

The Baptist Examiner

Baptist Is Our Middle Name

Paid Circulation In All States And In Many Foreign Countries

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

Vol. 42, No. 16

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, MAY 18, 1974

WHOLE NUMBER 1970

Jesus' Victory Over Death, Hell And Grave

By WILLARD WILLIS
Monroe, Ohio

We have considered the "burnt-offering" which prefigured the death of our Lord. We have also considered the actual fact of His death and how He fulfilled to the letter that which the "burnt-offering" prefigured. We come now to behold the greatest victory of all time — the victory of our Lord over death, Hell and the grave. We come now to behold the slain Lamb standing on resurrection ground.

We cannot speak too highly of the resurrection of our Lord, since His death would have no meaning if He had not arisen from the dead. Our believing and witnessing would have no meaning if our Lord were still dead.

"And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain"—I Cor. 15:14.

The fact of our Lord's resurrection was confirmed by many. His resurrection, in fact, was confirmed by Mary Magdalene who arose before daylight and proceeded to the tomb where our Lord had been buried. She, no doubt, had determined the night before that she would arise early and visit her Lord's resting place. This thought

was probably on her mind when she closed her eyes in sleep the night before her visit to His grave.

Mary's venture to the tomb was during the time of the feast — the feast that drew numerous strangers to that part of the world. These strangers, no doubt, were sleeping under any possible shelter that they could find. It is likely that they were gathered near the walls of Jerusalem. Love, however, drew Mary from her bed early in the morning and to the Lord's tomb. I'm sure that she passed by many of the sleeping strangers on her way to the tomb. Keep in mind that it was still dark when she journeyed to the Lord's tomb.

Mary, when she arrived at the tomb, found that the large stone was no longer against the entrance to the sepulchre. Matthew, in fact, informs us that "there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it" (Matt. 28:2).

Mary, when she, through the dim light of morning, saw the stone removed, ran back to Jerusalem where she reported the matter to Peter and John. The Lord's mother must have also received Mary's

report, since she was living at John's house.

It is interesting to note that, according to John 20:2, Mary ran from the Lord's tomb to make her report to Peter and John. I can imagine that many who were probably sleeping along Mary's route, wondered why this woman was running so early in the morning. We would like to think that Mary was running so as to quickly report that her Lord had arisen from the dead, but we know from John 20:2 that such was not the case. "... they have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we



ELDER WILLARD WILLIS

Baptist Churches The Pillar And Ground Of All Truth

By MILBURN COCKRELL
Fulton, Mississippi

What particular form of church government is revealed in the New Testament for Christ's churches? Should a church affiliate with a convention, or association, or some organized fellowship? Can a church belong to a missionary society and retain its autonomy? These questions demand Scriptural answers.

Can we deduce from the inspired writers the answers to these vital questions? Or did God leave it up to Christian prudence to de-

ample, affording the very least evils and the most advantages. Any attempt to improve upon the practices of the primitive churches is an insult to our all-wise God.

Church Depository Of Truth

The Scriptures teach that every local church is a column and base of the truth. "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" (I Tim. 3:15). The church is God's chosen institution by which His truth is upborne and made known through all ages. Without the church, the truth would be unpreserved and unproclaimed, and, consequently, it would perish from the earth.

Nowhere in all the Bible are we told that the convention, or association, or missionary society is the depository of the truth. In this age the truth has been entrusted to the church as an institution. Regardless of where the church may (Continued on page 6, column 1)



MILBURN COCKRELL

cide these matters? Since the Bible contains "all things that pertain unto life and godliness" (II Pet. 1:3), we have every reason to believe the Bible has the answer to all these questions.

We must search the Scriptures to see how Christ and the Apostles organized and ordered the churches they founded. We ought to study the Divine record to discover the policies and practices of the churches of the first century. The apostolic plan is the best ex-

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom" — Col. 3:16.

Since I have not been feeling so well of recent date, I find that I have a hard time sleeping the entire night through. Usually, along about four o'clock in the morning, I awaken, and I am awake from then on until time to get up. It is during that period of time from four to six-thirty of the morning that I have a mighty good oppor-

know not where they have laid Him."

The pronoun "we" in this verse confirms Mark's account where he reports in Mark 16:1 and 2 that the mother of James and Salome accompanied Mary to the Lord's tomb.

Peter and John, after receiving Mary's report, proceeded swiftly to the Lord's tomb. We would also like to think that they were running to see if the Lord had arisen as He said He would do, but we know from John 20:9 such is not true either.

"... as yet they knew not the Scripture, that He must rise again (Continued on page 7, column 3)

OUR RADIO MINISTRY
WTCH — 1420 ON THE DIAL
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY
Sunday — 8:30-9:00 A.M.

**THIS IS A WORK OF FAITH
AND A LABOR OF LOVE**
**MAY WE ASK FOR YOUR
PRAYERFUL SUPPORT**

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

"MY IMAGINARY STRONG BOX"

tunity to visit and commune with the Lord, and to meditate upon some things concerning His Word.

One morning of recent date, I don't know how I got to thinking about it, but it came to my mind that in the office of our printing shop we have a safe and we also have a money box. There is not much in either of them. In the daytime, there is a little money in the money box. It is most always taken out at night and put

back in the next day, of course, for the operation of the business. We rarely ever leave but very little money in the shop at night. As for the safe, about all that is in it of any value are personal papers — some deeds, some contracts, and things of that type — legal papers. They are purely personal, and are of value only to the shop. We don't even lock our safe. The fact of the matter is, I have the (Continued on page 2, column 2)

mission point quite a long way up the Tumbuda Valley. For some time, three different missionaries took turns going there to preach, but for several months now, one man has felt a special responsibility to the area, and he has been doing all the preaching there. Last week he told me that some had been saved there and had requested to be baptized, so before too long we will be visiting the mission and look into their request. It is a blessing to see these churches continue to spread the good news



FRED T. HALLIMAN

of Jesus Christ and establish mission points which, in all probability, will become New Testament churches one day. To date this mission point is strictly indigenous, as I have not so much as visited it as yet. I walked through the area once about twelve years ago, otherwise it would be completely foreign to me.

Another one of our missionaries has started a work among a group of people who live high upon the mountain side that separates us from the Levani Valley. These folk have been attending the Methodist (Continued on page 5, column 3)

The God Of The Bible As Well As Many False Gods

By ROY MASON
Aripeka, Florida

Satan is not particularly opposed to people having and worshipping a god — just so it is a false god of his devising. In fact he is a god-manufacturer who has turned out a great variety of gods. The Bible says, "There are gods many and lords many" and the Devil is the originator of these many false deities. Let us consider some of the gods of Satan's devising:

1. There are the gods of savages. Usually their gods take the form of images of wood and stone, and always these are hideous objects. David describes such gods in Ps. 15:4-8. We have seen images brought from heathen lands that looked as if they had been dreamed up by somebody in a state of delirium tremens.

Civilized peoples without the knowledge of the true God, came to refine their representations of deity. A good illustration is the Greeks. Their artists produced beautiful pieces of statuary to

represent their gods, but while aesthetically superior to the images of raw savagery, those images were just as far from the truth as the rest. The Devil just produced a more refined product for a more "cultured" people.

2. The worship of the sun and stars. Sun worship coupled with the worship of "the host of heaven" has been common among many races. The heathen tribes mentioned in the Bible worshipped "the queen of heaven." Easter observance goes back to the worship



ROY MASON

of Eostre, the Teutonic goddess of the spring and sunrise. The Aztec Indians were in part sun worshippers. Worshippers of Mary sometimes call her the "queen of heaven" — a title anciently applied to a heathen goddess. In fact she has been exalted to the position of a female goddess. Note what the Bible says about the worship of "the queen of heaven" (Jer. 44:16-22).

3. The worship of rulers. The (Continued on page 8, column 3)

The Baptist Examiner

The Baptist Paper for the Baptist People

JOHN R. GILPIN Editor

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

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year — \$2.00; Two years — \$3.50
Five years — \$7.00; Life — \$25.00
CLUB RATES: 15 or more — each \$1.50

When you subscribe for others or secure subscriptions — each \$1.50

BUNDLES: 10 to 50 copies to one address \$10.00 for each 10 yearly; 60 to 100 copies to one address, \$9.00 for each 10 yearly.

FOREIGN Same as in the United States.

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

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

EDITOR IS FIGHTER AND EXPECTS TO CONTINUE AS SUCH

Any man who dares lift his voice or pen in opposition to the general trend is considered a "fighter."

Some folk don't like this paper, or its editor, because the editor is a "fighter." To this accusation, he pleads "guilty" and expects to stay guilty.

While you are calling this editor a "heresy hunter," just remember how Jesus roasted the "wolves" of His day. Hear Him when He said, "Ye are of your father the Devil." Do you remember His expressions of contempt for the religious leaders of His day, in that He called them "hypocrites," "whited sepulchres," and "Two-fold more the child of Hell?"

Do you remember what Paul said to Elymas in Acts 13:10? "And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?"

Do you remember how Stephen denounced the religious heretics of his day? Listen: "Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye."—Acts 7:51.

By inspiration, Paul tells us to denounce heretics as well as heresies. Hear him: "Them that sin rebuke before all, that others may also fear."—I Tim. 5:20.

