cain sat too long on the egg of envy against his brother, Abel. The result was that strife was hatched — strife that resulted in the death of Abel. You will also recall the envy of Saul against David and the envy of Joseph's brethren against Joseph.

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God's Word, settled forever in Heaven, teaches a limited atonement in spite of the unbelief of Arminians like Donald Drake. Christ redeemed a special and distinct people by His death. They are said to be redeemed "out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation" (Rev. 5:9; 14:3-4). They are called "His people" (Continued on page 8, column 2)



MILBURN COCKRELL

issued due to pressure from countless pastors who wanted to know where the College stood and in an effort to end the proselyting of immature believers to theological Calvinism.

President Drake's statement in the college chapel about the Calvinistic controversy was printed in DAYBREAK, an official publication of the College. He said, "The doctrine of a limited atonement is not the teaching position of this school because we believe that it is a doctrine contrary to the clear teaching of the Word of God" (DAYBREAK, Nov.-Dec.

"And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."—II Cor. 11:14.

At the very outset, may I say that there is a Devil. I believe in him. I don't believe in him like I believe in God, but I believe there is a Devil. To me, he is a powerful being. God exists and is real to me for good. The Devil exists and is real to me for evil. I believe that he is abroad in the world and he is cunning. He transforms himself, so the text says, as "an angel of light."

I am sure that the Devil never goes about with hooves and horns. I am sure he never does carry a pitchfork with him when he does his work. Rather, as an angel of light, he cunningly presents his temptations to God's people, and to the world at large.

I say then, that the Devil as an angel of light, is a cunning individual, and he does all his work on a deceptive basis. We read:

"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand

The Meanest Grandmother Found In All God's Word

By JOE WILSON
Tulsa, Oklahoma

"When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois..."—II Tim. 1:5.

Lois is an example of what a grandmother ought to be. She believed in the Lord herself, thus being a saved woman. She, no doubt, sought to teach her grandson the Word of God, and prayed for him, that God would give him saving faith. A grandmother ought to be more than an unpaid baby sitter. She certainly ought not to be a cigarette smoking, beer-drinking, cursing person, as many are today. She ought to be a Godly woman. She ought to be an example. When the children go to visit grandmother, they ought to see and learn something about the Word of God. This is the kind of grandmother Timothy had. Maybe she gave him the name which means "honoring God." At least, she sought to influence him to live according to his name.

The salvation of the elect of God was and is wrapped up in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ must come into the world, and do the work that was necessary for our salvation.

"It shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."—Gen. 3:15.

This is the first gospel promise in the Bible. Following hard on the heels of the entrance of sin into the human race, came the sovereign grace of God with this promise. Herein is set forth an enmity between the serpent and his seed, and the seed of woman. We know, of course, that the "seed of woman" is our Lord Jesus Christ, and also, that His vir-

gin birth is clearly set forth in this statement. The point I want you to see is, that God sets forth the wonderful truth that, there will come into this world at some time in the future, one born of woman, who will bring salvation, and destroy the works of Satan. We can trace this promise through the Bible, and see how it is narrowed down until His actual coming.

In Gen. 3:15, we learn that the Saviour will be one of the human



JOE WILSON

race, one born of woman. Gen. 12:3 "in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed," informs us that the Deliverer will be, not only of the human race, but will be a descendant of Abraham. "And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." Gen. 26:4. This promise to Isaac informs us that the Deliverer will not come from Ishmael, but from Isaac. "And in thee and thy seed shall all the families of (Continued on page 3, column 5)

Review Of The Infidelity Of Piedmont Bible College

By MILBURN COCKRELL
Mantachie, Mississippi

On November 3, 1971, the President of Piedmont Bible College prohibited all discussions upon the five-points of Calvinism by students, threatening disciplinary action against those who continue the program of open propagation. President Drake further called upon students to cease all distribution of literature promoting this doctrine. This mandate was

p. 2).

This is a terrible confession for a president of a "Bible" college. Honest Arminians admit they believe in an atonement limited to all believers. Does President Drake believe in an unlimited atonement and a universal salvation? If he, like other Arminians, believes the atonement is limited to believers, is not his statement in chapel misleading? If he believes the atonement is efficient only to believers, then is he not guilty of the deceit and dishonesty of which he accuses the Calvinists? Who is really guilty of the "intellectual snobbery" of which he speaks?

God's Word, settled forever in Heaven, teaches a limited atonement in spite of the unbelief of Arminians like Donald Drake. Christ redeemed a special and distinct people by His death. They are said to be redeemed "out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation" (Rev. 5:9; 14:3-4). They are called "His people" (Continued on page 8, column 2)

eph. You will recall in these cases how the egg of envy hatched out bitter strife.

What is envy? It is discontentment which results from the jealousy of another person. Cain was envious or jealous of Abel because God accepted Abel's offering and rejected his.

It will be found that envy and strife are often times found behind the mask of zeal. We, in fact, can be sure that there are a multitude of people who are working their fingers to the bone so as to out do a person or persons of whom they are jealous. There are even preachers in this rut.

"Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will"—Phil. 1:15.

"This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish"—James 3:15.

Earthly wisdom, like weeds, can never rise above the earth. It is always planning and scheming for a way to outfox the next person. Wisdom from above, on the other hand, doesn't try to outfox anyone. It, in fact, thinks more highly of others than self. It does not complain or become jealous (envious) of others.

Sensual wisdom is wisdom that

is spent in order to gratify the five senses of man. It, therefore, is directed toward more and more pleasure. Man, in fact, will use all of his wits and spend many sleepless nights in an effort to discover a new way to gratify the flesh. The movie industry is a good example of sensual wisdom.

The wisdom that is not from above is not only earthly and sensual, but it is also "devilish." It is devilish because it brings a smile to the face of Satan rather than God. Satan is the cheerleader who stands on the side lines and cheers on the product of earthly, sensual and devilish wisdom. His players on the field of life are devilish themselves in that they devise mischief, hatch out wickedness, slander the godly, and envy everyone around them.

"For where envying and strife is, there is confusion, and every evil work"—James 3:16.

A field that is sown down with envy and strife can only bring forth thorns and briars. No sweet potatoes or corn on the cob of spiritual blessings can grow there. Envy and strife, in fact, can only bring forth "confusion and every evil work." It was so with Cain, Joseph's brethren, Saul and the enemies of our Lord. It is also true today. A spirit that is envious and contentious is an unquiet spirit. You will recall that Cain's envy confused him. He, in fact, was not content until he had performed the "evil work" of killing his brother. Saul was confused and could not be content until he had tried to chase David out of the world.

Who do you envy and how long have you been sitting on this corrupt egg? I hope you will remember that God's Word has declared and proven that envy is a wicked and dangerous thing. It is also very displeasing to our Father. May you, then, before your envy hatches into strife, confess it to God and He will forgive you.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."—I John 1:9. (Continued on page 7, column 4)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

"HOW THE DEVIL DECEIVES CONCERNING HELL"

"And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."—II Cor. 11:14.

At the very outset, may I say that there is a Devil. I believe in him. I don't believe in him like I believe in God, but I believe there is a Devil. To me, he is a powerful being. God exists and is real to me for good. The Devil exists and is real to me for evil. I believe that he is abroad in the world and he is cunning. He transforms himself, so the text says, as "an angel of light."

I am sure that the Devil never goes about with hooves and horns. I am sure he never does carry a pitchfork with him when he does his work. Rather, as an angel of light, he cunningly presents his temptations to God's people, and to the world at large.

I say then, that the Devil as an angel of light, is a cunning individual, and he does all his work on a deceptive basis. We read:

"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand

against THE WILES of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."—Eph. 6:11, 12.

You can't read this without realizing that the individual that we wrestle against is not an earthly being, such as you and I are. Rather, he is a deceptive individual.

(Continued on page 2, column 1)

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JOHN R. GILPIN.....Editor

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"Devil . . . Hell"

(Continued from page one)

Listen again:

"Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and SIGNS AND LYING WONDERS, and with all DECEIVABLENESS of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved."—II Thess. 2:9,10.

Notice, it says that he works "with all deceivableness of unrighteousness."

In the light of these Scriptures which tell us that the Devil is an angel of light and that he works in a deceptive way, I say to you, the Devil is the world's arch deceiver in every field. Particularly is that true in regard to the matter of Hell. I say he is not only deceptive in everything generally, but in a particular way he is deceptive relative to the matter of Hell. I want to show you who are saved what you have been saved from, and how you have avoided the deceptiveness of Satan. I want to show you who are unsaved how that Satan is in the business of deceiving you as to the matter of Hell.

I

THE DEVIL TEACHES THAT HELL IS A PART OF THE HEATHEN SUPERSTITION OF PAST IGNORANT AGES.

There are many preachers today who will tell you that Hell is a carry-over of the superstitions of by-gone days. Universalists preachers who believe that everybody is going to be saved, modernists who deny the Word of God, free thinkers who do not

believe that God's Book is inspired, all together will tell you when you talk about Hell that you are talking about the superstitions of past ages. I could stand here until the midnight hour and tell you of preachers that I have met who took that position. I am satisfied, in doing so, that they were merely talking about things that they had learned from the Devil. Let me tell you two instances.

I remember an Episcopal preacher who was pastor in the state of Washington, who came to Detroit, Michigan, a few years ago to hold a revival meeting. He said that there was no Hell. He denied the matter of the Devil, and he denied angels. In the Free Press, which is the leading paper in the city of Detroit, there was a statement printed whereby he said that Hell makes God a hypocrite, for God tells us to forgive our worst enemies and then He damns His own enemies. That was the statement that this Episcopal preacher made in a revival meeting in the city of Detroit.

