

"FIFTY GOLDEN YEARS"

Our Reasons For The Many Pictures Of This Issue

I am sure that those of you who have been readers of TBE for a number of years have noticed that while I have carried many pictures of our various writers, there have been exceedingly few times that you have seen a picture of your editor. Occasionally, someone has asked that such be printed, and we have found some occasion to do so. Yet across the years, there have been very few times when we felt a picture was important.

Mrs. Gilpin says that I am the ugliest man that she ever saw — that she married me neither for money nor beauty. A few times I have felt that I have seen someone who is more homely than I, and I have asked her if she didn't agree with me. But always, she has come back to her original statement that I am the homeliest man that she ever saw. Possibly what she says is very likely true.

Some of these days, I expect to have a better face than what I possess at present. I can say with John:

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall

(Continued on page 6, column 4)

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. 39

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, OCTOBER 26, 1974

WHOLE NUMBER, 1993

"FIFTY YEARS—\$50 CLUB"

I always like to pass on suggestions on the part of our brethren, and since this one comes from several sources, I count it a real blessing to tell you of it.

It has been suggested that each church and individual send THE BAPTIST EXAMINER a special offering of \$50.00 which would mean an appreciation of \$1.00 a year for the past fifty years of my ministry.

Brother Dan Phillips, pastor of New Testament Baptist Church of Bristol, Tennessee, was the first one to offer this suggestion and he said that in addition to their regular monthly offering, he expected to ask his church to send \$50.00 in this manner.

One brother wrote saying, how about calling it: "Fifty Years — \$50.00 Club."

Well, this is one club that I want you to join. We always ask for a

large offering at Thanksgiving time so as to clear up all bills for the end of the year, so that we might start afresh in the new year, and this is one time that I would truly like to encourage many churches and many individuals to thus cooperate.

In fact, I have no objection if you want to join the club twice. Certainly it would be a fine thing for you and your wife to become members of this club, and you can do so by sending a check for TBE in the amount of \$100.00. I hope some of you have a dozen children and you take membership in this club for each of them too.

All seriously, we thank God for the way in which He has blessed TBE through the years and we thank God today in anticipation of the offering that we shall receive this Thanksgiving season.—J.R.G.

Thanks

It would be an impossibility to find the words to express our deep appreciation for the letters that we have received by way of a congratulatory nature, and from the depths of my heart, I thank each and everyone for the comments and the fact that they have taken time to kindly and graciously express themselves relative to my ministry. From the depths of my heart, I like Paul, "Thank God and take courage."

—J.R.G.

A BRIEF STATEMENT AS TO THE REASON FOR THE EXCERPTS

In this issue appear some excerpts from each year's sermons that THE BAPTIST EXAMINER has printed.

In other words, beginning with 1939, we are printing herewith at least one and sometimes two or three excerpts of sermons that have been preached and printed since 1939.

These "quickies" are printed primarily for the benefit of many young preachers who read this paper. We want all these to know that I have not changed my message over the years, but that I preach the same message now that I have preached for the past half century. I might say that the only difference is that some doctrines now are preached more strongly than they were when I was a boy, as I have learned a great deal more about the Word of God since then.

Not many preachers have lived to preach for fifty years. Furthermore, not many who started out sound fifty years ago are worth listening to today. In view of the many compromises, the majority of preachers are like Hudibras' (Continued on page 7, column 3)

Season's Theme

At this season, we honor our Pastor
In so doing, we desire to honor our God.



A Brief History Of TBE

I suppose there has been literally hundreds of people who have asked, "How did you ever get started printing TBE?"

To answer this question simply, I will just say briefly, that God laid it definitely on my heart to the extent that I couldn't get away from it, and I had to start printing it. However, there is a great deal more that might be said, and it's a joy to tell you a little of the history of this paper.

When I was in Georgetown College, I majored in English, and in my final year, I had to have one more course in English to complete my major. Timewise, there was nothing else available but a course in journalism. I now know why that was all that was available, for God was getting me ready to edit TBE. Before I had finished that semester in journalism, I had gotten a part-time job working for a local county newspaper where I learned the practical side of what I had been studying in school.