You can refer to this editor as a "fighter" if you wish, but he feels that he is in pretty safe com-

pany associating with Paul, Stephen and Jesus. You can call him a "carping critic" just as often as you desire to, but remember he is going to expose you if you don't follow the Book. If you don't want it told, then don't do it, or old fighter Gilpin will "Rebuke before all."

"Strong Box"

(Continued from page one)
combination printed on the outside so that if anybody wants in, he can help himself so he won't ruin it. About all there is in it, as I say, are legal papers which while worthless to others, are quite valuable to us.

The other night I got to thinking about our safe and our money box and the various papers that are inside each. That, in turn, caused me to think about another strong box — what I call my imaginary strong box. That is the subject of my sermon tonight — "My Imaginary Strong Box."

As I say, about all we have in the safe or in the money box are some papers by way of deeds and contracts and things of that nature, but in my imaginary strong box I have some mighty important papers. The Bible is my imaginary strong box, and I have some mighty precious papers in it. I have some papers here within this strong box that are worth far more

No Conference In 1974

In answer to various questions from our readers, Calvary Baptist Church does not plan to hold a Bible Conference this Labor Day weekend.

I might say that we were planning for such — at least it was in the talking stage — before I became ill in January. I feel now, although I am remarkably improved in health, it would not be wise to plan for such this year.

Of course, we always look forward to "next year." This will be in our minds and plans as we face 1975, but for 1974 we will not have a conference.

than anything or everything that I have in my safe. To tell you the truth, in this imaginary strong box, there's something that is really worthwhile — something of actual value, and I would like to open it, and show you a few things that are of importance within this imaginary strong box.

I HAVE A PARDON IN THIS IMAGINARY STRONG BOX.

I talked to a man sometime ago who had been sentenced to the federal penitentiary, but a former

Your Editor Isn't Interested In A Monument When He Dies But In Your Help To Carry On

Some time ago, when an editor died, those who were carrying on the work of the paper appealed to their friends for \$20,000, for a monument to the deceased editor.

Personally, I don't want a monument when I die (I'm not expecting to, as I am looking for my Lord to come in the air for me). I don't care to have any monument erected to my memory. I'd much rather the money was spent for missions instead.

Though I don't want a monument when I die, I do covet and need your support now. When I say, I need it, I mean every word of it.

It makes me sick in my soul when I remember how badly we

need your offerings and how many of our readers are wasting God's money on unworthy objects. Practically every dollar given to the Cooperative Program or Baptist Faith Missions is wasted. This is true of many other missionary enterprises.

Several of our readers to my knowledge have given \$1,000 or more to different organizations at one time. Generally speaking, this has never been true of those who support our paper. Most of our contributions are very small, but for each of these supporters, we thank God and take courage.

Today, while I'm thanking God for what He gives me, I am impressed to appeal for large gifts

too. How it would thrill our souls to receive such, for God knows we have many needs by way of enlarging our printing ministry.

The poet has said:

"Give me a rose today—
A yellow rose or one that's red:
I'd rather have just one today
Than ten million when I'm
dead."

This expresses the philosophy of your editor. What good you say about me when I'm gone won't help me. I want your help today. I covet your prayers and your gifts. Won't you send us an offering now for the enlargement and support of this paper?

Here's A Personal Message From The Editor Of T.B.E.

I know I should write a personal word more often (1) to tell you of God's blessings on our written ministry (2) to beseech your prayers for our work (3) to thank you for your special interest in our ministry and for your valued cooperation. The editing of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, pastoring Calvary Baptist Church of Ashland, Kentucky, working in our printing shop, and many other duties keep me from doing all the writing I wish to do.

To me you are not only a reader of our paper, but my co-worker. Your work possibly keeps you from witnessing all over America to the great truths we Baptists contend for, but by supporting THE BAPTIST EXAMINER you have made possible its publication, both in America and abroad. Through it, our Baptist message goes out each week, and all because you are supporting our ministry with your prayers and financial generosity.

It is a difficult task to take a public stand against religious errors. Modernism, Lodgism, Feminism, Unionism, Arminianism, Mission Boards, Spiritualizers, Catholicism and Protestantism are a few of our many foes. These coupled with the heresy of the universal church make it most difficult to stand today for the whole

Bible. Yet for 35 years THE BAPTIST EXAMINER has been standing against these heresies. However, the editor has not been standing entirely alone. How wonderfully our Saviour has blessed! And how wonderfully many of our friends have stood with me. Your prayers, financial support, and encouraging letters have been most inspiring and helpful.

Millions of Roman Catholics in the United States are tireless in their zeal and sincere in their determination to make America Catholic by every possible means: the radio, the press, the movies, local and national advertising, personal and public work. We Baptists should do the same.

I am thankful for the little part I have each week in contending for Baptist truth. Pray especially for our work, please. I would appreciate hearing from you personally. Should God lead you to help the ministry of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER financially, I would be grateful. Particularly is that true just now for our financial burdens are unusually heavy at present, and our contributions for the month of April were not up to par. I ask this in Jesus' name, and I am sure He will richly reward you.—J.R.G.

from her, and also by copying a statement from an old Bible. It was thus that I secured my birth certificate.

Beloved, I have my spiritual birth certificate here within this imaginary strong box and that is a birth certificate declaring now that I am a Son of God. The Apostle Paul writing to the church at Rome, talking about our sonship, says:

"For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father"—Rom. 8:15.

That relationship between father and son is a mighty precious relationship. I tell you, beloved, there isn't anything in this world that is much more precious, especially to a boy, than to have a daddy that goes hunting and fishing with him, and takes him places. It is a mighty precious relationship.

Beloved, the relationship that exists between me and my Heavenly Father is a mighty precious one, to the extent that I cry out day by day, "Abba, Father" or "Dear Father."

The Apostle Paul refers to it (Continued on page 3, column 1)

A Lifetime Possession . . .

THE CAMBRIDGE CAMEO BIBLE



BOUND
IN
REAL MOROCCO

Leather Lined

ONLY

\$15.95

Available In Black, Red, or Blue

SAMPLE
TYPE FACE

13 "I am Alpha and Omega,
the beginning and the end, the
first and the last.

1st Ch. 1, 8.
* Ver. 7.
* 2d Tim. 4, 8.
* Mt. 23, 17.

— ORDER FROM —

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BOOK STORE

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101

I HAVE A BIRTH CERTIFICATE IN THIS IMAGINARY STRONG BOX.

In my safe, I have my birth certificate showing that I was born on May 8, 1905. I never had any occasion to use it until a few years ago when I decided to go outside the United States and it was necessary that I go about getting a birth certificate to prove that I had been born. I secured the birth certificate by finding one woman who was present the day I was born and getting a statement

Commentary On The Whole Bible

By Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown

Price \$13.95



Looking for a lot of dependable Bible commentary in one volume? If so, you need this great book. Books, chapters, verses, and words are expounded. Example: "Ministered" in Acts 13:2 is explained to mean the performance of official duties of the church at Antioch.

There are almost 1600 pages of valuable study helps. Spurgeon said: "It contains so great a variety of information that if a man had no other exposition he would find himself at no great loss if he possessed this and used it diligently. I have of it a very high opinion . . . and I consult it continually and with great interest."

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

"Strong Box"

(Continued from page two)
again, for he says:

"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons" — Gal. 4:4,5.

Beloved, my spiritual birth certificate shows that I am a son of God. I have proof of that fact. I don't have to go to a Bible and dig up a statement from a Bible. I don't have to go back several years and find the woman that was present the day that I was born and get a statement from her. Rather, I turn to God's Word and I find that I am a son of God. I thank God that in my imaginary strong box I have not only a pardon, but I have my spiritual birth certificate.

III

I HAVE AN ACCIDENT INSURANCE POLICY IN THIS IMAGINARY STRONG BOX.

Most everybody carries accident insurance. If you will read the fine print that is in that accident insurance, you will find that about the only thing that it will pay for, is if you happen to jump off the Matterhorn, which is the highest mountain in Europe. That is about all that the average accident insurance will pay for.

But, beloved, I have accident insurance that covers me fully in every respect. Listen:

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose" — Rom. 8:28.

I stand oftentimes by our big press in which we print THE BAPTIST EXAMINER in our shop and I see those big wheels as they roll around (about three feet or a little bigger in diameter), and as they come around, the cogs mesh perfectly. I have often thought to myself, what would happen if those cogs would fail to mesh? Beloved, you know that it would just completely tear up that press. It would

completely wreck it.

I stand and think about how the great God of the universe has everything under control and how all the wheels are turning perfectly, and I am not worried one particle but that all the wheels in God's plan are going to mesh perfectly because it says, "We know that all things work together for good."

Notice again:

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" — I Thess. 5:18.

Notice, "In every thing, give thanks."

One day, I said to a preacher friend of mine, "Do you believe that?" He said, "Well, I believe that we should thank God for all the good things." I said, "I believe we ought to thank Him for all things, because the Bible says 'in every thing give thanks.'"

When you have the stomachache, when you have the toe ache, when you have the backache, when your eyes go bad, thank God, because "in everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

You talk about accident insurance, I have accident insurance that covers me in every respect because my God has already said that in everything we are to thank Him, for one simple reason — that whatever comes to pass, whatever takes place, is the will of God for my own particular personal life.