Then I remember another supposed-to-be Episcopal evangelist who came to the YMCA at Russell, Kentucky, several years ago. He was a modernist from the word "go." He believed everything that modernists believe and teach today, in that he denied the Bible was the Word of God; he denied that Jesus was the Son of God; he denied the resurrection; he denied everything that we hold dear today so far as the truths of the Bible are concerned. As I talked to this man in the YMCA one day, he rejected the idea of the Devil, demons and angels, and he took the position that so far as Hell was concerned, it was a carry-over from the barbaric ages that are gone by; it was only a matter for superstitious people to believe such.

Beloved, here are two instances that I refer to, and I could tell you of dozens of others about preachers that I have known, or read about, or have heard from by way of correspondence, who have taken the same position. I say to you, all the modernists who deny the existence of Hell say that so far as Hell is concerned, it is only the ignorant people of today who follow after the heathen superstition of the past who believe there is a Hell.

Years ago, when I was just a boy preacher, I had quite a good deal of trouble with my throat. Since then I have questioned whether or not that was so. In all probability, it was my imagination. Nearly every Monday after preaching on Sunday, I would go to a throat specialist in Cincinnati. One day, the doctor said, "What did you preach yesterday?" I said, "Well, I preached on Hell and how to keep out of it." He said, "There is no such thing as Hell and no such thing as Heaven. Hell and Heaven are but figments of the imagination.

Capital Punishment Christian Or Barbarian?

This is the title of a small paperback book of fifty-five pages written by M. L. Moser, Jr. of Little Rock, Arkansas.

To say that it is a book that is needed today is but to express it most mildly. If ever there were



M. L. MOSER, JR.

a time in the history of America when capital punishment was needed, it is today.

The following was put out by the FBI, August 29, 1972:

Year	Murders	Executions
1959	8,580	49
1960	9,140	56
1961	8,600	42
1962	8,400	47
1963	8,500	21
1964	8,250	15
1965	9,850	7
1966	10,950	1
1967	12,090	2
1968	13,250	0
1969	14,830	0
1970	15,860	0
1971	17,630	0

You will notice that as the executions dropped, the murders increased. Truly we need to lay aside all sentiment and come back to Scripture. It is much easier to be sentimental than it is to be Scriptural. There are twenty-two crimes which the Bible lists to be punished by death. In this day of easy "believism," "God loves everybody," and mushy "sentimentalism," what the Word of God says, has been forgotten.

It would be good for every Christian to buy this book and make a thorough study of what the Word of God says about capital punishment.

The price is \$1.00 and the book may be ordered from our book store.

When you are happy you are having your Heaven; when you are miserable you are having your Hell. So far as I am concerned if you don't quit screeching about Hell on Sunday you are going to ruin your voice." I remember that fellow so well. He was a typical modernist. He attended services in a modernistic church in the city of Cincinnati.

Beloved, that is how the Devil deceives concerning the matter of Hell. He has caused many a preacher and many a layman, to believe that Hell is only a carry-over from the ages gone by, and that for you to believe it, is but superstition — for you to accept the teaching of Hell is but the remains of barbaric ages that have passed into eternity.

II

THE DEVIL DECEIVES PEOPLE IN THINKING THAT HELL IS NOTHING MORE THAN THE GRAVE.

There are plenty of people today who believe the grave is Hell. Of course you are familiar with Jehovah's Witnesses. All the Jehovah's Witness crowd will tell you that this is their "long suit." That is the one thing that they teach. That is the one thing that they preach — that Hell is nothing but the grave. Beloved, when-

ever they teach it, they are just teaching what the Devil has taught them, and they are merely teaching that which the Devil has deceived them into believing.

Let's turn to God's Word and see whether or not this is true. Listen:

"And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And earth and hell were cast into the lake of fire." — Rev. 20:13, 14.

Notice that John is telling us how that the dead go to Hell.

The Jehovah's Witnesses will come around to your door and try to sell you a book. If you won't buy the book, they'll give it to you. They will do anything to get you to read their teachings. In those books you will never find one time but that they tell you that Hell is the grave. That is their pet hobby.

One day when I was over to the farm working, a crowd of people drove up in a car. I went out to see what they wanted, and I found that there were three women and a man in the car. They were Jehovah's Witnesses. They were very proud of the fact that they were Jehovah's Witnesses. They emphasized the fact that they were. I knew that before they go away were going to know that I didn't believe in it. I tried to be as shrewd as the Devil is in his teachings about Hell. I tried to be more shrewd than the Devil. I didn't tell them that I was John R. Gilpin, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, and that they could listen to my broadcast every Sunday morning if they wanted to. I didn't tell them that to start with. I was the most ignorant country fellow you ever saw in talking to them. I wanted to get them to commit themselves. I didn't have to wait two minutes for them to tell me that there was no such thing as Hell; that Hell was the grave, and when you went into the grave, that was Hell. When they said that, I was ready to rump on them. I grabbed the Bible and said, "What about this verse here that says that 'death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them, and death and hell were cast into the lake of fire.'" They were "stumped" completely. Right then they wanted to know, where I went to church. I told them. I said, "I have one other thing to tell you before I leave you and that is, you are not Jehovah's Witnesses; you are the Devil's ambassadors." That is exactly what they are. That is the way the Devil deceives about Hell.

III

THE DEVIL DECEIVES PEOPLE IN THINKING THAT HELL IS ONLY ANNIHILATION.

Sometime ago, I was talking to a Seventh Day Adventist. Annihilation is their chiefest teaching. He said, "I believe in Hell, but Hell is a place of annihilation. It is just like this: You throw some coal into your furnace. It burns up. That is all there is to it. So far as I am concerned, that is Hell. Some of these days, the Lord is going to come back to this world and He is going to give all

these unrepentant rebellious sinners who have died another opportunity to be saved. He is going to give them a chance to be saved, and when they won't be, He is going to shovel them into Hell, just like you shovel coal into your furnace. They will be annihilated, and that will be the end of them."

I said to this man, "That is about the most comforting thing that I can think of. I don't know anything that is more comforting than to think that in a little while you will be burned up; and that you don't have to suffer eternally. But what does the Word of God say?"

Notice:

"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented DAY AND NIGHT FOR EVER AND EVER." — Rev. 20:10.

That does not sound like annihilation, does it? That doesn't sound like a chunk of coal burning up. It says they are going to be cast into Hell — not to be annihilated, but to "be tormented day and night, forever and ever."

I tell you, beloved, the Devil is a shrewd old Devil. He deceives. He is cunning. These are some of the ways in which he deceives people about Hell.

IV

THE DEVIL DECEIVES PEOPLE BY MAKING THEM BELIEVE THAT HELL IS NOT LITERAL.

Some few years ago, I had an evangelist holding a revival for me. On Sunday morning, he said that Hell was a figure of speech — that the fire and brimstone not literal. He said that whenever a man went to Hell his conscience hurt him, and the fire and brimstone were nothing but his conscience. He would go throughout eternity with his conscience hurting him. That was his idea of Hell.

You say, "Was he a Baptist?" Supposedly. I think he had preached in more Baptist pulpits than any man in his day. He was an outstanding preacher and an outstanding evangelist. However, He had taken the position that Hell was not literal, that it was only a figure of speech.

He went on to tell me in private conversation, "If the fire were literal, it would burn up the unsaved. They would eventually be all burned up. There wouldn't be anything left of them."

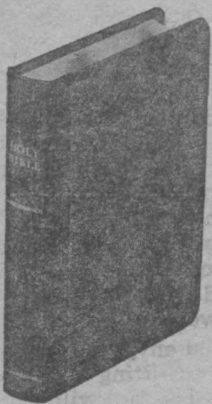
Beloved, there are people who take that position. They say that if the fire were literal, and the people were suffering literally in a literal fire and literal brimstone, they would eventually be burned up — there wouldn't be anything left of them."

When I was going through the local Rolling Mill for my first time, probably forty years ago, I met a man who had been hearing me preach some. He said, "Brother Gilpin, this idea of a burning everlasting Hell I can't grasp. He led me over to one side and showed me a heap of iron that was piled up there that never had been rolled. Some years before, a man was working there and lost his balance and fell into one of those big iron

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

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PAGE TWO



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This is the best book we have ever read on the Tabernacle. It exalts the substitutionary, sacrificial work of Christ as that to which the Tabernacle system pointed. On nearly every page, our attention is called to something which typifies the work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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"Devil . . . Hell"

(Continued from Page Two)

furnaces, and they never rolled it because there was a man's body inside that piece of iron.

This man said, "I saw him as he went down. It looked like he just dissolved." I took the pair of colored glasses that he offered me and put them on. I stood there and looked into it, and it was so hot that you could see the bubbles just bouncing up and down, six or eight inches high. I looked into that furnace to see how hot it was, and it was so hot that I wouldn't have dared to look into it with my naked eye. I had to look at it through colored glasses. This man said, "Brother Gilpin, don't ever preach that Hell is literal. If a man went into a literal fire, it would be the same experience as this man who went into this furnace."

I listened to this fellow and I said, "From the human point of view, your reasoning sounds good, but did you ever see a piece of asbestos? Put a fire to it, and yet it lasts. It doesn't dissolve. It doesn't burn away. It will last and last and last in the fire. Did you ever stop and think how God, one day, allowed three Hebrew children to be cast into the fiery furnace? It was hotter than this one here. The Word of God tells us that it was seven times hotter than it had ever been before. It was so hot that when they threw those three Hebrew children into the fiery furnace, the men who threw them in were overcome by the flames, yet the old king and the people who stood round about looked into that fiery furnace and saw those Jews walking around loose in the flames. When they came out of that furnace their clothes didn't have any smell of fire on them. Not a hair of their head was singed. Their clothes were unharmed. They were perfect and intact. If God could make a fire that would keep those Jews alive in it, that same God could make a fire that would keep unsaved men alive in Hell."