Before that year was out, I had started a weekly paper on my own. I ran ahead of the Lord in this respect, and it failed for lack of finances.

Later, I became pastor of a church in Cincinnati, Ohio, and with the financial support of a men's Bible class, I started another paper, which I edited as long as I was pastor of this particular church. In these two early attempts at editing, I learned much by way of trial and error — the hard way — about the printing and operation of a weekly paper.

TBE actually came into being with its first issue being printed on April 1, 1931, with Elder T. P. (Continued on page 3, column 2)

A Note As To The Record Of My Ministry

Since we have been talking about this anniversary issue of TBE, a great number of our friends have written to ask a number of personal questions relative to my ministry. The three questions that have been asked the most are:

- (1) How many churches have you organized?
- (2) How many preachers have entered the ministry under your preaching?
- (3) How many souls have been saved?

Well, beloved, it would be almost an impossibility for me to answer these questions as I have kept very poor records in this respect. I am somewhat like Paul when he said:

"I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius; Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name. And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I KNOW NOT

whether I baptized any other" — I Corinthians 1:14-16.

I am afraid that my memory is about like Paul in this respect.

As for the number that have been saved under my ministry, I am not in the position to state in anywise at all. I do know that we have heard from lots of folk who say they have been saved as a result of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. I have had some great revival meetings and Bible Conferences where in more than fifty have professed faith in a single week's meeting. However, I cannot say how many of them are saved, or how many of them just joined Brother Gilpin or even how many of them made a profession.

Then the same is true so far as the churches that have been organized during my ministry. I do know that we have organized a great number and for this, I am most grateful. A few years ago, I knew a Baptist preacher who had kept

strict records as to the number of Baptist church buildings that he had dedicated, which totaled nearly a thousand. I haven't organized anything like that number, but there are dozens and dozens that have been organized through the ministry of Calvary Baptist Church and THE BAPTIST EXAMINER.

As for the number of young preachers that have entered the ministry, many have written saying that this was their experience. Some of them I take pride in corresponding with today, while some of them, due to their heresies, make me hang my head in shame that I had any part in their entering the ministry.

Frankly, I do not know too much by way of statistics as to my ministry. I have been so busy trying to make a record that I haven't had time to keep a record.

Like the man of God of old, I can say: "My record is on high" (Job 16:19).—J.R.G.

What Is Involved In Printing TBE?

After many years of answering questions of all kinds relative to the printing of TBE, I'd like to tell all of our readers hereby, what is involved in the printing of a single issue of our paper. I am sure that the majority of folk have no idea at all as to what goes into the work of getting out this paper from week to week. I hired one lady to work for me several years ago, and after she worked four days, she came to me and said, "I just realized how little I know about printing and what's involved in the publishing of TBE."

Well, let's assume that you have sent us a manuscript which we will probably use in our paper. We'll further assume that I have just received it and I'll try to take you step by step, showing you how it will be handled.

First of all, I'll write a letter to thank you for the manuscript. I don't always do this. There are some who send manuscripts to us regularly throughout the year, and we do not acknowledge all of these. However, if this is your first one, or if you send a manuscript irregularly, then we'll write you and thank you for having sent it.

I must then read your manuscript to see if it is printable. Many times, it is necessary to punctuate, correct spelling and grammar, and make various word changes which might assist the reader in gathering the meaning of the writer. We never change a manuscript so far as its content is concerned, but we do make these changes mentioned above so as to make the article more readable.

After I have edited a manuscript, I then turn it over to the linotype (Continued on page 2, column 3)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor John R. Gilpin

"GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN"

"Now therefore give me this mountain."—Joshua 14:12.

In order to properly appreciate and understand the message, it is necessary that we get the background which I have read to you from the 13th chapter of the book of Numbers. When the spies came back from spying out the land of Canaan, having been sent out from Kadesh-Barnea, those spies brought

two reports. There was a majority report, and there was a minority report. The majority agreed that it was a great land. They even held up the fruit of the land and pointed to it and said "This is the fruit of the country." But the majority said "It is just something to dream about. We can't take it. We saw those fenced and walled cities over there, and it

would be an impossibility for us to conquer them. We saw the giants — the sons of Anak — which come from the giants. We not only saw giants, but we saw giants that were the products of giants. They were the progeny of giants. We saw all that. We are scared. When we looked at them, we just felt like we were grasshoppers in their (Continued on page 3, column 4)

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.