IV

I HAVE A FIRE INSURANCE POLICY IN MY IMAGINARY STRONG BOX.

We have some fire insurance on our shop building and the contents thereof, but I have a fire insurance policy in my imaginary box and it is a mighty, mighty wonderful fire insurance policy. I turn to God's Word and I read that there is a day coming when God is going to literally burn lost sinners. Listen:

"The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he

shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name" — Rev. 14:10,11.

Sometime ago, a woman said to me, "Aren't you afraid you are going to Hell?" I said, "No! I haven't a bit of doubt about where I am going. If I die today or if I die fifty years from now, I haven't any doubt about where I am going. I am not one bit worried about Hell."

Beloved, I'm not. I have a fire insurance policy that covers me in every respect. Every time I turn to God's Word and read this fire insurance policy it makes me to rejoice, for I find that Peter says:

"Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God,

Wanted

TO BUY a complete set of John Gill's Bible Commentary (6 volumes). Contact Ray Vasquez, 183 East 16th St., Holland, Mich. 49423.

wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" — II Pet. 3:12,13.

Yes, the Lord is going to burn this old world over sometime. You talk about a raging holocaust. You talk about the fire in Chicago several years ago. You talk about the disintegration that was caused by the dropping of the bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki a few years ago. I want to tell you, there is a day coming when this world is going to be burned over in every particular and every evidence of sin is going to be burned away. But according to His promise, we look for a new heaven and a new

earth "wherein dwelleth righteousness."

V

I HAVE AN UNLIMITED DRAWING ACCOUNT IN THIS IMAGINARY STRONG BOX.

It is nice for a person to have an unlimited drawing account at the bank. I suppose it would be; I never did have such. But I would think it would be mighty wonderful if a man just had an unlimited drawing account at the bank so regardless of what his needs might be, whether it were for one dollar or for a thousand dollars, all he had to do was write a check and know that the money was there — that he had an unlimited drawing account.

Beloved, I have just exactly that, so far as my imaginary strong box is concerned, for I have an unlimited drawing account assured me, here in this Bible. It is remarkable to me when I think about it. Every time I think about it, it just kind of lifts me up. Listen:

"But my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" — Phil. 4:19.

Notice what it says that He is going to supply. Is it what I want? No. Thank God it doesn't say that, for I want lots of things that I haven't any business with, and so do you. What does it say He is going to supply? Not our wants, but our needs. You are not going to have a single need in this world but that God will take care of it. You may have a lot of wants that God doesn't supply. I wouldn't be a bit surprised if you have some of them, right now, hurting you. I wouldn't be a bit surprised right now if you have some wants, and maybe God won't give them to you. But I'll guarantee you one thing — you haven't got a single need in this world, but what God will take care of it.

VI

I HAVE A GUARANTEE THAT I WILL NOT SUFFER SHIPWRECK IN THE RIVER OF DEATH IN MY IMAGINARY STRONG BOX.

I have a guarantee that is really a guarantee, for it guarantees that

I will not suffer shipwreck in the river of death. Some of these days, unless the Lord Jesus Christ comes first, every one of us are going to die. We are going to come down to the river of death, and when we do, if you are lost, you are going to suffer shipwreck, but if you are saved, you can have a guarantee that you will never suffer shipwreck in the river of death. We read:

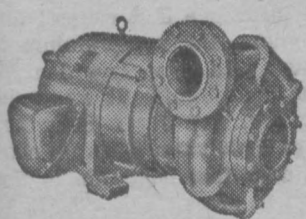
"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die" — John 11:25,26.

I have always been a great admirer of B. H. Carroll, who was a great preacher before my day. One day, out on the plains of Texas, when B. H. Carroll was preaching in a brush arbor revival meeting, he saw a man drive up in a ramshackle wagon in front of the brush arbor. Though he was in the midst of preaching, he had a sudden urge to quit preaching to the congregation and go out and preach to that one man in the wagon. The man was dying of tuberculosis. They called it consumption then. Sometimes they called it galloping consumption because it just raced so fast through the body. This man was dying of what they called galloping consumption. B. H. Carroll went out and preached to this man and he received Jesus Christ as his Saviour. A few days later, he was baptized in one of the Texas rivers, and a few days later, he was dying. B. H. Carroll sat down beside his bed and said, "Brother Bryan, you are coming down to the river of death, but I want to assure you that when you get there, there will be no river there. If you can, if you have a fleeting moment of consciousness, give us a sign that what I say to you is true." When the man closed his eyes, B. H. Carroll thought he was gone. He leaned over to look at him closely and the man suddenly

(Continued on page 4, column 4)
THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
MAY 18, 1974
PAGE THREE

BERKELEY

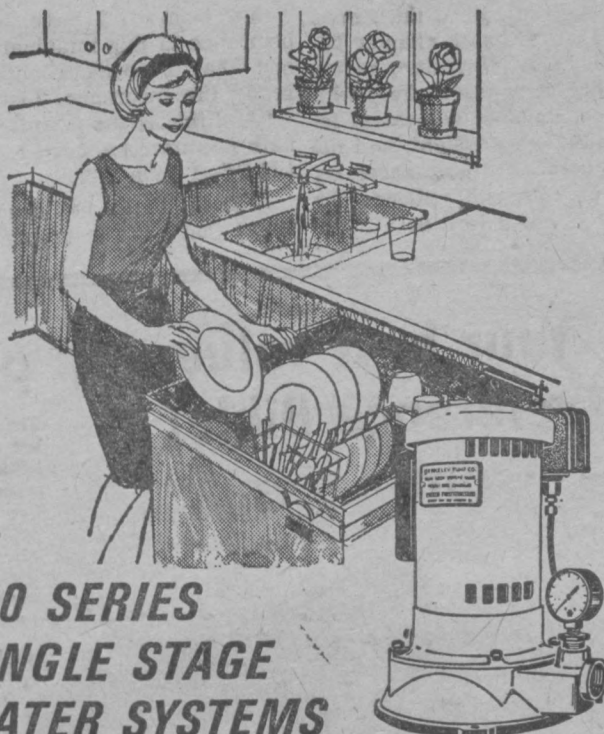
PUMPS AND WATER SYSTEMS



SPRINKLER IRRIGATION PUMPS

Over a quarter of a century of development and field experience stands behind these centrifugal pumps. Sizes range from 1" to 6", with capacities up to 3500 GPM, and heads of 100 to 150 psi. Over 200 pump-motor combinations available to fit your needs.

BERKELEY

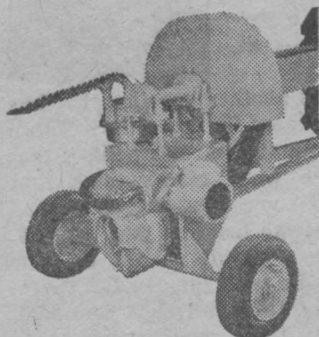


100 SERIES SINGLE STAGE WATER SYSTEMS

The 100 Series single stage jet pump is designed to pump water day after day, year in and year out. This dependable pump requires almost no attention after it is installed. Yet the 100 Series outperforms many more expensive pumps, including two and three stage models. Some of these Berkeley jet pumps are still faithfully serving the needs of their owners after more than a quarter century of service.

BERKELEY

Continuous duty motors from 1/2 h.p. through 2 h.p.



BERKELEY TRACTO-RAIN

This trailer mounted centrifugal pumping unit uses the power take-off of any standard tractor for sprinkler irrigation. Pressures up to 100 pounds, with capacities up to 3000 gallons per minute. 10 to 55 h.p.

Quality PUMPS for every irrigation need

Berkeley DEEPWELL TURBINES

Whether you need 10 gallons or 10,000 gallons per minute, there's a Berkeley Deepwell Turbine of exactly the size to meet your requirements.

A wide range of bowl and impeller sizes insures you of a combination which will pump water most efficiently from your well. The finest materials and workmanship go into the construction of Berkeley Deepwell Turbines. They are rugged and designed to give years of economical, trouble-free operation.

Berkeley PUMPS & WATER SYSTEMS

BERKELEY PUMP COMPANY

829 BANCROFT WAY, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94710

556 TIFT STREET, SW, ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30310

Factory Branches Located In . . . Amarillo, Texas; Grand Island, Nebraska; Dallas, Texas; Phoenix, Arizona; Denver, Colorado; Cherry Hill, New Jersey; Tampa, Florida; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Ajax, Ontario, Canada

The Baptist Examiner FORUM

"Do those that are in Heaven know what is going on here on earth?"

PAUL
TIBER

PASTOR,
NEW TESTAMENT
BAPTIST CHURCH
1643 Lee Road
Cleveland Heights,
Ohio



If Heaven is a place where there is no sorrow, then it should be evident that departed saints do not know what is going on here.

We don't know of any Scripture which warrants believing that the saints in Heaven are aware of earthly events.

The Romish practice of praying to "saints" is based upon the idea that they know what is going on here and that they are able to do something about it. We just don't believe it!