Don't tell me, beloved, that the fire of Hell isn't literal. When you burn your hand on an oven door or in a flame, you are just getting a foretaste of what Hell is going to be like. Your pastor believes in a literal fire. I believe that the fire of Hell is definitely literal. The God who made this world, and who made Hell for the Devil and his angels, will prepare a body for the unsaved man whereby that unsaved man will go throughout eternity and will suffer a literal fire with a body that can't be destroyed. He will suffer there eternally.

I say, beloved, the Devil is a pretty shrewd old Devil. He says that Hell is just a carry-over of heathen nations gone by. He says that Hell is nothing more than the grave. He says that Hell is only an annihilation. He says that Hell is not literal.

V

THE DEVIL DECEIVES PEOPLE BY MAKING THEM BELIEVE THAT GOD IS TOO GOOD TO LET PEOPLE GO TO HELL.

I ask you, is God too good to let people go to Hell? Let's read from God's Word:

"But I say unto you, that whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire."—Mt. 5:22.

"But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him."—Luke 12:5.

What does this say? It says that you had better fear God because God not only has the power to kill, but after He kills, He has the power to cast into Hell.

I ask you, is God too good to let people go to Hell?

Listen again:

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness."—Rom. 1:18.

I tell you, beloved, God is not too good to let the unsaved go to Hell. He will never let anyone go there who doesn't deserve to go there. You can be certain of that. The only person who is going to Hell is the man who deserves to go to Hell. God isn't going to let anybody go there who doesn't deserve it, but God is not too good to send the unsaved to Hell.

CONCLUSION

What is Hell like?

Hell is a lake. We read:

"And whoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."—Rev. 20:15.

It is not a lake as beautiful as the blue water of our baptistry. It is not a lake that is surrounded by beautiful trees. Rather, it is a lake of fire.

You can go down to the Rolling Mill and look inside those furnaces and see the heat as the molten metal bubbles six or eight inches tall. You can stand there and look at it. There is nothing beautiful about it. It is just a furnace with a few tons of metal inside it.

What is Hell like? It is a lake—not a pond, but a lake of fire.

What is Hell like? It is a bottomless pit. Listen:

"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand."—Rev. 20:1.

You can stand beside Hell and drop a human being into it. He falls, and falls, and falls eternally. Hell is a bottomless pit.

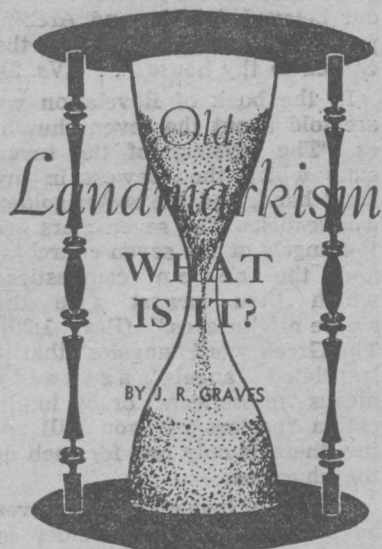
What is Hell like? It is a place of torments—not torment, but torments. We read:

"And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments."—Luke 16:23.

What is Hell like? It is a place where there is no rest.

"And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night."—Rev. 14:11.

Let me ask you, sinner friend, when you quit your work last night and went home, were you able to sleep? You ought to thank the Lord for it if you were. It may be the last night's sleep you



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will ever have. When you sat down here this morning, were you comfortable? Are you resting here in the chair this morning? Thank the Lord for that chair that you are sitting in. You may never have another day or night of rest in your life. Hell is a place where there is no rest.

What is Hell like? It is a place of everlasting punishment.

"And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."—Mt. 25:46.

The same word that describes the punishment of the wicked describes the paradise of the saved. We have everlasting life, whereas the unsaved have everlasting punishment.

What is Hell like? It is a place of blackness.

"To whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever."—Jude 1:13.

They tell me that a dungeon or solitary confinement will cause a criminal to behave when nothing else will. They tell me that you can take one of the most hardened criminals and put him inside solitary confinement, without the light of day having ever shined there, and in less than three days' time his spirit is broken. Unsaved men have reserved for them the blackness of darkness forever.

What is Hell like? It is a place that has been prepared for the Devil.

"Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels."—Mt. 25:41.

Unsaved man, if you go to Hell, you are going to have somebody to associate with. Who are you going to associate with? The Devil and his angels. You are going to be in a place that is prepared for them.

What is Hell like? It is a place of vile associations.

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."—Rev. 21:8.

Beloved, a man who goes to Hell will be living with the vilest off-scourings of this world—not for a little while, but forever.

Beloved, listen, if Hell weren't an awful place, God wouldn't have done the thing He did to keep you out of Hell. God gave Jesus Christ to keep sinners out of Hell. If Hell weren't an awful place, God certainly wouldn't have given His Son to suffer for us. If you are saved, you are saved because Jesus paid a tremendous price. He suffered your Hell to keep you out of Hell.

Of recent date, in my scant reading that I do, I came across a little story concerning those giant trees that grow on the slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California—Sequoia trees. I was reading about one of them in particular called the General Sherman Tree. It is

classified, they say, as the oldest and the largest living thing on the earth. It is located in the Sequoia National Park about 300 miles southeast of San Francisco. Here was the thing that amazed me about it. They say that tree is big enough that it contains more than 600,000 board feet of lumber, and that if that tree were cut and sawed, there would be enough lumber in it to build 35 moderate size homes. You can't imagine the size of it. The tree is 36.5 feet in diameter. It is 272 feet tall. It has been there a long time. Its age is estimated by the number of rings that they have bored into, in the tree, that it has been there 3500 years. If that be true, it was beginning to grow at the time when Moses led the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt. It was beginning to grow when Moses stood on the Red Sea and saw Pharaoh and all his army destroyed there. When Jesus was born, that tree was already 1500 years old. It has been in existence 3500 years.

As I read about that tree, I thought about this: Here I am, and here you are. If we live out our life span, it is just about 70 years. Oh, what a contrast to that giant Sequoia tree! At best, we live to be 70 to 80 years old. That tree has been living 3500 years.

Then I thought a little further. That tree, some of these days, will probably be cut or the wind will blow it down, and it will come to an end. I thought about myself out yonder in eternity. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life," not life for 3500 years. No, "but have everlasting life."

I think of it this morning. That tree is 3500 years old. It certainly dwarfs me and makes me feel like a pigmy at my age. When I die, I'll still feel like a pigmy compared to the age of that tree. Beloved, that tree is going to fade into insignificance in comparison to what I am going to be like, because I am going to live forever in an angel's paradise.

Have I shown you sufficiently how the Devil deceives concerning Hell? I think I have. Certainly the Devil does deceive. He deceives you and makes you think that Hell is only the grave. He makes you think that Hell is nothing but annihilation and Hell isn't literal. He makes you think that God is too good to send you to Hell. I tell you, beloved, the Devil is a deceiver. He deceives men into thinking things like that. What you need today is to turn from that deceiver who would whisper in your ear, to say, "Don't believe what the preacher is saying." You need to turn to Jesus Christ. Trust my Saviour as your Saviour, and leave this place a believer in Jesus Christ, realizing that you are going to live forever in an angel's paradise.

May God bless you!

Grandmother

(Continued from Page One)

the earth be blessed" Gen. 28:14. The promise of the deliverer is to come through the seed of Jacob. Now we know that the twelve sons of Jacob become heads of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. From which one of these tribes shall the Deliverer come?

"The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come . . ." Gen. 49:10. Shiloh is a name of the Messiah which tells us that the elect shall be gathered unto Him. Here we learn that, of the twelve tribes, our Lord and Deliverer will come from the tribe of Judah. "I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever." II Sam. 7:12, 13. Here we learn that the Deliverer, the Saviour, the Bruiser of Satan's head, will come from the family of David. So we see how the promise of a Deliverer in Gen. 3:15, is narrowed down to the descendants of King David.

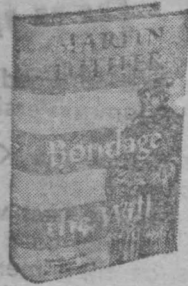
Now the issue is drawn. If there is to be deliverance from Satan and sin, there must come into this world the Virgin born Son of God, and He must come from the seed of David according to the flesh. If the seed of David can be stopped, if his descendants shall come to an end, and his family be destroyed, then there will be no Saviour and no salvation.

Satan was and is well aware of the meaning of Gen. 3:15. He knew that wrapped up in this promise, was his own destruction and damnation. He could trace out the narrowing down of this promise to the family of David. Satan has been at constant warfare with the promise of Gen. 3:15, and has sought in every possible way to keep it from coming to pass. This promise of Gen. 3:15, and its narrowing down to Israel and to David is the explanation of Satan's continued warfare against that people. Brethren, I tell you that you cannot understand world history without understanding Gen. 3:15 and Satan's consequent efforts against that promise.

"And the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born." Rev. 12:4.

In this passage in Rev. 12, the woman is the nation Israel, the dragon is the devil, and the man-child is Jesus Christ. Here we see Satan's effort to destroy Christ and thus keep salvation from man. This has been the constant effort of Satan. In the killing of the boy babies in Egypt, we see Satan's effort to block the coming of Jesus Christ. In all the wars of different nations against Israel, we see Satan's warfare against Jesus Christ, and Satan's

(Continued on page 4, column 4)



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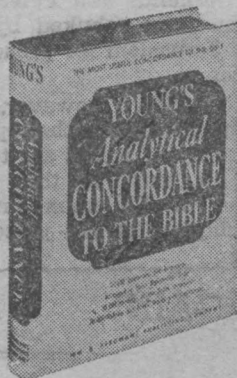
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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

FEBRUARY 17, 1973

PAGE THREE

The Baptist Examiner FORUM

"In order to follow the New Testament pattern, should a church have a plurality of elders or presbyters to serve as a governing body or only one elder?"