We Invite You To Worship With Us At This Season

Indeed we would be most happy to have you visit with us for our services during Thanksgiving week. In addition to the preaching of Bro. Pyle each evening, I will be preaching my annual Thanksgiving message on Thursday morning.

I don't know how many folk might come to visit us from out of town, but I want you to know that it will be a joy to us to have you in our fellowship.

All down through the years, Calvary Baptist Church has invited her friends and has taken care of their lodging and meals while here. I'd be glad to do so again this time, but various brethren have objected to this, and have said that this is one time that the guests should be prepared to pay their own way, so far as lodging and meals are concerned. If this had only come from one individual, I might not take it too seriously. But in view of the fact that many of our preacher brethren have thus written me, I am impressed to accept their words and to make this announcement. If you desire any assistance as to making reservations in any of the motels, please request me to take care of it in your behalf and we'll be only too glad to thus help you.

In this respect, may I say that our church is planning a dinner on Thanksgiving Day for all who may attend. It is a joy to us as we look forward to this occasion to invite you to be our guest on Thanksgiving Day. I hope many hundreds of you will accept the invitation.

—J.R.G.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

OCTOBER 26, 1974

PAGE TWO

CONGRATULATIONS FROM TEXAS

Christian greetings to you, my brother, in the Lord. What a pleasure it is to be writing to you on this occasion of fifty years in the preaching, pastoring, printing of the pure gospel ministry of our Sovereign Lord.

The Lord has been so good to you and has used you to be a blessing to many of His people, and His young preachers in particular. I know the Lord used you and TBE to teach me the Bible truth of Sovereign Grace.

I thank God for your stand on the doctrines of sovereign grace and on the doctrine of the local church. You do not find this combination among many today. I find if they are sound on church truth, they are loose on the truth of sovereign grace. Likewise, if they are sound on sovereign grace truth, they are wrong on the local church truth.

Brother Gilpin, I believe that if any one man has stood for the truth down through the years, you are the man.

May the Lord be pleased to use you many, many more years in His service.

His by Sovereign Grace,
I Corinthians 15:10

ELDER B. A. LANGFORD
Pastor Baptist Church
Pasadena, Texas

A Commendation From One Of Our Very Closest Friends

ELD. JIM EVERMAN
St. Paul, Kentucky

When Brother Gilpin told me this was his fiftieth year in the ministry, I sat down and relived some of the years that we have been together.

For almost five years, he preached at King's Addition Baptist Church every Thursday night. He also held many revival meetings and preached at the fellowship meetings on Saturday nights. I would like to say that all the time that Brother Gilpin came to King's Addition to preach and teach that he did not receive one penny. We did not have the money to pay him and Brother Gilpin paid his own expense. If we would have had to pay him, we would not have had the teaching that we received by him.



ELD. JIM EVERMAN

Brother Gilpin and some of the members of Calvary Baptist Church were members of King's Addition for some time. It was a great blessing to me to be his pastor. King's Addition started a mission at Ashland, and later organized it into a church, which is Calvary Baptist Church.

During the time that I have known Brother Gilpin, which is many years, the devil has tried to stop him from preaching the doctrines of grace and printing TBE. Satan has used churches, church members, preachers, boards, and everything he could to stop him and TBE. Everything Satan has tried, has failed. It seems that everything that he tried, instead of stopping him or bringing him down, has lifted him up and blessed him thereby. I feel that King's Addition is what it is today greatly because of the teachings of Brother Gilpin.

Many other churches and preachers in this area and many who are his enemies have been blessed by his preaching, and by the reading of TBE. I know that he has suffered from sickness and accidents lately, but I do not think that this is anything compared to what Bro. and Sister Gilpin have suffered through the years because of the truth that he has preached and printed.

If I would write all that I could about Brother Gilpin and what a blessing he has been to me, it would be a book, thus I cannot write all that I would like to.

I feel that I am one of his closest friends, with Brother Gilpin's friends being my friends — his enemies my enemies — his God, my God.