E. G.
COOK

701 Cambridge
Birmingham, Ala.
BIBLE TEACHER
Philadelphia
Baptist Church
Birmingham, Ala.



In Heb. 11, we see many of the heroes of faith listed. They are some of the saints who had been dead for hundreds of years. That is, their bodies had been dead for a long time, but their spirits were very much alive. And I want us to notice that the writer of Hebrews goes on without any break and says in 12:1, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses." I do not see how anyone can deny that this great cloud of witnesses is made up of those who have gone on before us. I like the way Williams puts it. He says, "Therefore, as we have so vast a crowd

of spectators in the grandstands." The picture here is somewhat like a ball game with us on the field, and all those who have gone on before us in the grandstands. We need to remember that when the Book of Hebrews was written it was written as one continuous letter without so much as quotation marks. It was well over a thousand years later that it was divided into chapters and verses. And I believe it would have been better had the first two verses of chapter 12 been left in chapter 11.

Then in Luke 15:10, we read: "Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." To be sure, the angels rejoice when one of our Lord's lost sheep has been brought into the fold. But that is not the joy that our Lord is talking about. He is talking about a joy that takes place in the presence of the angels. That must be those in the grandstands.

And in I Cor. 13:12 we read, "now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known." Today we are limited in every way by that old depraved nature that we must drag around with us so long as we live in these bodies of ours. But when we leave these old bodies behind us we will know as we are known. And, believe it or not, we are pretty well known. Even the rich man in torment knew a lot of things. Do you think for one moment that he knew more than those in Heaven know?

If we would just remember that our departed loved ones are looking down on us as the spectators in the grandstands watch the ball players, it just might tend to improve our conduct.

JAMES
HOBBS

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



This is another question that has been debated for some time. There are some who do not believe that they do, while others think that they do know what is going on. I am one who believes that they do.

When a saved person dies he goes to be with the Lord. "Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight): We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." (II Cor. 5:6-8).

Paul said in Philippians 1:23: "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better."

Our Lord knows what is going on here on earth. We are told that He is at the right hand of the Father making intercession for us. "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." (Hebrews 7:25). Christ knows what is going on and it appears to me that if we are with Him we would know also.

When Jesus was transfigured before the three disciples we are told that Moses and Elias were there "talking with him." (See Matthew 17:1-4). They seemed to know what was going on.

In the eleventh chapter of He-

brews we have the faith chapter. In this chapter we are told of the saints who through faith performed great acts in their life. They trusted God and moved, subdued kingdoms, etc. After talking about them we have the very next verse which, I believe, proves beyond a shadow of doubt that they know. "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). Who are the cloud of witnesses? Obviously they are the ones mentioned in the previous chapter. They are observing all that we do.

I say that we are not only seen of God, but all the saints can look down upon us and observe us. I did not say that they are omnipresent, no more than the angels are, but they can see what's going on.

ROY
MASON

RADIO MINISTER
BAPTIST PREACHER
Aripeka, Florida



We don't have very much in the Bible that deals with this question, but in my judgment, we DO have enough to indicate that people in the heavenly realm know what is taking place here on earth. Let us note several Scriptures.

1. The ANGELS KNOW WHAT IS TAKING PLACE. Did not Jesus say that there is rejoicing among the angels "over one sinner that repenteth?" They would have to know about the sinner's repentance before they could rejoice over it. I don't see any way around this.

2. Read the account of the transfiguration of Jesus as it appears in Luke 9:27-36. We read: "There talked with him two men which were Moses and Elias, who spake of his decease, which he should accomplish at Jerusalem."

Those two men knew Jesus; knew where he was, and knew that he was going to be killed, and knew it would take place at Jerusalem. How could they know all this unless it be true that people in the heavenly realm know what is taking place here? They couldn't.

In the 11th chapter of Hebrews, we have the roll call of the heroes of faith, then the next chapter begins by saying, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us..."

The picture there is an illustration of the Olympic races, with a vast crowd filling a great amphitheatre, looking down upon and watching the runners.

Who are the watchers — "the great cloud of witnesses." Manifestly, the heroes of faith and other departed ones.

Who are the runners? Evidently they are those of us who run the Christian race here below.

I can't see how else one could interpret the passage, "Seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses."

I preached from this passage once and there was a preacher from another state who blessed me out for what I had said. He really told my members what he thought of me for believing such stuff. I learned that his wife had died, and almost before her body had time to get cold, he married a wealthy old maid, and had her bring him to Florida on a nice pleasure trip. In my judgment he didn't want to think that his former wife knew what he was doing, so my sermon designed to show that people in the heavenly realm know what is going on here, riled him up and made him feel pretty bad.

"Strong Box"

(Continued from page three)
flicked an eye open. He said, "Bro. Carroll, at the river, all bright, no darkness."

I want to tell you, beloved, I have a guarantee in my imaginary strong box that I am not going to suffer shipwreck in the river of death. Some of these days we'll come to it unless the Lord Jesus Christ comes back again for us. Some of these days we will be there, but He is going to take care of us there just as He has all the rest of the way.

VII

I HAVE MY LIFE INSURANCE IN THIS IMAGINARY STRONG BOX.

Yes, I carry some life insurance — not much so far as this world is concerned. Actually it is a misnomer, for it is not life insurance — it is death insurance. You are just insuring yourself against your own death so that in the event of your death, your loved ones won't be left penniless and the county won't have to provide for your burial. I have a little life insurance.

But, beloved, I have some life insurance in this imaginary strong box that I speak about that is really life insurance. Listen:

"And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even ETERNAL LIFE"—I John 2:25.

Beloved, that's not death insurance; that's life insurance. "Even

HYPOCRITICAL SINGING

1. We sing "Sweet Hour of Prayer" and are content with 5-10 minutes a day.
2. We sing "Onward Christian Soldiers" and wait to be drafted into His service.
3. We sing "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" and don't use the one we have.
4. We sing "There Shall Be Showers of Blessings" but do not come when it rains.
5. We sing "Blest Be The Tie That Binds" and let the least little offense sever it.
6. We sing "Serve the Lord with Gladness" and gripe about all we have to do.
7. We sing "I Love to Tell the Story" and never mention it at all.
8. We sing "We're Marching to Zion" but fail to march to Worship or Church School.
9. We sing "Cast Thy Burden On the Lord" and worry ourselves into a nervous breakdown.
10. We sing "The Whole Wide World for Jesus" and never invite our next-door neighbor.
11. We sing "O Day of Rest and Gladness" and wear ourselves out traveling, cutting grass or playing golf on Sunday.
12. We sing "Throw Out the Life-Line" and content ourselves with throwing out a fishing line.

—Selected.

eternal life."

When the Lord Jesus Christ was praying His high priestly prayer of intercession, He referred to this life insurance by saying:

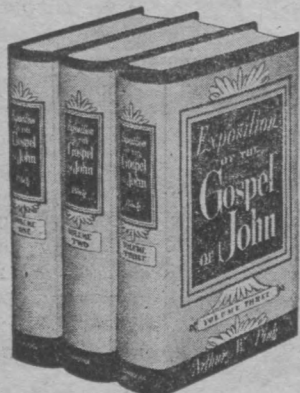
"As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is LIFE ETERNAL, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent" — John 17:2,3.

Beloved, that is life insurance. In my imaginary strong box I have the greatest insurance policy in the world — an insurance policy that tells me that I have eternal life, that I have it through Jesus Christ, and that I have that insurance policy because of what Jesus Christ has done for me.

My life insurance is all paid up. The thing that keeps people from carrying more insurance than what they do is the fact that the premium comes due every so often. You would carry a million dollars in life insurance if it weren't for the premium. But my premium is already paid. For how long? For time and eternity. It was paid the day that my Jesus hung on the cross of Calvary, when He clinched the nails that held Him to the old wooden cross. Beloved, He paid (Continued on page 5, column 2)

The Gospel Of John

BY. A. W. PINK



Now Printed In One Volume

\$9.95

This is perhaps the best of Bro. Pink's writings. You will find these books almost inexhaustible in setting forth the meaning of the Gospel of John. As was Pink's custom, he has put much time and study into the preparation of this set.

We highly recommend this commentary. It is written in such a way that it is easy to read and understand. If you have been looking for the best on John's Gospel, we suggest that you get this set.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
P. O. Box 910, Ashland, Ky. 41101

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
MAY 18, 1974
PAGE FOUR

Your best value in a pocket reference Bible!

only \$8.95



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

ONLY \$8.95

Order this lovely pocket Bible now

Use order coupon for prompt delivery

For the \$8.95 I am enclosing, please send at once the Cambridge Bible.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____

ADAM'S RIB

WRITTEN BY A WOMAN
AND FOR WOMEN

JUST A SLAVE"

"And she said unto her mistress, Would God, my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! For he would recover him of his leprosy" (II Kings 5:3).

Many women today feel if they can't do some "great" thing, then they will do nothing at all. We get this feeling because we have been brain-washed into thinking we have been cheated by being "just" a housewife, "just" a mother. Let us visit awhile with "just" a servant girl.

This little gal is so unimportant that her name is not even given. She is "just" a slave. Syria had made a raid on Israel and this girl was taken captive. She was part of the spoils of war. A possession to be taken, sold, or traded. She probably was in her teens. She is old enough to do housework. Big enough apparently for the Syrians to think her worthwhile merchandise. She is taken from her mother, father, home, her country, and all that is dear to her. What a frightful experience this must have been for one so young! There is no indication that she ever saw them again.