E. G.
COOK

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If there is any such pattern I know nothing of it. If there is any Scripture that remotely intimates that there is a governing body in a New Testament church, I am not familiar with it. I have always believed the Scriptures to teach that the church is the governing body. If that is not true, then a business meeting becomes a farce, and a waste of time.

It is true that Rom. 12:8 speaks of a ruler in the church. And I Tim. 5:17 speaks of the elders ruling. But it is also true that the word "ruleth" in Rom. 12:8 and the word "rule" in I Tim. 5:17 both come from PROSTEMI which literally means "to stand before." This kind of ruler is a leader, not a lord. I Pet. 5:3 says, "Neither as beings lords over God's heritage, but being examples (examples) to the flock." The place of a pastor is a very important place in the Lord's church, but it is most certainly not as a dictator.

As pastor of Philadelphia Baptist Church I want my people to know that we are in this thing together, that we are the church. I want them to know that the business of the church is our business, and that it is too great a responsibility for any one person. However, if a church loses her respect for her pastor's motives and intentions, and for his ability to lead the way, you have a very bad situation. But if a church has a power-hungry, glory-seeking pastor who seems to think that the church exists for his benefit, you have a deplorable situation.

Roy
MASON

RADIO MINISTER
BAPTIST PREACHER
Arlpeka, Florida



There is no command given in the Scriptures concerning how many elders — or pastors as we usually put it — should serve in a church. We do get the impression from the Book of Acts that there were usually more than one. For instance we read in Acts 14:23:

"And when they had ordained them elders in every church..."

It is probable that most of the churches were larger than most of those that we are used to. Where there is a very large church the labor is too great for

one man. However, where there are several elders, they should not in reality be a governing body, except in the sense of advice and leadership. The final authority should be the church. All matters should be brought before the church, and the church should have the say so.

Today, large Baptist churches usually have — not a plurality of elders, but what they call "the church staff," with officers that are unknown to the New Testament. I think of such a church that has an educational director, director of music, director of social activities, and a "hostess" to supervise parties, etc. This church bears little resemblance to the churches of New Testament times. Men called of God should be the leaders in our churches. Most small churches need only one pastor or elder. Larger churches may need several pastors, but they should be God called men — not just appointees.

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It is true that the early churches seem to have had a plurality of elders. "And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed." (Acts 14:23). We know that the church in Jerusalem had more than one. "When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain others of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question." (Acts 15:2). See also verses 4, 6, 22, 23).

We must remember that at one time there was only one church. It was a large church with all the apostles and it was the mother church of all the other churches. Necessity required a plurality of elders.

As we read it appears that Peter was the pastor of the church. "But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them..." (Acts 2:14). Peter led the first business meeting (Acts 1:15) and when they were disputing over the question of circumcision Peter stood up and took charge. (Acts 15:7). Remember it was Peter who was sent to Cornelius and Peter and John who were rebuked by the rulers of Jerusalem for preaching the gospel.

I do not believe, however, that any of the Scriptures that speaks of a plurality of elders are teaching that it must be that way. The book of Philemon implies that Archippus is the pastor of

the church in his house. "And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house..." (Vs. 2).

In the book of Revelation we are told about the seven churches. "The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches; and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches." (Rev. 1:20). The Greek word "angelos" that is translated "angels" actually means "messengers" or by implication "pastors." If you will notice there is only one for each of the churches.

Instead of being concerned over having more than one elder in the church, we need to be more concerned about getting one sound elder or pastor in our churches.

AUSTIN
FIELDS

PASTOR,
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No, a church does not have to have a plurality of elders to be considered as a true church or blessed of the Lord. In fact, many of the churches in New Testament times did not have an elder (bishop - pastor - preacher). Because of the lack of men as elders, we read where the Apostle Paul would send them men such as Timothy, Titus and others.

"For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak." Eph. 6:20.

There were some churches without elders, and some of the other churches had a plurality, such as, the church at Ephesus. Read Acts 20:17. However, the smaller churches, who lacked elders, were as much New Testament churches as were the larger churches with a plurality of elders. At this present time, the Arabia Baptist Church has a plurality of elders, but it was not always so. At her beginning she did not have elders as we have today, but He still blessed her. Therefore, I do not believe that any true Baptist church must have a plurality of elders in order for the Shepherd to bless her.

The elders or elder do not constitute the governing body of the church. The Holy Spirit in speaking to the church at Corinth said "You are the body of Christ, and members in particular" (I Cor. 12:27). He did not state that the elders were the church, rather the entire membership constituted the body of Christ (Baptist church). People, a body has eyes, ears, hands, and feet and many more members; so it is with Christ's body. The elders may be a part of the body even the eyes, but the eyes are not the governor of the body; rather all parts combine to make decisions, and thus each member has a part in the governing of a Baptist Church. Her (church) government is never left in the hands of a few such as an elder or elders. The church has not overlords or masters to whom she must look for guidance; she has only one to whom she looks for leadership, and He is the Holy Spirit whom the Lord gave to lead her into all truth. Thus, she (church) is independent of man-made organizations and governing bodies. She is dependent upon the leadership of the Comforter, thus she does not need or desire elders as governing bodies. May I also add that I believe the Comforter dwells only with true Baptist churches, and He is her governor and no one else. Brethren, I am not referring to His work in re-

generation, for all within whom He has placed the nature of God (spiritual nature) have Him, but as the governor of the church, none else have Him. This is why they do not have the truth. Also, it is the reason they appoint boards and governing bodies of elders to govern their organizations. Whereas, the true position of an elder is a servant of the church, not her Lord. The Apostle made this very clear while writing to the church at Corinth.

"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake" (II Cor. 4:5).

I do not mean to minimize the importance of elders, or an elder in the church, but only to point out that authority, power and blessing belong to the church and not to a man or group of men. The Lord placed us, elders, in His church to make His children perfect, but not in respect to the flesh for I am aware that there have been no Baptists of days gone by who were perfect in the flesh. It would be a hopeless task to make people fleshly perfect. The elders are sent in the church to make you perfect as to spiritual knowledge, for it is our task as servants of the church to teach you the great things God hath done for us in Jesus Christ. Therefore, the more knowledge you have of our Lord, the more perfect you become. Read Eph. 4:11-16.

The elder or elders are not to be governing bodies but humble servants of the church under the guidance of the Comforter who takes the things of Christ and reveals them to His church.

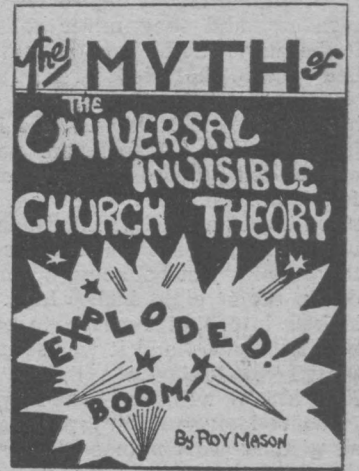
Grandmother

(Continued from page three) effort to block the coming of the Bruiser of Satan's head. In the murder of the children of Bethlehem, we see the same thing. In the different attempts on the life of Christ before Calvary, there is more of Satan's warfare against the promise of Gen. 3:15.

Now, let us go back and study some of Israel's history, and see if we can find the meanest grandmother in the Bible and tie our story together. You remember that, following the death of Solomon and under the reign of his son, Rehoboam, the kingdom of Israel was divided. The northern tribes rebelled against Rehoboam, and Jereboam became their king. This northern kingdom is often referred to in later Bible history as Ephraim (its largest tribe), or as Israel. The southern kingdom, which remained loyal to Rehoboam and the following descendants of David, is often referred to as Judah. This division was never healed in Bible days. God foretells that the day will come when the nation will be reunited, and as one nation, will serve David their king. This will be in the glorious Millennial Reign of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Northern Kingdom never had a good king. They went further into rebellion, sin, and idolatry. About 721 B.C., this king-

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dom was defeated by Assyria, and carried away into a captivity from which they have not yet returned. The history of the Southern Kingdom was an up and down affair. More down than up, and each up not quite as high, and each down a little lower. There were some good kings here, such as, Asa, Hezekiah and others. There were some who were very wicked. Finally, this kingdom was defeated by Babylon and carried away into a captivity, from which some of them returned 70 years later. Their descendants were in the land when the promised Deliverer, the Lord Jesus Christ was born.

Jehoshaphat was one of the good kings of this southern kingdom. You can read much good about him in II Chron. 17:3-6. He sought the Lord, and followed His commandments. He destroyed much idolatry and sent Levites throughout Judah to teach the Word of God. He was, in many ways, a good and a great king, but Jehoshaphat was sorely afflicted with the disease of compromise. He desired unity with the northern kingdom so much, that he compromised his convictions in order to attain that unity. This man's life is an inspired commentary on the evils of compromise in order to unity.

"I am as thou art, and my people as thy people; and we will be with thee in the war." — II Chron. 18:3.

Ahab was a very wicked king, and seemed to be pretty much under the thumb of his even more wicked wife, Jezebel. Ahab was going forth to war, and wanted Jehoshaphat and Judah to go with him and help in this war. The words just quoted from II Chronicles contain the sad record of Jehoshaphat's compromise. He went with Ahab. But God had predestinated the time of Ahab's death, and all the armies of all time could not change that. Jehoshaphat got into serious trouble and much danger through his compromise, and did not change anything at all relative to victory or defeat or relative to the time of Ahab's death.

(Continued on page 5, column 2)

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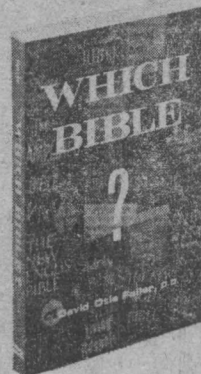
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"A PRAYER FOR KINDNESS"

My Father:

Just today, as I was reading Your Word, this verse seemed to jump out at me.