I would like to say to the members of Calvary Baptist Church and friends of Brother Gilpin, on this day of his 50th year that you set this day aside to thank God for His providence in taking care of him, and giving him grace, and strength, and a will to do and carry on this work that God in His sovereignty, will, and purpose has given him to do. But for God, he would have quit a long time ago.

We should praise God for Brother Gilpin and TBE. We should not exalt Brother Gilpin, but we should exalt his God and pray that this God might use him many more years.

In closing, I would like to use these Scriptures, found in Philip-
pians 4:19-20:

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now unto God our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

Involved . . . Printing

(Continued from page one)

operator, and he sets it in type. Each line that you read in this paper was set on a linotype machine. I might say a linotype to a layman who knows nothing about printing might be compared to an oversize typewriter. The only difference is that a good typewriter costs about \$600, whereas our newest linotype cost a little better than \$17,000. There are over four thousand parts to a linotype, which makes it an exceedingly delicate, complicated piece of equipment. It must be kept in perfect condition at all times in order to operate properly. It usually takes the linotype operator about four or five hours to set the type on one of my weekly sermons. This will give you an idea as to how much time is involved in setting the type for the paper, remembering that my sermon is only a small portion thereof. I might add that our linotype operators are drawing \$5.57½ per hour at present.

After the manuscript has been set in type, we take a proof of it on our proof press, and read it, and make the proper corrections. Our linotype operators are human and they make a lot of mistakes. Sometimes they try to tell me that the linotype machine doesn't know how to spell very well. As you well know, it's not the machine but the operator. After we read the type which has been set on the linotype, we make corrections and get ready for the next step.

I might say that proofreading is a very meticulous and precise duty. We have tried through the years to present a paper that is as free from error as humanly possible. I think that most of our readers will agree that TBE is usually comparatively free from mistakes and errors. This all comes because God has given us the very finest so far as proofreading is concerned.

After making the corrections in the original proof, we then put the type in place on each page. Brethren often ask, "How do you know an article will just fill up a space?" Or in other words they ask, "Why does the paper always come out even with nothing left over so far as the end of the last column is concerned?" Well, there is a reason. When the make-up man puts the type in place on each page, he uses what we call a line gauge, which in a sense could be compared to a ruler. He doubtless uses this line gauge dozens

of times in the making up of the paper, and accordingly, everything fits together perfectly. It usually requires about a day to put together the eight pages of our weekly paper. Of course, some articles go in boxes and these require special work. And as I say, it requires about eight hours time to make up the pages of one issue.

The next step is that of pulling what we call page proof, whereby we take a proof of each of the completed pages. This is done on a much larger press than what we use to make our first proof on.

These pages are then turned over to two or three proof readers, who read the entire page most carefully for errors. They then work together putting their corrections together and turn it back to the linotype operator for still further corrections. When the linotype operator has made these corrections and they have been put in place in the pages, the paper is then put on our newspaper press, and another proof is pulled to be sure that all the last corrections have been properly made. In other words, this means that the paper, by the time that the paper is ready to be printed, has been proofed three times.

We haven't even started to print the paper yet. Thus far, we have just been getting the material together, setting the type, making up the pages, and correcting the proof about three times. But now, we're ready to start the press. Ere we do so, let me tell you that our paper is printed on what is known as a duplex press. It prints off a roll of paper, which is about four feet thick, and weighs over five hundred pounds, and costs about \$125.00. The press is run by a large 25 horsepower electric motor and it prints all eight pages of the paper at one time — printing it and folding it all in one operation. We run it at a speed of about 3500 per hour, although we could run it at 5500 per hour if we desired.

It's a several-hour process to print the paper each week and then it is turned over to our mailing department. In this department, each paper passes through

A WORD FROM OUR PROOFREADER

WE ARE HAPPY TO PRESENT OUR CHIEF PROOFREADER, MISS HAZEL HUTCHINSON, A FAITHFUL MEMBER OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, TBE HELPER, AND PROOFREADER FOR MANY YEARS. MISS HUTCHINSON IS A RETIRED SCHOOL TEACHER AND IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE BEST PROOFREADER WE COULD POSSIBLY HAVE.