There are only 20 words recorded that this girl spoke. Yet, they have vibrated down thru the centuries. They tell us much about her. She was a faithful believer in Jehovah. Although she was serving in an heathen home, yet she did not hesitate to witness about the glories of her God. Her master, Naaman, was a captain in the army. He had a position of great influence. But — "he was a leper." A disease that demanded that he live isolated from his family and friends. We see the compassion of this young girl as she speaks to her mistress. Oh, if only Master Naaman were with the prophet of Jehovah in Samaria. I know he would heal him of this awful disease. What a tremendous faith she had! One of the interesting things is that her mistress listened to her. She didn't brush it off as some teen-age babbling. There is no generation gap here. Apparently this girl's life was such a testimony that when she spoke of spiritual things, folk listened to her. And isn't this the secret of fruitful witnessing? Unless we live the gospel, no one will believe it when we proclaim it.

Yes, she was "just" a slave, "just" a kid, "just" a girl, and yet, thru her faithfulness a man is brought together with a prophet of God and converted — a man of great influence and power. Only eternity will reveal the far-reaching effects of these 20 words spoken by "just" a slave.

"Strong Box"

(Continued from page 4)
the premium on my life insurance. There is one thing about my life insurance that always thrills me and that is that it is non-cancelable, and it is non-forfeitable. I can't forfeit it and God won't cancel it. Isn't it wonderful to know that you have insurance that you can't forfeit yourself and even God Himself won't cancel? That is the kind of insurance I have.

I think this is a rather wonderful strong box that I have. It thrills my soul when I think about it. It just blesses me all over when I think about what I find in this strong box. To think that my life insurance is all paid up for time and eternity and I can't forfeit, and God won't cancel it, just picks me up and carries me out yonder in space, and I say, "Praise the Lord throughout all eternity for the life insurance that I have here within this strong box."

VIII

I HAVE A DEED TO A HEAVENLY MANSION IN MY IMAGINARY STRONG BOX.

In my safe, I have a deed to my house, a deed to the shop, and a deed to the farm. When I think about these deeds it gives me a sense of security to know that we have a bona fide deed that is attested by law, that is of marketable value. But, beloved, that kind of fades away and I think about another deed. I have a deed to a heavenly mansion, for Jesus said:

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

Beloved, that is a deed. A deed to what? To a heavenly mansion.

Some of these days, I am going to walk on streets made of gold. Some of these days, I am going to drink of the fountain of life, the river of life. Some of these days, I am going to eat of the tree of life. Some of these days, I am going to have a mansion over there. Beloved, it is all found right here in my strong box.

CONCLUSION

Sinner friend, everything that I have mentioned can be yours by simply trusting the Lord Jesus as your Saviour. You can be pardoned, you can have a birth certificate, you can have accident insurance, you can have fire insurance, you can have an unlimited drawing account throughout life, you can have a guarantee that you will not suffer shipwreck in the river of death, you can have life insurance, and you can have a deed to a heavenly mansion. And how can you have it? By trusting Jesus Christ as your Saviour, who on the cross of Calvary, just before He died, looked up into the Father's face and said, "It is

finished." Thank God, Jesus died to complete the plan of salvation and all this is yours by simply trusting the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour.

Oh, might it please God to help those of you who are here to realize this truth and to cause you, if you are saved, to rejoice, and to cause you, if you are lost, to turn to Jesus for salvation. What I have in my imaginary strong box you can have likewise. Everything I have, can be yours. What is mine can be yours because we can all have it right out of the same Book.

May God bless you!

Fred T. Halliman

(Continued from page one)

services and they have asked to have a Baptist service established. I haven't talked to the missionary for some time regarding the work, and do not know of the progress being made in this area.

Pastors And Missionaries Conference

It has become a regular thing now for us to hold a Conference once every three months. We used to have it whenever we felt there was a need for them, but have learned from experience that these are most profitable to the work to hold them at three-month intervals.

These are not necessarily the type of Bible Conferences that we have back there in America, although we usually have a lot of preaching and Bible study. Apart from the preaching, the main purpose of these Conferences is to discuss any problems that may have arisen and get them worked out before they become major affairs.

For the preachers that live fairly close to the Mission Station, it is not hard for them to come and discuss anything they are not quite sure of, and in fact, I see most of those that live in this valley once to three times a week, therefore, we are able to keep any irregularity down to a minimum. By having these Conferences every three months, nothing to any major degree has time to develop in other areas.

We used to meet here at the Mission Station for every Conference, but it was decided in December when we met that we would start rotating our places to meet to different areas. This is proving to be a blessing.

Our recent Conference was held in an area which lies at the far side of our mission work and in an area that is heavily Lutheran. I first visited this area in late 1966 and established a small mission point with four people. The work has since grown until we now have five churches in the area and two mission points.

The Lutherans, like the balance of the Protestants and Catholics, don't die easy. They have used every trick they can think of to keep the Baptists out, but we have fought back with nothing but the Sword of the Spirit. When faithfully applied, it will take its toll. Their latest proposal was that they did not really mind if the Baptists stayed, and the way they had it worked out was that we could have all the old folk, and they would take all the young folk and children. Of course, this scheme was easily detected, for their idea was to see the Baptists slowly die off, if indeed we would have said that this was a good idea.

Of course, we make no deals with the Lutherans, nor any of the balance of them, we just keep right on preaching the Word of God wherever He opens a door for us, knowing that not apart from it, but through the preaching of His Word He will call out His elect.

The Lutherans, in this particular

area, have been telling the native folk that the Baptists were soon going to die out anyway as they only had a couple of preachers and that when the old man, Halliman, died that would be the end of them. When we met right in the midst of them in our recent Conference we were 29 strong, a mighty army in the hands of an omnipotent God.

We left the Mission Station on a Monday morning about 8:00 a.m. As all of us from this area could not ride in the Toyota, several had left Sunday afternoon, and walked part of the way and slept that night, then they could make the rest of the distance on foot Monday. There were eleven of us that went in the vehicle. We drove by Koroba on our way and I collected my mail and then we headed on for our destination.

We crossed the mountain range that separates us from the Pori Valley, where we have several churches, about 10:30 a.m. and then drove on through that valley for another couple of hours, or slightly more. By that time we reached the place where we would leave the vehicle. We had been on the road four hours and a half.

After having been in the car for that long and with continually being jostled and shook as a result of the rough roads (one missionary that came over here said one could not so much as call these good trails), we were sort of looking forward to the walk to get the kinks out of our backs and legs.

We had only planned to stay a couple of nights so we did not have too much gear to carry, and after we had made the car secure for the time we would be gone, we set off to cross another mountain range, this time by foot. We walked with great ease for about an hour and a half, but then due to having been on the road since early morning, and already tired when we set out, walking began to be a real task. To reach this place, you go right to the top of the mountain and then you suddenly find yourself going almost straight down and the going down, while faster, becomes about as big a chore as going up.

Finally you reach the valley below, and then you have to walk across that and down into the very bottom of the gorge, and up the other side. Then if you still have enough strength left, and are game, you have another small mountain to climb before reaching the church on the other side. To be truthful about the matter, this time, I had more courage than I had strength left. I do believe if I had another mile to walk, I would have had to sleep in the bush for the night. We were four and a half hours walking on the trail and a total of nine hours that we had been on the road that day.

By the time we got there it was too late to have a service, as most of the people live quite a way from the church building and by the time we got set up for the night, it was almost dark. It was

late that night when I got through with my meal, but it didn't really matter as I had leg cramps so bad I could not sleep anyway. I had several pieces of mail to read so I passed off the next couple of hours reading and re-reading mail.

The next day was spent mostly in preaching. Some very good sermons were preached and all were enlightening. One of the outstanding messages was brought by Yoti, the man that got burned so bad before he was saved, preaching on the sovereignty of God. He took off his dark glasses part of the time to show the people what the effects of a sovereign God can be upon one of His elect while they are in rebellion to Him. I followed Yoti's message with a message on the perpetuity of the Lord's church, from Matt. 16:18. The Baptists were strengthened by these two messages no end, and there were lots of Lutherans present that were made to realize that the Lord's church was not going to die out in that area, or any other area for that matter, within a few years regardless of how much effort they might put forth to try to make this a reality.

We did not actually get started with other matters, such as working out any problems that may have arisen, until late in the afternoon. For some reason there was an unexpected food shortage in that area at that particular time, so we concluded that it would be best to try to wind up that night, and the next day we could start for our homes again. It was nearing midnight by the time we had finished all items and a few of the preachers decided to take advantage of the cool moonlight night and start back without trying to sleep any. The day before when we had crossed that mountain, the sun and heat was almost unbearable, therefore several decided to cross over during the cool hours of the night.

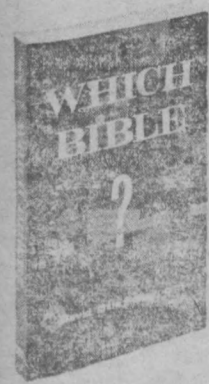
Those that elected to wait until the next morning were soon asleep and at the first crack of dawn, were up making ready to leave. We got started shortly after 7:00 a.m. that morning and while it was not nearly as hot as it was when we came over the mountain, the climb was steep and by the end of the third hour, just about all our strength had been sapped—even then we had another hour and a half to go before reaching the Toyota. By the time we reached the road where the vehicle was parked and had our gear in it, the time was about 12:30 p.m.