"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Kindness, Father, simple kindness. It's like a precious gem or a rare exquisite flower. Perhaps it seems so valuable because it is so scarce in my life. Forgive me this, Father. As I meditated on these things this morning, I was overwhelmed with the many areas in my life that was void of kindness. Oh, Father, I am so thankful for the husband you have given me. And I am rebuked when I remember the last time we wives got together for coffee, all we did was find fault with our husband. Each time one would speak it would remind another of a worse example. I am so ashamed. My voice was silent in defense of my husband. While our husbands were out working to provide for us, we were drinking coffee and airing every fault. Father, help me not to get caught up in this shameful dialogue again.

Kindness, Father, how I need the grace of kindness. Especially with my children. Help me to be aware that he is an individual, that he has feelings and emotions. Oh, Father, it seems I yell at them so much. I forget how cruel the tone of my voice can be. I forget how terrifying it must be to live in a world where everyone is larger than you. Somehow, it seems easier to say "no," yell, or spank than it is to be kind. Help me to remember that he hears and understands what I say to others. Help me Father not to air his shortcomings to others. I realize he needs to be encouraged.

Thank You, Father, for making me a woman, wife and mother. My eyes brim with tears as I consider how the flesh fails in each area. But I do so desire to please Thee. I remember how the Lord Jesus always had time for each person. He called the child-

ren to Him when the disciples would have turned them away. Oh, that I might be like Him.

Your Word tells us that kindness is one of the things we are to add to our faith:

"And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity (love)." (II Peter 1:7).

Yes, it seems that kindness comes with love. Or is it the other way around? I've read many times about Your loving-kindness. "...how excellent is Thy loving kindness—let Thy loving kindness preserve me—Thy loving kindness is better than life—with loving kindness have I drawn thee, etc." What great consolation that is to me. Like a calming soothing balm of Gilead. Thank You for Your Word. Thank You for the rebuke it gave me this day. Thank You for the strength that it also gives. Oh, Father, it is my prayer that I might not be defeated by past failures. That I might determine, by Your grace, to be faithful in the place you have chosen for me—to bring honor to my husband and to my children by being the kind of wife and mother You intend for me to be. I am confident that if I learn kindness at home it shows elsewhere. It will be like a cup overflowing, touching everyone I meet. There is so much suffering in the world. Help me not to add to it by my unkindness.

Father, I claim for myself, this day Col. 3:12: "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercy, **KINDNESS, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering**..."

If it please Thee, Father, give me grace day by day to make this a reality in my life. For I ask it in the name of Your Son and my Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Grandmother

(Continued from page 4)

This serious compromise by this good man was severely rebuked by Jehu in II Chron. 19:2. "Shouldst thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the Lord? therefore is wrath upon thee from before the Lord." What a text for a sermon! How this rebukes the attitude of the religious world today. Anything for unity. This is the cry that is upon us today. If we will not compromise what we believe in order to have unity, we are the most hated and despised of men. And those who

hate us the most, continually talk of our lack of love. I would that every unionizer, and every SBC member in the world would read and heed this rebuke of Jehoshaphat.

Still Jehoshaphat persisted in his compromise. In II Chron. 20:35-37, he joined with wicked Ahaziah of Israel in a trading venture, but the ships were broken, and great financial loss was incurred. Brethren, the child of God should not join affinity in marriage, in business, in any preventable way, with the ungodly of the world. Oh, I could stop and preach here awhile! How the children of God have suffered, physically and spiritually, how the

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work of the Lord has been gravely dishonored by the child of God compromising conviction and joining himself with the enemies of the Lord! Listen and take heed, beloved.

Just note some of the evil results of this compromise before we move on. Jehoshaphat's son, Jehoram married Athaliah, the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel. Oh, this were enough to break a good man's heart. To see his son be united in marriage to one of the most wicked families and one of the most wicked women who ever lived. Why did not Jehoshaphat stay away from Ahab and Jezebel? Why take his son, Jehoram into such a hell-hole as the home of these sinners? Why expose Jehoram to the seductive temptation of ungodly Athaliah? Why? Why? Oh, that we who are saved would avoid the very appearance of evil, and would beware of entangling alliances with the children of this world! Jehoram named his son after wicked Ahaziah who was the son of Ahab. Then Ahaziah returned the favor by naming his son after Jehoram. Oh, what pals they had become! How closely entwined now was the house of good (but compromising) king Jehoshaphat, and wicked King Ahab.

When Jehoram, the son of Jehoshaphat became king in his Father's stead, he slew all his brethren because he feared they might try to take the kingdom, and perchance, because he was so influenced by his wicked wife Athaliah, the daughter of Jezebel. Now we have met her, Athaliah, the meanest grandmother in the Bible. I think you will agree on this as we go on in the story. You will note in II Chron. 21:6 that, "Jehoram walked in the ways of the kings of Israel (not like his good Father, Jehoshaphat) like as did the house of Ahab: for he had the daughter of Ahab to wife." See the results of Jehoshaphat's compromise in order to have unity. His own son is now living like Ahab. I think this verse reveals to us the evil influence which wicked Athaliah exercised over her husband. Wicked Jehoram was smitten with an incurable disease by the Lord, and "departed without being desired" II Chron. 21:20. How sad these words are, and yet how true of many who have lived their lives in sin. I do desire, by God's

grace, to so live and be a blessing to others, so that these sad words may not be said about me upon my departure, if the Lord tarry.

Ahaziah, Jehoram's son, now became the king of Judah, and II Chron. 22:3 informs us, "He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab: for his mother was his counsellor to do wickedly." Here she is again, the meanest grandmother in the Bible, Athaliah. What sad words are these! A mother should teach her children the Word of God. She should set a godly example before them. But, alas, this is not always the case, and here is a mother (be astonished, oh heaven), counselling her son in the ways of wickedness. Ahaziah only reigned one year before he was slain by Jehu.

Now wicked Athaliah saw her chance. Her son was dead. Her grandchildren were all very young. II Chron. 22:10 tells us, "She arose and destroyed all the seed royal of the house of Judah." See the meanest grandmother in the Bible. Why, a grandmother ought to be sweet and gentle and kind. She ought to bake pies and cakes for her grandchildren. She ought to rock them upon her knee and tell them stories about Jesus Christ. She ought to be loved and respected by her grandchildren. Why, "if you can't trust your grandmother, who can you trust?" See her as she heads for the nursery where the children are. Oh, there goes grandmother Athaliah to fondle her grandchildren. Does she have some cookies and candy for them? What is that I see in her hand? It is some toy for the grandchildren? No, it is a knife. Well, why would a grandmother be headed to the nursery with a knife? Oh, beloved, she is not going there to fondle them or give them some sweets. She is going there to kill them. She slips into the nursery and in cold blood, and without natural affection, and with unbelievable cruelty, one by one, she murders her grandchildren. All this so she can be queen and rule over Judah for a few years. Surely, Athaliah is the meanest grandmother in the Bible.

But now, things are (or seemingly) are worse than that. What about the Saviour? What about the Bruiser of Satan's head? What about Gen. 3:15 and many other promises of a Deliverer and a Saviour? If Athaliah has succeeded in her mad and murderous design, she has defeated the purposes and annulled the promises of God. The Saviour must come of the family of David. But Athaliah has killed (at least she meant to, and she thought she had, all the seed, the male seed of David. Oh, what a sad day of mourning is this! Now, there is no hope. Satan has triumphed. The line through which the Deliverer, the Saviour, the Bruiser was to come has been stopped. It has ceased with the meanest grandmother's murder of her grandchildren. What shall we do? Those who had been saved on the promise of a coming Saviour must now be cast to hell. There is nev-

er any hope that anyone will ever be saved.

But wait, maybe there is hope. What is that I see? Who is that that slips into the nursery shortly ahead of Athaliah? There. She is leaving now. What is that bundle she has in her arms, as she slips away from the nursery in the king's palace and over to the house of God? Oh, glory to God! Oh, praise God! now there is still hope. For Jehoshabeath, the daughter of Jehoram and sister of Ahaziah, has slipped into the nursery and stolen away a nephew named Joash. Oh, the grace of God and the providence of God! How did this Aunt know what was in the heart of Athaliah? How did she manage to steal away this little baby? Why did not Athaliah know she had not killed all the seed royal—that one was missing? It's a mighty poor grandmother who does not know how many grandchildren she has. She must not love them and be interested in them. But God uses this lack of love and interest on the part of Athaliah, so that she thought she had killed them all, when there was one missing—God used this to defeat her murderous design, and to preserve the line through whom our Saviour would (and must) come. Praise God for His providential control of all things. Praise God, that when a grandmother had no natural affection, an Aunt still loved and cared for her nephew. Thank God that He prospered the efforts of Jehoshabeath in the sparing of Joash. Thank God that she arrived at the royal nursery on an errand of mercy before Athaliah got there on her errand of murder.

Well, Joash was hidden with the Aunt and her priest-husband in the house of God for six years, while wicked Athaliah ruled over Judah, secure in thinking that she had killed all the seed-royal. Then, in the seventh year, Jehoiada, the uncle of Joash, gathered the army and presented Joash to them as the proper one for the throne. The army rallied around Joash. When Athaliah learned of this, she ran into the temple crying treason. As she sought to flee, the soldiers caught her near the palace, slew her, and she went to Hell. Oh, see here the end of sin, and the end of rebellion against God. What is that end? Death and judgment and eternity in Hell. So will all the enemies of God, who continue in that enmity, perish.