"THE BAPTIST EXAMINER holds a very warm place in my heart as it was through TBE that I was providentially led to a true New Testament church where I could be taught the precious doctrines of God's Word. Experiences similar to mine have been repeated over and over again as letters we receive from far and near testify.

Hence, I consider TBE one of the greatest missionary endeavors of the day. It stands, without apology, for the gospel and all doctrines taught in God's Holy Word. God's elect have been led unto salvation; saints have been taught, strengthened, and encouraged to be faithful.

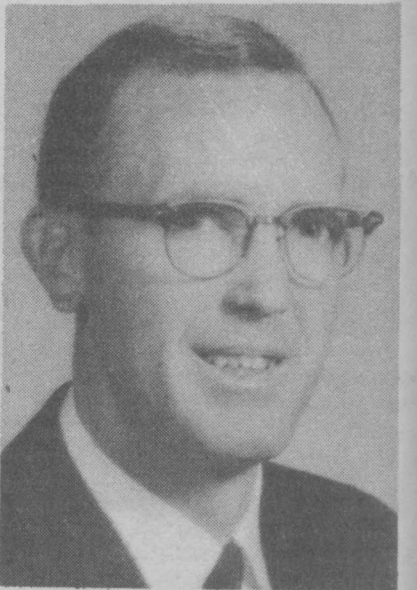
TBE has a world-wide circulation, indoctrinating many preachers, and reaching many people who are not providentially privileged to attend a true Baptist church regularly. We of Calvary Baptist Church thank the Lord for the privilege of sponsoring TBE. I, as a member, count it a privilege and joy to help in its publication by giving of my time as one of TBE's proofreaders.

May the Lord be pleased to grant that each of you will count this missionary endeavor worthy of your support, by your prayers and means, as the Lord may lead.

HAZEL F. HUTCHINSON,
Huntington, W. Va.

Elder Willard Pyle To Conduct Services Thanksgiving Week

Brother Willard Pyle, pastor of the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church of Chesapeake, Ohio, is to conduct services for Calvary Baptist Church for the entire week including Thanksgiving.



ELDER WILLARD PYLE

Knowing Brother Pyle and appreciating his ministry very greatly, I take great pleasure in inviting our friends to worship with us during the week of November 25 through December 1.

Thanksgiving has always been a season wherein we have laid emphasis upon giving thanks, and likewise the ministry of the Word. It is a joy to us to tell you that Brother Pyle will be preaching for us each evening and to invite you to worship with us and hear this man of God preach God's Book.

—J.R.G.

an addressing machine which automatically stamps the name and address on the paper. They are then sorted according to states, cities, areas, and zip codes, put in

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

"Does Salvation By Grace License Sin?"

Titus 2:11-15.

One man writes: "If I believed in salvation by grace alone, and that I could not be lost after being saved, then I would just take my fill of sin. I have a neighbor that I hate, and I would like to kill him. There is another who did me a dirty trick, and I would like to burn his barn and thus get revenge. Also, there is a woman in the community who is beautiful to look at. I would like to have her affections, even if I had to receive them illicitly. Then also I like money exceedingly well, and if I believed what you say, I would get it whether right or wrong. Yes, if I believed that I was saved by grace and that I could never be lost after being saved, I would have a good time in the flesh."

Well, beloved, all I have to say to that individual is that if I had murder, arson, adultery, and thievery in my heart as he says he has, and if I had the desire to live according to my fleshly nature as he says he has, then I would know at once that I had never been saved. I tell you, beloved, any man who has such an attitude toward the Lord Jesus Christ, the plan of salvation, and the life a Christian ought to live as this man states he has — I tell you, such an individual has never been saved, and knows nothing of the amazing grace of God.

However, beloved, that is just a sample of the correspondence that we have, and there are many hundreds who doubtlessly think salvation by grace gives a man license and liberty to live a life of sin thereafter. I trust, by the grace of God, that I shall show you otherwise in this message. . . . My prayer to God in your behalf is that you tonight shall receive the Lord Jesus, and shall be saved not by works, but by His amazing grace, and thus being saved, may your life really count for God, and may you show forth His praise through the life you live. —Saturday, July 5, 1941.