The preachers from this area had been told before we left that all could not ride in the vehicle, and therefore with the exception of a couple, who was unable to make the trip on foot, they could decide who would walk going over, and who would ride, and then on the way back they would change. Regardless of any agreement though, they will usually bargain at the time the agreement comes due for some change — this was so when it came time to go back.

(Continued on page 7, column 1)

A TRULY GREAT BOOK

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



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

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

— ORDER FROM —

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MAY 18, 1974

PAGE FIVE

WORD STUDIES

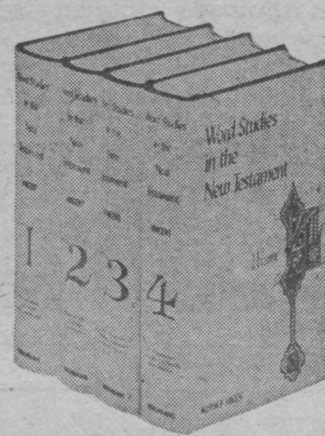
By

MARVIN R. VINCENT

4 Volumes

over 3200 pages

\$27.50



A veritable gold-mine of ideas for sermons pre-eminently invaluable for all Bible lovers. Goes thru New Testament verse by verse. Offers multitude of fine suggestions for homiletical purpose.

Rare combination of scholarship and simplicity.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P. O. BOX 910, ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101

Baptist Churches

(Continued from page one)

be found, she will be sound in fundamental doctrines. As Christ's personal representative on earth, she must know, accept, and teach only the truth.

The local churches are God's special instruments through which He is making the world conscious of sin and redemption. The Lord instructed His church before ascending to the Father: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). The work of making known the gospel is committed to the churches: "To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God" (Eph. 3:10). Dare any man to have the audacity to try to establish a new way.

Church Has All Authority

The great world-wide and age-lasting commission to evangelize the world was not given to a convention, or association, or missionary society. It was given to the New Testament church which Jesus Christ established during His personal ministry on earth. Jesus Christ is recorded to have said in Matthew 28:18-20 these words: "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

I believe Christ spoke here to the church as an institution. If Christ did not address the church, we are under no obligation to evangelize the world today, for the individuals to whom Christ personally gave the commission are gone. I believe this commission was given to the church, and, therefore, I feel we are still under just as much obligation to evangelize the world as were they to whom Jesus spoke these words personally.

Since the commission was committed only to the church, no man has the right to preach, or baptize, or teach authoritatively unless authorized by a local church to do so. Because Jesus Christ specifically commanded His Divine institution to do these things, all other organizations or institutions are prohibited from doing so. The church still holds that commission today. Any convention, or association, or missionary society

that assumes to do the work of Christ's church is going into the task without a commission. It is a usurper and a violator of the Divine Law, no matter how good the intentions of such organizations may be. The task of evangelizing the world must remain in the hands of the churches until the Master revokes the commission.

Christ Head Of Church

Jesus Christ is the head and director of all His churches on earth: "For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing" (Eph. 5:23-24). Never on any page of the Holy Scripture is it said that a convention, or association, or missionary society has Christ as its Head. Any intelligent person knows these organizations have human heads.

The church must not recognize any man or group of men as her head. If she surrenders herself to the dictates of a board or committee composed of men, she is guilty of turning away from Christ her Head and Lawgiver. Neither does she have the prerogative to appoint, outside of her membership, any man to carry out the great commission. To do this she must surrender her God-given responsibility and privilege which she must never do. Christ commanded His church: "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." The church cannot delegate the authority thus given her.

The Church An Autonomous Body

The New Testament discloses that each church was absolutely free in the exercise of her churchly rights, privileges, and prerogatives and under law to Christ alone. No fact connected with the history of the primitive churches is more fully established or more generally conceded. The early churches were subject to Christ, not to some convention, or association, or missionary society. Thus a local church must be separate from and independent of all other organization or consolidation of churches so far as authority and control is concerned to qualify as a Scriptural church.

The local church is the highest ecclesiastical authority on earth. Her actions are final. There is no appeal to be made from her decisions to any other authority. No association, convention, conference, or synod can dominate a

church of the Lord Jesus Christ nor dictate to her.

The Lord Jesus Christ instructed His church to be free from all outside authority, whether civil or ecclesiastical. In Mark 10:42-43 it is written: "Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. But so shall it not be among you."

Bible Proof Of Independency

The church at Jerusalem acted as a sovereign, autonomous, independent body in the selection of Matthias to the apostolic office. It is written in Acts 1:23-26 these words: "And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen. That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place. And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles."

The entire church participated in this selection. "They appointed"

"The Revelation Of Jesus Christ"

By Willard Willis

\$5.00

(Postpaid)

A truly great book on Revelation.

— Order From —

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BOOK STORE
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

(v. 23), "they prayed" (v. 24), and "they gave forth their lots" (v. 26). The natural antecedent of the pronoun "they" is the entire group of the one-hundred and twenty persons who composed the church at Jerusalem.

Choice Of Seven Deacons

The Jerusalem church acted again as a self-governing body in the choice of the seven deacons. In Acts 6:1-6 it is written: "And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch: Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them."

The Apostles did not assume the authority of appointing these deacons in the church. They recommended that the church make this choice. It was the multitude of disciples who chose the seven men and set them before the Apostles. The Jerusalem church did this because she was a sovereign, autonomous, independent body.

Sending Barnabas To Antioch

This same church again acted as a self-governing body in sending Barnabas to investigate the spread of the gospel in Antioch.

It is written in Acts 11:22: "Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch."

Church Sent Missionaries

The church at Antioch acted as a sovereign, autonomous, independent body in sending out Paul and Barnabas as missionaries. It is written in Acts 13:1-3: "Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away."

The church at Antioch did not ask the church at Jerusalem who to send. They did not contact any missionary board or committee as to whom they should send. Observe in this passage that in New Testament times a local church sent missionaries out to the mission field from her own membership. There is no Scripture for a missionary board, or missionary committee, or missionary society sending out missionaries. These organizations are confessedly outside of the purview of Biblical revelation. They are human in origin and of very recent date. There is no reference to them among the primitive ages of the church.

These church-sent missionaries made their report to the church that sent them out. It is written in Acts 14:26-27: "And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled. And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles."

Paul and Barnabas gave their report not to a group of delegates who met in the city of Antioch and claim to speak for the churches, but to the very assembly of people who sent them forth. They made no report to a missionary society and none to any secretary-treasurer of missions.

Other churches voluntarily supported Paul and Barnabas in this work. To the Corinthians Paul declared: "I robbed other churches, taking wages of them, to do you service" (II Cor. 10:8). To the Philippians he said: "Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. For even in Thessalonica ye sent out once and again unto my necessity" (Phil. 4:15-16).

Paul's Traveling Companions

The churches acted as sovereign, autonomous, independent bodies in the choice of traveling companions for Paul. It is written in II Corinthians 8:18-19 these words: "And we have sent with him the brother, whose praise is in the gospel throughout all the churches; And not that only, but who was also chosen of the churches to travel with us with this grace, which is administered by us to the glory of the same Lord, and declaration of your ready mind." Verse 23 of this chapter reads: "Whether any do enquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren be enquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ."

This interchurch committee, consisting of Paul, Titus, and probably Luke, was chosen by independent churches to handle the contribution for the poor saints in Jerusalem. These churches worked together in benevolent work. This practice of the early churches is altogether different from a board or committee acting without instructions from the churches, and then calling on the churches to approve of their work and pay all the bills.

Epistles Reveal Independency

The Apostles wrote to each church about her own particular difficulties and urged each to settle its own affairs (I Cor. 5:4-5; II Cor. 2:6). They recognized the right of each church to choose its own officers and to receive and exclude members.

In writing to the seven churches in Asia, Christ recognized church independency. These epistles were not sent to the church in Asia, but to "the churches in Asia." Each is addressed individually through its pastor. The commendation, counselors, and censures are to individual and separate churches in Asia Minor. These churches were small democracies complete in themselves.

Antioch Consults Jerusalem

The action of the church at Antioch is suggestive of church independency. When a difficulty arose about the influence of Jewish customs upon Christian doctrine, the Antiochian church "determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question" (Acts 15:2).

This company did not appeal to a select company, but to the complete church in Jerusalem: "And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them" (Acts 15:4).

After a fair hearing of the case and proper consideration of the matter, the Jerusalem church replied to the church at Antioch: "Then pleased it the apostles and" (Continued on page 7, column 2)

Send TBE FREE! TO A YOUNG PREACHER

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

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

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

USE THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

Name _____

Address _____

Your Own Name _____

Address _____

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

CLIP AND MAIL TO:

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

WHY WE BELIEVE IN CREATION NOT EVOLUTION

by

FRED JOHN MELDAU

Cloth-bound

343 pages

\$4.25



This book is now in its 3rd edition and is an irrefutable expose of the vagaries of the evolutionists.

The wonder of God's marvelous grace is exalted in this excellent book.

— ORDER FROM —

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BOOK STORE

P.O. BOX 910, ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MAY 18, 1974

PAGE SIX

SWEET POTATO PLANTS

Bunch Porto Rico, Centennial, Nancy Hall, Allgold, Red Yam, White Cluster Bunch, Red Nancy Type.