Well, at last the glad day came. The promise of Gen. 3:15 began to be fulfilled. Some shepherds were watching their flock during the night. It was not December the 25th. It could not have been during a winter month for the shepherds would not have been out with their sheep. As they watched their sheep, the angel of the Lord appeared to them and gave them this glorious message. "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Lk. 2:11. Oh! glorious day! The Saviour was born. Satan had done all he could (Continued on page 8, column 1)

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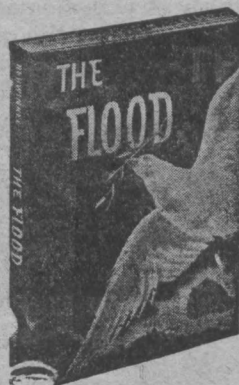
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PAGE FIVE

How A Young Preacher Can Avoid Shipwreck And Also Avoid A Wasted Life

ELD. C. N. RICHARDSON
Cincinnati, Ohio

"This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck." — I Tim. 1:18, 19.

I will be 64 years old February 23, and I will be an ordained Baptist minister 41 years, January 1, 1973. After 40 years service, I withdrew from the Southern Baptist Convention due to modernism, liberalism and unscriptural corruption.

The Apostle Paul's first charge to a young preacher was how to avoid shipwreck, or how to avoid a wasted life. Also in I Cor. Paul instructed the whole church to build upon a firm foundation, and only upon the sound truths of God's eternal Word, "for other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ. Also, if any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward." (I Cor. 3:9-20).

May we listen as God's Word speaks through the inspired writers of the Holy Bible.

"Be of good courage, and let us behave ourselves valiantly for our people, and for the cities of our God; and let the Lord do that which is good in his sight." — I Chron. 19:13.

"Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people." — Prov. 14:34.

"Submit yourselves, therefore, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." — James 4:7.

Consider this charge — how a young minister can avoid shipwreck or how to avoid a wasted life. Jesus said for us to search the Scriptures. John 5:39. May God help us all as brothers and sisters in Christ, to learn more how to behave ourselves in the house of God or the place appointed for worship, which is the church, the pillar and ground of the truth. I Tim. 3:15. "The Lord gave the Word: great was the company of those who published it." Ps. 68:11.

God chose Paul to be one of the inspired writers of the Bible, to preach and bear His name before the Gentiles and Kings and

the children of Israel. Acts 9:15. Paul informs us that God is not the author of confusion, but of peace as in all churches of the saints. See I Cor. 14:33-38. In many churches today there is a lot of confusion, many different philosophies of life or forms of church doctrines which do not coincide with the teachings of the Holy Scriptures — ideas brought about by modern or liberal interpretation. There are some facts which are so clearly set forth that there is no justifiable reason to be confused or to misunderstand. I Tim. 1:1-3 and 12:15. These doctrines are so clearly stated in these areas, it would seem almost as if the dumb ass or the dumb ox could understand. But listen as God speaks.

"Oh sinful people, laden with iniquity, children that are corrupters; they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel, they have gone away backward for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." — Isa. 1:1-20.

Also as our text states this people, had put away concerning faith, the clear and plain teaching of God's Word which gives us an index of their whole character. I have no authority to liberalize God's Word or to change it — only to use it as it is written and recorded. See I Tim. 4:1, 2. Jesus spoke plainly. He that is of God heareth God's word, ye therefore, hear them not because ye are not of God, ye are of your father the devil. See John 8:42-47. Also, Jesus said of these unbelieving religious people that they are not of his sheep. John 10:26, 27.

Times may change, methods may change, liberalism has taken over many so-called churches, turning them into meeting places for false teachers, or to put it bluntly a gathering place for the servants of the devil. Read II Pet. 2:12-13.

Jesus said:
"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my word shall not pass away." — Matt. 24:35.

"But the word of the Lord endureth forever." — I Pet. 1:25.

God's words are the principles of truth and will never change. The Lord's true church is the pillar and ground of the truth. The true Scripturally ordained preacher or deacon must be an

honorable man and the husband of one wife. Read I Tim. 3:1-15.

You will never find a woman preacher or a woman deacon in one of the Lord's true Baptist churches, but in these modern churches you can find modern and liberal preachers, deacons, confusion and false teaching, which is so prevalent today and will damn the souls of men and women in rebellion against God. Read Isa. 30:1-14; Heb. 10:26-31.

A pregnant Southern Baptist preacher — a dishonor to God, the Bible and the church. It is even a shame and disgrace to the moral code of decency among the sinner class or the non-professor, much less those professing religion. A church in Columbia, South Carolina, facing scandal or moral lapse — the Kathwood Baptist Church has voted to rescind the ordination of Shirley Carter Lee, the second woman ever ordained as a minister of the Southern Baptist Convention. Controversy had been brewing all week, after Mrs. Lee revealed in a newspaper interview that she was three months pregnant at the time of her marriage to a former Roman Catholic Priest. This is another rebellion against God in the denial of the Holy Scriptures.

From the Religious Herald — the Virginia Baptist state paper, Feb. 24, 1972, issue we read how Miss Marjorie Bailey will be ordained to the gospel ministry on February 27 at Bainbridge Church in Richmond. She will be the first Virginia Baptist woman ever or-

of the Holy Scriptures. To a born-again Baptist, the Bible, the Word of God is, and forever will be, the supreme rule of practice, faith and doctrine.

No honest Bible believer can doubt that Paul was a God-called preacher. If we think of his life and work as a suitable pattern to follow in this twentieth century it will surely be profitable for us to consider how much our service resembles his instruction. In II Tim. 2:1, Paul said, "Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus."

Also, "If a man purge himself from these things (v. 21) he will be used of the Lord." It should be the desire of every Christian to be used of the Lord. Paul was talking about how we ought to shun profane and vain babblings (v. 16), acknowledging the truth because foolish and unlearned questions gender strife, (vs. 25, 26). Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard, saith God. Read Jer. 12:1-17.

"If any man think himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. Let your women keep silence in the church; for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law" — I Cor. 14:33-38.

"We ought to obey God rather than men" — Acts 5:29.

Preachers, deacons, church leaders, evil men, false teachers, men whose hearts are filled with liberalism, hypocrisy and the spirit of the devil, are the guilty party and are to blame for this confusion because they stand by, and let this error continue to grow. II Pet. 2:1-4.

They do thus without having the courage to speak out against this evil practice. However, God will condemn the people when His Word is not obeyed. Read Isa. 46:2-10.

"Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice." — I Sam. 15:22.

I cannot understand how a presbytery of ordained Baptist ministers and deacons can so openly deny such clearly spoken Scriptures as "Let the women learn in silence with all subjection," or "I suffer not a woman to teach nor to usurp authority over the man, but to learn in silence."

Women's place, what a blessed position God gave unto them. Many times I thank my Heavenly Father for our lovely and faithful women who love the Lord, and are willing to be used of Him as the Bible teaches. Many of the churches across our nation would have been closed today if it had not been for humble dedicated Christian women. A woman who loves her husband, her home, her children, her Lord and her church, can be a great inspiration. The Holy Scriptures clearly fix or define this position. See

I Tim. 2:7-12; 5:2-15; Titus 2:3-5; I Pet. 3:1-7.

This modern day curse of Atheism or liberal religion and hypocrisy produces too many bastards, and far too many preachers and deacons without Scriptural foundation or character. These men, in our churches are a blasphemous corruption to say the least. Heb. 12:8; Matt. 7:21-23; Mark 7:6-9.

I have been asked what I think about ordaining a woman preacher or a woman deacon. What I think is of little or no importance. But what saith the Lord God is of most importance not only in this life, but for all eternity, for both men and women will answer to God. To me the answer is so obvious. There is absolutely no Scripture to justify ordaining a woman preacher or deacon. If we believe the Bible then let us look in the Bible for the right answer, regardless of what men say in this twentieth century. In I Tim. 3:1-15 the qualifications are given for both the preacher and the deacon. These qualifications eliminate the woman; therefore, it is impossible for a woman to be Scripturally ordained. God forbid we should wilfully and deliberately violate such clear teachings of the Holy Scripture.

A so-called Southern Baptist church has ordained a woman deacon near Georgetown, Ky. This is wrong unless she is the husband of one wife. See I Tim. 3:12. But there are some people who are not concerned with what the Lord God saith on this issue, as they listen to "women's lib" clamoring for more attention — for a more prominent place in the church. But it is much better and far safer, for both man and woman to abide in the calling wherein God hath called them. I Cor. 7:20-24; Titus 2:3-5, for they that wilfully violate God's word, despise God's law, will die without mercy. We have these examples taught in the Bible. Prov. 4:14, 9:6; I Thess. 4:8; Heb. 10:26-31; I Chron. 10:13. Now, as to the woman keeping silent at the church conference, as I study the Bible, go to church, look around and see the faithfulness of our women which are so loyal to Christ and the church, I am made to wonder, also to see and understand, that God's ways are not my ways. So now I am forced to say the only reason I know for the woman to be silent at the church conference is because God told her to do it. And happy is the man or woman who obey's God's command. See I Sam. 15:22; I Cor. 14:34.

Women are so much needed and are so very important in our churches today. Women can, and they should, be a servant of Christ and the church. Not as your preacher, deacon or an office holder, but as a humble Christian witness. Some of the best and the greatest Christians I ever

(Continued on page 7, column 1)

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ordained, and the third in the Southern Baptist Convention. A presbytery called by the Richmond Association Ordination Committee on January 21, unanimously recommended ordination. The fact that the candidate was a woman was reportedly not mentioned. The deacons of the church heard the report of the presbytery on February 7 and the church accepted their recommendation in a unanimous vote on February 9.

In the Ohio Messenger, Sept. 14, 1972 issue we read: The Lake-wood Baptist Church, Hebron, Ohio has voted to "withdraw from the convention" in an Aug. 9 business meeting, according to their pastor, Don Callaway. The pastor stated the action was taken because of the unbelief of the convention that sacrifices the Word of God for the sake of "harmony." He said that Southern Baptists were advocating rank unbelief and denial of the Word of God.