Involved . . . Printing

A Brief History

(Continued from page two)

a mailing sack, and taken to the Post Office. It usually requires about four days to mail the paper after it is printed.

Thus you can see that from the time we receive your manuscript until the time the paper reaches your Post Office, it passes through several hands, and several hours of work have gone into it, as well as several hundred dollars for the paper that we use, and the labor involved in printing it.

If Uncle Sam doesn't fail us and gets it to you, it's all yours from then on. What you do with it, or how long it takes you to read it, or how much you enjoy it is a matter between you and God. It's been a joy though to us to get it out, and I thank God for the privilege of doing so. By the time that you read it, as editor, I'll doubtlessly be working on copy that will appear three or four weeks later at your home.

Maybe you think it's a picnic for us to print it each week, but we think of it as quite a chore. Yet in it all, we thank God that He has called us to perform it each week. —J.R.G.

(Continued from page one)

Simmons of Ashland, Kentucky, being its editor. He asked me to contribute an article to that first issue which I gladly did. Brother Simmons, who never had a superior as an editor, carried the paper for eight years — financially depression years, during which he was only able to get out fifty-nine copies of the paper, which meant an average of only a little better than six papers a year. For a lack of finances, it was necessary that he discontinue the publication of it.

Then it was that God began laying TBE heavily upon my heart. I am frank to say that I did not want to print it. The first two experiences that I had were strongly embedded in my mind and I told the Lord that I did not want to be involved in another paper as its editor.

However, I have learned that if God wants us to do something, we might as well go ahead and do it, for He will keep after us until we are compelled to do so. It's like a sore on your hand. If you leave it alone, it will scab over and get well. If you keep picking

the scab off, it just naturally does not get well. If God wants you to do something, you just might as well go ahead and do it, for He will keep picking at you until you are forced to do so.

It was thus with TBE. For about six months God just picked at me day by day. Everything I did seemed to point to my work as editor.

I even went into a printing shop one day in Greenup, Kentucky, to see the editor on a matter of business. He wasn't there and when he came in and they told him that I had been there and on asking what I had wanted, the man with whom I had talked said, "I think he wants you to print a paper for him." I hadn't said one word about printing a paper when I was in the shop. I was there for an entirely different matter of business. However, the next day, that editor called up and said, "Whenever you are ready to start your paper, I'm ready." It just looked like I was being forced, bulldozed, and hogtied to the task of editing TBE.

When the impression became genuinely real, I called Brother Simmons and asked him what he would take for his mailing list, the paper's goodwill and his government mailing permit. I forget just what it was I paid him. However, it was a very nominal sum, and within a short time, we mailed out our first copy of the paper.

That first paper was printed on February 4, 1939, and with but few providential exceptions, it has gone out weekly from that time to the present.

In the early years, we hired it printed by commercial printers — one in Greenup, Kentucky; one in Benton, Arkansas; one in Grayson, Kentucky; and one in Louisa, Kentucky.

In 1944, we began getting together our own equipment and in a very meager, modest, and small way, we began to print the paper ourselves. In the meantime, the paper had grown in circulation to the extent that these commercial printers just couldn't keep up with us, and they did get us behind from week to week in our mailing. Since the latter part of 1944, we have owned our own equipment and have, with but few exceptions, always kept the paper moving on a regular basis.

Many and varied were the predictions that were offered when we announced the revival of TBE in 1939, after it had been dormant at the hands of Brother Simmons for quite some time. I still have letters that preachers wrote saying that they were glad to see the paper in print, but they offered various predictions concerning the future. All of which made me as blue as indigo to read them. I don't think I had a friend who thought TBE would last six months on a weekly basis.

Well, it has lasted and continues on a weekly basis, for God has raised up the finest group of friends and supporters, who have seen to it that the paper has been carried on, and sent forth through the years. As most of our readers know, we've had a hard time making ends meet from the very beginning. But in the providence of God, we have been enabled to keep the paper in the mail and we hope to keep it in the mail until Jesus calls us in the air.

I admit that I have begged and pleaded both with God and with man for money to carry it on. My slogan has always been: "Trust the Lord and tell His people." This I've done. In spite of the fact that my enemies have called me the world's worst beggar and in spite of many other innuendoes and epithets that were far from complimentary, we have continued week by week to bring this paper to our readers. To God be the glory for the multiplied thousands of copies that we have sent out since February 4, 1939, and to God

"This Mountain"

(Continued from page one)

sight, and they thought we were grasshoppers, too."