100 — \$4.95 200 — \$6.95 300 — \$8.45
400 — \$9.95 500 — \$10.95

FULLY POSTPAID

HIGH YIELD PLANT COMPANY

McKENZIE, TENNESSEE 38201

Fred T. Halliman

(Continued from page five)

Most everyone suddenly turned up with lame legs, sore feet and a multitude of other problems that they presented as valid reasons why they should ride in the car rather than walk. When I told them that if they did not soon sort out these problems among themselves and choose the given number to ride, I would just leave all of them to walk back and that would settle it. In nothing flat they had decided who would ride, and who would walk, and we were on our way once again.

I had decided this time to go back by Lake Kapiago which would give us an opportunity to have a look at some more of our work up that way, and we could go on making the complete circuit, as far as we could do so by road, of our mission work. Also it was hoped that we would find the roads a little better this way.

I had a little business to attend to at the government office at Lake Kapiago which took about a half an hour, and the rest of the time we spent on the road. We got home late that afternoon after having been on the road for 10 hours. If the day going over was tiring, this day had been pure misery. By the time we had reached the car I felt like making camp and spending the night there. Then by the time we had driven for another four hours over roads that were worse than what we had the first day, I could hardly get out of the car by the time we reached the Mission Station. I had just reached the house, had not entered as yet, when I heard footsteps right behind me and knew that someone had taken a short cut across the mountain and reached the Mission Station just a few minutes before we did, had one of his little boys in his arms and said that he was real sick and could I please come and attend to him. Of course, this sort of let the bars down, and several other sheep began to follow. I simply had to tell them that I would imagine that I felt a lot worse than the rest of them did, and so I was going to close the Aid Post for the night, and if we were all still alive in the morning, we could attend to the sick, and if not, we would just bury the dead and start all over again.

By the time I parked my vehicle

in the shed, I had driven just under 100 miles for the round trip. We had walked for nine hours, had spent two nights and one full day at the Conference site. Many of the preachers walked two days each way in order to attend the Conference. They had no hotels, motels, or nice comfortable homes to stay in. They ate no fried chicken, roast beef, or hamburgers; no pies or cakes or hot beverages. However, they had a roof over their heads to keep the rain off at night, slept on the ground with a chunk of wood for a pillow, had enough sweet potatoes for 15 men which had to be divided up among 28, but have a God that gives them "meat to eat that most folk know not of."

More than a couple of weeks have gone since we all met for this Conference, and the preachers are still talking about the blessings that God gave them by attending. Personally, my own life was enriched manifold by the experience, and we are all looking forward to June 11 when our next Conference will convene, this time in the Pori Valley, where we have had so much trouble with the Protestant groups. You will have plenty of time to pray for us in this next Conference after reading this, and we desire that you do so.

May the blessings of the Lord abide with you all.

Baptist Churches

(Continued from page 6)

elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren: And they wrote letters by them after this manner; The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia" (Acts 15:22-23).

Here we see one independent church, wishing advice, seeking counsel of another independent church whose wisdom and experience they trusted. The Jerusalem church acting as a sovereign, autonomous, independent body gave the advice sought. The Apostles did not dictate this information. They acted in cooperation with the elders and the whole church.

Christ On Independency

In Matthew 18:15-17, when Christ

made mention of the church, He recognized it as the only source of ecclesiastical authority. In dealing with the personal offense, He urges the offended to go to the offender. After this is done, then other brethren are to go and plea for reconciliation.

Lastly, the difficulties among brethren must be taken to the church for authoritative action. The action of the church is final. It leaves no place for reversal or review. There is no court of appeal beyond the local church. "Tell it to the church" forever settles the matter. "If he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as a heathen man and a publican."

Conclusion

A fundamental principle of the Bible has always been the entire and absolute independency of the churches. Each congregation is a small, independent republic, governing itself by Christ's laws, enacted and sanctioned by the people.

IF YOU ADMIRE,
OR IF YOU DESPISE—

BILLY GRAHAM

You Need To Read

THE PASTOR'S DILEMMA

\$1.25

ple. With the church all ecclesiastical action commences and with it all terminates.

Jesus Christ left His church without any general organization to direct its government or its work. Throughout the New Testament we can discover not a trace of a convention, association, conference, council, committee, or board. We read only of the establishment of individual churches. Associations and conventions are of modern origin devised by human wisdom and are not like Scriptural churches divine institutions. Many true churches of Christ existed and still exist without belonging to any of these fraternities.



Victory

(Continued from page one)

from the dead."

It becomes obvious that Peter and John raced to the tomb only for the purpose of determining whether or not the Lord's body had truly been stolen as Mary had said.

The fact that both Peter and John went to the tomb is not without great significance. They, in fact, were drawn there by the hand of the Almighty, since God, in the Holy Scriptures, declares that there must be two witnesses to establish the truth.

Peter and John, on their arrival at the Lord's tomb, went in (Peter went before John) and observed the linen clothes and the napkin.

"And seeth the linen clothes lie, and the napkin, that was about the head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself"—John 20:6,7.

These items were trophies of the battle that had just been won — the greatest battle and victory of all time. The way these objects were laying made it very obvious that our Lord had been in battle and had won. The linen clothes made it obvious that He had won the battle, because they were laying as if His precious body was still wrapped in them. He, in fact,

had moved out of the wrapping without it being unwrapped. There had been no one to unwrap the Lord and to remove the stone from the door for Him. He had moved out of the wrapping and on through the wall of the tomb. He had done this on Saturday evening and not on Sunday morning. We may go further and note that our Lord was placed in the tomb on Wednesday evening and arose Saturday evening. He was in the grave three days and three nights. It would have been impossible, therefore, for Him to have been buried on Friday evening and arisen Saturday evening or even Sunday morning.

Peter and John, after observing the tomb and the objects therein, went to their homes, but Mary lingered at the tomb. She obviously was determined to make a more thorough investigation.

"But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping"—John 20:11.

Mary's weeping revealed two things regarding herself, namely, her unbelief and her love for the Lord. She, of course, would soon learn that her weeping was all in vain, in view of the fact that things could not have been better than they were. We too, like Mary, are often burdened down with a particular matter when we should be rejoicing.

Mary would have had an excellent reason to weep if our Lord had still been in the tomb, but the fact that He was not there should have given her cause for great rejoicing.

Mary, according to John 20:11, stooped down and looked into the sepulchre. She was probably endeavoring to make sure that Peter and John had not overlooked the body of her Lord. She, when looking into the sepulchre, saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the foot of where the body of Christ had lain. Mary, however, was not impressed with the angels, since she had eyes only for her Lord and Master. The angels asked Mary to give them a reason for her weeping and she replied:

"... because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid Him"—John 20:13.

These two angels may have been Michael and Gabriel, but Mary was so taken up with her thoughts of Christ that she failed to recognize them as angels or even be impressed by their presence. May we have eyes only for our Lord, too.

Mary, in replying to the angels, said, "they have taken away my Lord." The word "my" in this statement, shows that Mary thought of Christ as her Lord and hers alone. May we too, know Him to be our own personal Lord. May we heartily declare, "The Lord is my shepherd," "my beloved," "my song," "my joy" and "my salvation."

Mary, after saying, they have taken away my Lord, "turned her-

Eld. Fred T. Halliman Missionary To New Guinea



FRED T. HALLIMAN

Send your offerings for the support of Brother Fred T. Halliman to:

New Guinea Missions
c/o Calvary Baptist Church
P.O. Box 910
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Be sure to state that the offering is for the mission work of New Guinea. Do not say that it is for missions as this will only be confusing since we have other mission works.

Write Brother Halliman frequently. His address is:

Elder Fred T. Halliman
Sovereign Grace Baptist Mission
Koroba Free Bag, via Mendi
Territory, Papua, New Guinea.

self back," that is, she turned her back on the angels. This fact makes it very obvious that the object of Mary's heart was Christ and only Christ. May the same be true of you and me. May He be more important to us than family, money, time, houses, food, clothing and even angels.

"Whom have I in heaven but thee? And there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee."

Mary's heart was yearning for the Master and she would not even be concerned with heavenly angels until her eyes had been cast upon Him. The result was that the strong desire in her heart was not denied, for when she turned her back on the heavenly angels, she beheld her Lord. He who had hung the stars in place could have been doing a million other things, but He considered the most important thing at that moment was to meet with Mary and to satisfy her yearning heart. He was there to comfort Mary's wounded soul. He, in fact, had just conquered death for her, and He would not leave her comfortless.

Mary, however, when she first cast her eyes upon her Lord, did not recognize Him. It may be thought that she did not recognize (Continued on page 8, column 1)



GREEK-ENGLISH INTERLINEAR NEW TESTAMENT

Approximately 750 pages
Cloth Bound

\$7.95

Most useful for everyone who studies the Bible. Can't be described — As Paul said of Jesus (11 Cor. 9:15), it is unspeakable. Must be examined to be appreciated.

ORDER FROM —

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101



THE TWO BABYLONS

By ALEXANDER HISLOP

330 pages — Cloth-bound

\$4.50

If you believe in hanging your stocking by the mantel at Christmastime, or if you have adopted any one of the dozens of Roman Catholic theological pretensions then you need to read this book. Mr. Hislop shows that much of our religious life today is nothing but paganism that has crept in through Roman Catholicism.