"Ye cannot serve God and mammon, saith the Lord Jesus Christ. Matt. 6:24.

"Come out from among them. Be ye separate, saith the Lord." — II Cor. 6:15-17.

I have written a letter of congratulations to Brother Callaway and his church, commending them for the move they made. I hope every sound Bible believing Baptist minister in the state of Ohio will do the same. These corrupt Southern Baptists surely must have a forked tongue, deceitful heart or a corrupt and sinful mind. See Jer. 17:9; II Cor. 11:13-14. After all, if we are truly Baptist, we believe the fundamental principle of the Baptists is their belief in the absolute sufficiency

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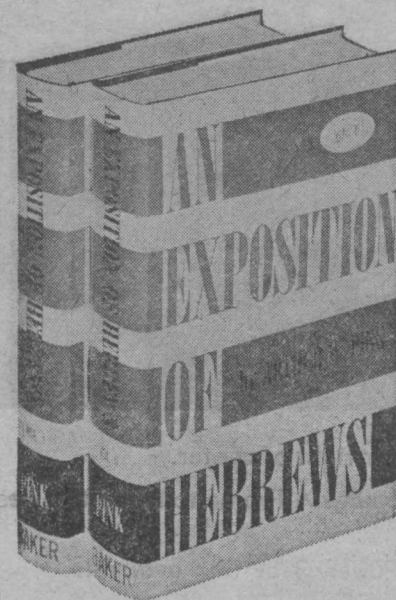
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Shipwreck

(Continued from page 6)

knew were women. Speaking of women serving Christ and the church, may I call your attention to the days of Jesus and the woman at the well of Samaria. From my knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, she is second to no person in the Bible in bringing many people to Jesus as a personal worker. And because of her testimony, many people believed in Jesus and were saved. She was second to none, I think, except maybe to the Apostle Paul himself.

I have no fellowship for these modern atheistic, false teachers, which bring damnable heresies into the churches by false doctrines. Women preachers, women deacons, salvation by good works, II Pet. 2:1-4, and because of this attitude toward our Saviour, our position as true believers is that we have been crucified in Christ. God concluded it to be that way. See Gal. 2:20. I am crucified unto modernism and by the help of God I will not compromise the truths of God's Word. None of these things move me. Read Acts 20:24. I have set my affections on things above. Read Col. 3:1-2. When God saved me he put a desire in my heart and a will in my soul. And by His Holy Spirit, He has led me for 43 years, and

still I find my greatest happiness in doing God's will as taught in His Word. See I Thess. 4:13-18. The modern compromising pastor may get a larger following in this twentieth century; however, there is a vast difference between a mere following and a clear conscience before God in contending for the faith. Compare Jude 1:3.

How can a young preacher avoid shipwreck or avoid a wasteful life. Can you think of anything more appropriate than to renounce and refrain from any affiliation with an institution as wicked and sinful as the Southern Baptist Convention. I believe it would be impossible for a man to live a Christian life and give his financial or moral support to the convention. See I Cor. 3:9-20; II Pet. 2:12-17. May I briefly mention a few thoughts our Christian hope is based on, which are absolute Scriptural facts. The Bible teaches in summary, the following true facts. First, God is a creator, God is all powerful and all wise. See Gen. 1:1. Second, man is sinful, helpless and lost. See Jer. 17:9. Third, Jesus is the central theme of the Bible. See Acts 4:12. Fourth, Jesus was virgin born. Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:18-25. He was crucified. Read Luke 23:33. Fifth, an empty grave, he arose from the dead. Read Matt. 28:1-7. Sixth, he ascended back to God. Seventh, he will return. See John 14:1-3. Rev. 1:7.

The great day of His wrath will come, and who shall be able to stand. See Rev. 6:17. Only the faithful. See Rev. 2:10.

The Bible reveals these great and noble truths. Atheistic translations, and liberal preachers will never be able to completely destroy, because Jesus is the center or the hero of the entire volume. Men can only fall at his feet, repent and adore Him. Any preacher, deacon or teacher whose teaching does not at the least bring men to this position is contradictory to the revelation of this great Book, or I have misunderstood the purpose of Jesus's coming into the world. See Luke 19:10; I Tim. 1:14-15 and 2:3-6.

I have read two announcements in the Ohio Messenger which are a shame and disgrace to the churches, the association and the Southern Baptist Convention. When modern versions of the Bible, false teachings such as women preachers and deacons are accepted and endorsed in rebellion against God we have open and wilful denial of the plain teachings of the Holy Scriptures. See Acts 6:1-7 and 13:1-5; I Tim. 3:1-15. There is not one verse in the Bible that will endorse ordaining a woman. I thank God I withdrew from this filth and damnable corruption. See II Pet. 2:1-4. I joined an independent Missionary Baptist Church, Dec. 5, 1971.

Two women have been elected as deacons by Oakhurst Church, an Atlanta suburb, and are believed to be the first female deacons in a Georgia Baptist congregation. They are Mrs. Sue Wolf and Mrs. Rachel Gill. Oakhurst Church revised its constitution last year to eliminate re-

strictions against women being deacons. If you belong to any church affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention you are giving your moral support to this unscriptural work of the devil and helping to lead men, women and children down to Hell. See Titus 3:9-11.

Mrs. Dreucillar Fordham has become the first woman to serve as pastor in the Southern Baptist Convention. The New York Baptist Association accepted into the full membership, the Christ Temple Church during its annual meeting at nearby Greenwich, Conn. The association voted unanimously to accept the Christ Temple Church. Kenneth Lyle, superintendent of missions for the association, called the action highly significant for the Southern Baptist Convention. Mrs. Fordham became the first wom-

an of the GREAT CREATOR, GOD ALMIGHTY who becomes furious and angry when His Word is not obeyed or is denied and so wickedly disputed. Read I Chron. 10:13; Job 8:1-4; Heb. 10:27-31.

Love is referred to in various ways, altogether 304 times in the Bible. But will you diligently search the Scriptures to learn it expresses the love of God or God's love spoken of only 74 times. His hatred 26 times. His fury 39 times. His vengeance 36 times. His wrath 128 times. His anger 191 times. And His indignation 24 times. It is surely true, God is a God of love, but it is also true He is a God of fury, wrath and indignation. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of an angry God. Read Zeph. 2:1-3; Heb. 10:27-31. It is far better to earnestly contend for the faith and to believe and obey God's Word. See Heb. 6:10-17.

Jonathan Edwards in 1740 preached a great sermon. His topic was "Sinners in the hands of an angry God." We need men in this twentieth century with courage to declare the whole counsel of God — men determined to be faithful unto the end. See Rev. 2:10; II Tim. 4:1-8.

As I close, may I say once more, we ought "to obey God rather than men." Read Acts 5:29. To me the Bible is the utmost of all my earthly treasure. I admonish you one and all, that it is far better to believe and obey God's Word, because we shall all appear at the judgment seat of Christ. See Rom. 14:11-12.

Epistle Of James

(Continued from page one)

"But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." — James 3:17.

"But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable . . ." — James 3:17.

The wisdom from above, as stated in the above verse, is said to be pure, peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good works, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. It is very obvious that we all should diligently seek after this treasure of treasures. God, in fact, in James 1:5, asks that we ask of Him if we lack this great treasure.

How can we know if our wisdom is from above or from beneath? We can know by asking ourselves the following questions. It is pure, peaceable, easy to be entreated and full of mercy and good fruits? Is it without partiality and hypocrisy? You can and should leap for joy if these things define your wisdom. You should leap for joy because you have something that is more precious than the most precious stone.

"The topaz of Ethiopia shall not equal it (wisdom), neither shall it be valued with pure gold." — Job 28:19.

This is a very dark world, but the wisdom from above enables one to see his way like a flashlight enables one to see his way through a dark night. I have

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walked at night when I could not see my hand in front of my face. The natural man, spiritually speaking, is in such a dark night that he cannot see God's hand in front of his face, that is, he cannot see God's hand until God gives him the wisdom from above. He, after receiving God's wisdom, can see the difference between true and false doctrine. He knows the difference between a true and false church. He understands that the name of Jesus is the only name given among men whereby we must be saved.

"But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable . . ." — James 3:17.

My dad, many years ago, took a firm stand against women speaking in the church. He contended that I Corinthians 14:34 meant exactly what it said ("let your women keep silence in the churches, for it is not permitted unto them to speak"). One member of the church tried to persuade my dad to drop the issue rather than stir up trouble in the church. The man wanted peace at the expense of purity. My dad, however, would not drop the issue and the result is that the women in the church at Arabia, Ohio, are in accord with I Corinthians 14:34. It may be said that my (Continued on page 8, column 4)

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an pastor of a Southern Baptist church. Now, let us look into the Holy Scriptures, which are despised, rejected and denied by the foolish, but never the less it is the Book of the ages, and its message will stand forever. See Ps. 119:89; Isa. 40:8; Matt. 24:35. See I Pet. 1:25. You may not like the Bible answer, but false teachers will be damned.

According to the teaching and doctrine of the Holy Bible, would any one of you believe there would be, or there could be, any other organization any more wicked, sinful or unscripturally corrupt than the Southern Baptist Convention. Do any of you know of another institution of any kind which has brought as much false teaching, shame and disgrace to the church, the cause of Christ and Christianity as the Southern Baptist Convention? Do these false teachers (Titus 3:10), think God's judgments or their damnation will just slumber on to the point of being forgotten? See Rom. 14:11-12. Can they not understand there is eternal danger in adding to or taking from God's Word? See Rev. 22:17-18. There is one thing for sure these modern liberal corrupt church leaders will take with them to the damnation of Hell which will be their memory. See Luke 16:23-25; Rev. 6:17.