— ORDER FROM —

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BOOK STORE

P.O. BOX 910, ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MAY 18, 1974
PAGE SEVEN

Victory

(Continued from page seven)

Him because of the tears in her eyes, but the real reason was because He, at first, did not reveal himself to her. The same thing, in fact, happened to those who were on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-16). It was necessary that the Lord reveal Himself to Mary, since He was no longer to be known "after the flesh" (II Cor. 5:16).

Our Lord, when beholding Mary, said to her:

"Woman, why weepest thou? Whom seekest thou?"—John 20:15.

These are the first recorded words our Lord spoke after His resurrection and how full of compassion they are. He had come to bind up the broken-hearted and here was a broken heart that needed mending, yea, here was one of His beloved children who needed tears wiped from her eyes.

Our Lord's question to us today is still as it was to Mary, namely, "why weepest thou?" Why do we weep over earthly things when our

heavenly home, because of Him, is assured us?

Mary, when she first saw the Lord, thought Him to be the gardener.

"She, supposing Him to be the gardener, saith unto Him, Sir, if thou hast borne Him hence, tell me where thou hast laid Him, and I will take Him away"—John 20:15.

Mary, in this verse, refers to Christ three times, yet she does not mention His name once. Her mind was absorbed with thoughts of Him to the extent that she thought every one ought to know whom she was seeking.

Mary considered the Lord to be all her own, for she said, "tell me where thou hast laid Him and I will take Him away." We see here the depth of Mary's love for the Lord. The question, of course, is not regarding how much Mary loved Him, but how much do you love Him?

Mary supposed Christ to be the gardener and she wasn't very far wrong in view of the fact that He was the one who made the earth,

planted it with trees and flowers, and sowed grass therein. He also sustains His garden of earth by watering it constantly. He is not only the great gardener, but He is also the great carpenter, for He built the mountains and hills. He even hung the stars in place. He has also built His church. He is not only the gardener and the carpenter, but He is also the great physician. He proved to be such by healing the multitudes and even raising the dead. He has also cured the diseases of sin by covering our sins with His own precious blood. He is also the great lawyer, for He knew the law to perfection and obeyed it to the letter. He, therefore, without question, is worthy of our praise and honor.

Mary considered Christ to be the gardener. He, however, called her by name and opened her eyes so that she could behold her Lord and Master.

"Jesus saith unto her, Mary"—John 20:16.

The Lord, in His first words to Mary, called her "woman," and now He calls her "Mary." He, in addressing her as "woman," was speaking to her as her God, but in calling her "Mary," He was speaking to her as her Saviour and Lord. He, in calling her "woman," gave her to know that He was exalted far above every human relationship. He, however, when He called her "Mary," spoke to her as one of His very own — His own whom He had purchased with His own blood. We, in fact, read in John 10:3 that "He calleth His own sheep by name."

Mary, when hearing Christ call her name,

"Turned herself and saith unto Him, Rabboni, which is to say, Master"—John 20:16.

This verse bears out John 10:4 where we learn that "the sheep follow Him, for they know His voice." He, in fact, only spoke one word; that word being "Mary," but this one word changed Mary from a weeper to a worshipper.

"Ofttimes the day seems long, our trials hard to bear, we're tempted to complain, to murmur and despair; but Christ will soon appear to catch His Bride away, all tears forever over in God's eternal day. It will be worth it all when we see Jesus, life's trials will seem so small when we see Christ; one glimpse of His dear face all sorrow will erase, so bravely run the race till we see Christ"—Rusthoni.

God Of The Bible

(Continued from page one)

Romans had an emperor's cult, and worshipped the current ruler of the empire. Other races have worshipped rulers. It will be recalled that Daniel got into the lions' den through refusal to worship the king. Herod of Bible times was stricken because he accepted human worship. The coming anti-Christ will first secure world rule, after which he will aspire to the position of deity. He will set himself up as the only God. (See II Thess. 2:3-4).

4. "Allah" is a god worshipped by millions. He is a false god of the Moslem world, fanatically worshipped by them. In his name the Mohammedans waged fearful war and were in danger of over-running Europe at one time. The "Allah" worshippers constitute one of the greatest menaces to world peace of any group in existence today. "Allah" is a brutal, bloody god, as far from the God of the Christian as anything could be.

5. The god of the modernist. The god of the modernistic theological seminary, the modernistic professor and the modernistic preacher is as far from the God of the Bible as east is from the west. He is a god with shifting standards — a god of senti-

mentalism — a powerless god — and certainly not "the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

6. The god of popular imagination. The god who is conceived in the mind of the masses of people today is an imaginary fake. No such god exists. They think of God as something like a good old indulgent grandfather who would never do such thing as punish "His children." And the public believes that all people are the children of God — born that way. He is a convenience to be called upon when in the middle of a bad fix. He is a god who will make just any concession to get people to worship him, and it is thought that he is greatly honored when some person decides to pay him some attention. A namby, pamby, sentimentalist's god is he, as far from the God of the Bible as could be thought of as possible.

7. The gods really worshipped today. The gods that are really worshipped by the masses today are "things." Many are materialists who worship their car and their electric gadgets in the home, and their boat, and other material

JUST A FEW

1973

BOUND
VOLUMES

CONTAINING EACH AND
EVERY ISSUE OF TBE

Now Available

No more of any other year.

\$10.00

POSTPAID

objects. Another god is "pleasure" as people run to and fro seeking a "kick" or a thrill out of something.

The TRUE God is the God revealed in the Bible. He has manifested Himself supremely in Jesus Christ who said, "He that hath seen me, hath seen the Father." Dying human creatures should cast out the god of imagination, and should search the Scriptures for the knowledge of the true and living God, for they must one day face Him. For a person to merely be "religious" and to believe in some kind of a god is not enough. "This is life eternal — that they know THEE, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent."

Editorial Note: While reading Brother Mason's article we thought of a few other false gods worshipped today and we

THE HERESY OF THE INVISIBLE CHURCH

There is no such thing known to the Bible. It is a trick of the Devil to detract from the only church known to the New Testament — a local, visible body. I know there is a church in an institutional sense, as one speaks of The Home, meaning that which represents all of the local visible homes. The New Testament knew only THE CHURCH at Rome, THE CHURCH at Ephesus, etc., and never THE CHURCH in a universal sense. THE CHURCH of the New Testament is THE CHURCH in its local sense wherever it was located.

If the Devil can minimize the local church he has succeeded in winning a great victory. The pastors of the local churches were men who served local churches, and never a universal institution. It is a local church where the ordinances of the church are observed. It is a local church that deacons serve, and where discipline is administered (that is, where and when that is administered). None of these things belong to an invisible something called a church. It is the local church that congregates for worship, that sings and prays together.

There is no such thing as "a radio pastor." A pastor is the servant of a local church, and a local church only.

The theory of an invisible church is the newest thing out so far as religion is concerned. It is modern in the sense that her criticism is modern. They go along together both denying the plain teaching of God's Word. — Selected.

wish to add them to Bro. Mason's list.

There is the **Hardshell god**. He supposedly saves men apart from a revelation of Christ. He is certainly not the God of John 17:3.

There is the **Arminian God**. He is the "broken-hearted" fellow who is weaker than the worm man. He is the sobbing god of high-pressure decisionism. He is subject to Dagon Free-will.

There is the **Campbellite god**. He supposedly saves men in the water. He is the "water-god."

There is the **Cooperative Program god**. He is to be worshipped regardless of what is supported by him. He demands that churches "lose themselves" in the "great denominational program."

There is the **Mourner's Bench god**. He meets men at "the altar," IF they pray long enough and loud enough. He is a first cousin to the Baal of I Kings 18.

There is the **union revival god**. He is a god of "non-essentials" and "minor details."

None of these is the God of the Bible.

Thankful For Our Stand . . .

Thank you for the courageous stand that you take against modernism and liberalism. May the Lord Jesus continue His rich blessings upon you, and all who labor with you there via the printed page and otherwise showing the way of Salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

John N. Collins
Hampton, Va.

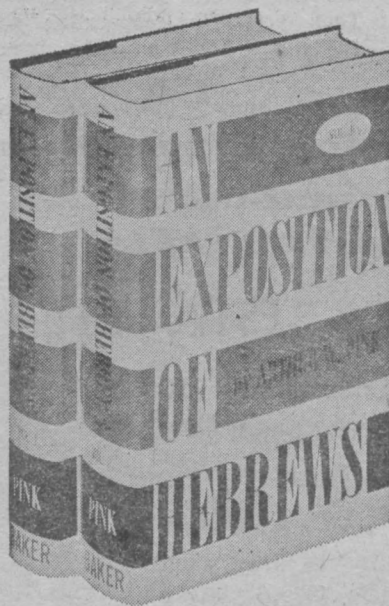
SEND US TEN SUBSCRIPTIONS, WE'LL RENEW YOURS FREE

10 SUBS . . . \$10.00

1. Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
 2. Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
 3. Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
 4. Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
 5. Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
 6. Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
 7. Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
 8. Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
 9. Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
 10. Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
- Enclosed \$ _____ for _____ Subs
Your Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____

GIVE US READERS
We Will Give Them The Truth

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
MAY 18, 1974
PAGE EIGHT



An Exposition of Hebrews

By

A. W. PINK

Now Printed in One
Volume of
over 1300 pages

\$11.95

This is the most thorough and the most complete exposition of Hebrews ever printed. Packed with sermon material.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P. O. BOX 910, ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101