A false teacher, a compromising preacher or deacon, surely must be the most despicable people or the lowest scum living on earth. I have been told I was just too orthodox, too stupid or too old fashioned. I have been told that I should be more liberal — that it is not important for us to contend for the Faith or the truths of God's Word in this 20th century as our forefathers did. But I find Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever. See Heb. 13:8. So, I pray for God's grace to give me more courage to face these radicals or this radicalism.

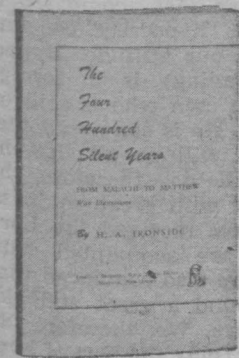
What a terrible fate for these compromisers to fall into the hands of a furious and angry God. What an awful place to be! I would like at least to cause a few of these compromising Southern Baptists who have a little weak and puny God, who is all love and mercy to get a glimpse

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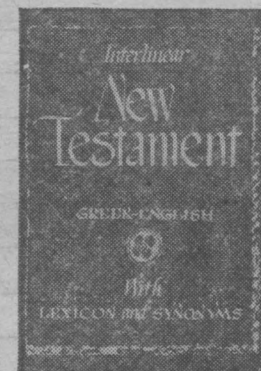
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Grandmother

(Continued from page 5)

to stop it, but he failed. Athaliah, and the other agents of Satan like her had failed to defeat the purpose of God — had failed to stop the promise of God. Jesus did come. He did live a sinless life for the elect of God. He did atone for the sins of the elect family of God on Calvary's old rugged cross. He did rise from the dead. He did, after gloriously finishing the work He came to do, ascend to Heaven. He is sitting at God's right hand ever interceding for His own. He will come again and receive us unto Himself, that we might be with Him forever. Oh, I am glad, I rejoice in the love of God, the power of God, the wisdom of God. I rejoice that He is able to keep His promises and to fulfill His purposes in spite of the devil and all else.

What a wonderful story this is! Even the unnatural actions of the meanest grandmother in the Bible — though she almost succeeded — though she killed all the seed of David, but a year-old baby — yet she failed — God provided a way in which to keep

His promise of Gen. 3:15. Athaliah came close. Things looked bad. But God was — and is — on the throne ruling all things, according to His eternal predestination, keeping His promises. Praise God! Praise God!

All who continue as His enemies will perish as Athaliah did. All who believe on Him as Saviour have everlasting life. God bless you all.



Piedmont College

(Continued from page one)

(Luke 1:68; Matt. 1:21), "His friends" (John 15:13), "a peculiar people" (Titus 2:14), "His seed" (Isa. 53:10), "the seed of Abraham" (Heb. 2:16) and "His brethren" (Heb. 2:11).

The Saviour gave Himself a ransom for many, not all (Matt. 20:28; 26:28; Rom. 5:15,19; Heb. 9:28). Many is a great multitude, but many is not all men without exception. This limited atonement is expressed by the pronouns "we" and "us" often in the Scriptures (Tit. 2:14; Gal. 1:4; 3:13; Rom. 5:8; Eph. 5:2). Christ died for the "many" ordained to eternal life (Acts 13:48), the "many"

the Father gave to Him (John 17:2), and the "many" sons He will bring to glory (Heb. 2:10).

Romans 8:33-34 reveals how nothing can be laid to the charge of God's elect because Christ died for them. In Ephesians 1:4-7 those redeemed by Christ's blood are said to be chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world and to be predestinated unto the adoption of children.

The redeemed are objects of God's love and favor (Rom. 5:9), yet all men are not (Josh. 11:20; Isa. 27:11; Rom. 11:5-7).

In John 10 Jesus said: "I lay down my life for the sheep" (John 10:15,26). Then in verse 26 He said some of the Jews there were not of His sheep. If Christ died for the sheep and these were not of the sheep, then Christ did not die for these goats. If this is not a limited atonement, what language could express such? If Christ lay down His life for those not His sheep, why do these goats not have eternal life and believe on Him like the sheep?

President Drake believes Christ died for the sheep and the goats. But does John 10 teach such a doctrine? Yet President Drake says, "I believe that all doctrine must be in accord with all the Word and we dare not ignore even one verse of Scripture to promote a doctrine" (Ibid). But did he "take into consideration the entire Word in its context interpreted literally from a historical grammatical foundation" as he urged others to do before making his chapel statement? Is it not "far more Christian and far more realistic to accept the Word of God for what it says than to read into it some man's philosophy and cause it to say something it does not say?" These words of President Drake are sound advice, and I suggest that he heed the words: "Physician, heal thyself" (Luke 4:23). Just who, President Drake, is actually guilty of ignoring "distinct exegetical principles" in Bible interpretation?

I Peter 3:15 says: "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." The Bill of Rights guarantees a man the privilege of doing what I Peter 3:15 commands us to do. But President Drake says, "Don't come to me and say, 'He asked me!' You keep it to yourself and if someone has questions on this subject, send him to a professor for the answers and if you don't have any professors that you respect enough to give that answer then you better find another school because you don't belong here" (Ibid).

Now I have heard it all! A student can discuss the weather or politics or Arminianism on the campus of the Piedmont Bible College, but when it comes to the foundation doctrine of the Bible, election, a student must keep his mouth shut! The five-points of Calvinism are in the Bible, but you cannot discuss them in a Bible college!

Since President Drake called for the cessation of "all literature promoting this position discontinued immediately" (Ibid), I suggest he remove all Bibles from the campus as they are the chief source of literature which promotes this doctrine.

President Drake even wants students to keep quiet about the doctrines of grace off campus. He said, "... it is still the policy of this Administration and Faculty to discourage any proselyting to this doctrine on or off campus" (Ibid). Such a statement would not sound so bad coming from the Pope of Rome, but when it comes from the president of a "Bible" college, it is enough to all but raise the dead! Forgive me again for I must say with the words of President Drake in the article, "I am a man. I can't understand it."

When such statements are made

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by the president of a Bible college, it is past time for the trustees to castigate the president for his attitude and doctrine. If the trustees fail to do this, I suggest the Bible-believing students there find a sound school or go home.

President Drake will soon learn that to persecute Calvinism is like putting fertilizer on Johnson Grass in rainy weather. It rejoices my heart to know according to the testimony of President Drake that there are those there who in a Christ-like fashion hold to the five-points of Calvinism and have a splendid attitude. Do not give up the faith dear persecuted brethren!



Epistle Of James

(Continued from page seven)

dad was in agreement with James when James said, "first pure, then peaceable."

I know of many churches today who have a lot of peace in their groups, but many of these same groups would explode if some sound doctrine were introduced to them. These groups remind me of a beautiful red apple with worms on the inside.

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also."—Matt. 23:25,26.

We, thus far, have found that the wisdom from above is "first pure, then peaceable." The next part of the verse before us de-

him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him"—James 1:5.

We, thus far, have found that the wisdom from above is pure, peaceable, gentle and easily entreated. We now come to the fact that it is "full of mercy." Those whom God has enlightened are eager to help others who are still in the pit that they were once in. A rich man, who was once poor, is usually merciful to the poor. He sees a poor boy dressed in rags and is reminded of the day when he wore that boy's shoes and pants. The result is that he is merciful to the lad and shows that mercy by opening his pocket book. The same applies to those who have been enlightened to the truth. They are merciful to others in that they support the work of the Lord's church. They leave no

EVER THOUGHT OF PRAYER CONDITIONING YOUR CHURCH ? ? ?

stones unturned in reaching others with the truth, because they remember when they were poor and ragged as far as sound doctrine is concerned.

We learn from the verse before us (James 3:17) that the next result of the "wisdom from above" is that it produces "good fruits."

Godly wisdom is very fertile ground in which to grow an abundance of "good fruits." It is not a sandy soil, but it is well mixed with all that is required for good growing.

The "good fruits" are not only a means of nourishment for ourselves, but to all whom we come in contact with. They, too, may partake of the harvest and reply that the fruits are very refreshing and nourishing.

It should be remembered that the fruits of wisdom (referred to above) are non-perishable items. We have the assurance from the Word that all of our good works will be present at the judgment seat of Christ—they will be present in that we will receive a reward for every one of them.

"And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be"—Rev. 22:12.

James, in the verse before us (James 3:17), describes the next result of heavenly wisdom as being "without partiality."

The truly wise person witnesses to all people, rather than seeking out only the upper class, or some other particular class of society. The Lord Jesus set a marvelous example before us in that He witnessed to all classes of people. He witnessed to the poor, blind, deaf, sickly, the thief on the cross and a host of others. May we be more and more like Him.

"... and without hypocrisy"—James 3:17.

Heavenly wisdom gives us such a vivid picture of the truth that we are convinced that what we have received is the very best. We are convinced that rubies and diamonds cannot be compared to it, therefore, "hypocrisy" can find no place in our attitude. Hypocrisy (pretending) is a foreign word to the man who is sold on his product. He is convinced that his product will do all that he says it will do, therefore, he speaks of it with great boldness. We who have received the Lord Jesus and are acquainted with His Word are also convinced that we have found a great and glorious treasure. We, therefore, do not pretend (play the part of hypocrites) when we witness to others.

A man who is filled with hypocrisy regarding his product will sell one thing and buy an opposite brand. He may sell Ford cars and buy Plymouths. The believer, however, preaches Christ to his neighbor and follows Christ himself.

What about you?
May the Lord bless us with the message He has set before us.

LOOKS FORWARD TO TBE

I have been a reader of The Baptist Examiner for many years. I thank God for the articles of those who write for TBE. Time and space would fail me to tell in a detailed way the many blessings I have received thereby.

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