The minority report was made by a man by the name of Caleb. He had a confederate by the name of Joshua. These two stood together against the ten, for while the ten said, "We can't do it," the two led by Caleb said, "We are well able to overcome them. Let us go up at once and possess the land."

You remember, of course, that the crowd listened to the majority. They turned back and wandered for forty years, until finally all that crowd died and only two men out of all the camp of Israel that were there at Kadesh-Barnea ever got over into the land of Canaan. Six hundred thousand of them died in the next forty years. Caleb and Joshua, the two who had said, "We are well able to overcome it," crossed over the Jordan River. They got into the land of Canaan.

Five years later, when the land was conquered, and when they were dividing up the property, they gave every man an inheritance. Caleb pointed to the mountain and said, "Forty-five years ago, our friends who went with us over into the land of Canaan, pointed to it. They said, 'We can't take it. The sons of Anak live there and we can't take the land because of those giants that come of the giants — the sons of Anak.'" Caleb said, "I am eighty-five years old. Forty-five years ago, our friends said we couldn't do it. I said that we could. I have had a burning ambition in my breast ever since to avenge the honor of God's people. If you don't mind, just give me this mountain. I'll take it —

be all glory for the souls that have been saved and for the others who tell us that they have been blessed by the reading of TBE through the years.

As the man of God said in the Old Testament, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

And as the song says,

"Tis grace hath bro't me safe
thus far,
And grace will lead me home."

—J.R.G. (Continued on page 4, column 1)

A WORD FROM OUR BOOKKEEPER

HERE IS OUR LONG-TIME BOOKKEEPER, MISS FLORENCE HUTCHINSON, WHO FOR THIRTY YEARS HAS WATCHED AFTER OUR FINANCES IN A MOST REMARKABLE MANNER. IT IS SHE WHO LIKewise PREPARES MY SERMON AS IT APPEARS EACH WEEK IN OUR PAPER. WHEN THE SERMON IS PREACHED, IT IS RECORDED ON TAPE, AND FROM THIS TAPE, SHE PREPARES THE MANUSCRIPT. THIS LADY HAS LITERALLY CONTRIBUTED THOUSANDS OF HOURS OF WORK TO TBE, AND THE ONLY TIME THAT SHE IS EVER PAID FOR WORK IS IN THE SUMMERTIME WHEN SHE ISN'T WORKING AT HER REGULAR TASK OF SCHOOL TEACHING.



I am thankful for my church, Calvary Baptist Church, and for my pastor, Bro. John R. Gilpin. Having been "brought up" on the mourner's bench, feminism, falling from grace, and other false doctrines, I rejoice to have a church and a pastor who stand for the whole truth.

Years ago, before I knew Bro. Gilpin personally, I had the opportunity of hearing him preach. The thing that impressed me then about him was the great number of Scriptures that he read in bringing his message — Scriptures to substantiate the doctrines that he presented. After being my pastor for more than thirty years, I can say that the same has been true during all these years, and is true today — he gives a "thus saith the Lord" for all that he preaches.

I am thankful for a pastor who has been most faithful in preaching the Word of God, and it is my prayer that the Lord will continue to strengthen him and give him many more years to serve Him.

FLORENCE HUTCHINSON,
Huntington, W. Va.

A WORD FROM OUR MAILING CLERK

ABOUT FOUR DAYS OUT OF EACH WEEK, YOU'LL FIND MRS. ALICE NORRIS BUSY AT THE TASK OF MAILING OUT TBE. SHE IS THE ONE WHO HAS THE LAST DUTY TO PERFORM SO FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED BEFORE YOU RECEIVE THE PAPER. SHE IS A LONG TIME FRIEND, A FAITHFUL ATTENDANT OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH FOR ALL SERVICES, AND HAS BEEN IN CHARGE OF MAILING OUR PAPER FOR TWENTY YEARS.



It has been a great joy and privilege to me to have a part in sending out TBE weekly. I am thankful to the Lord that He has enabled me to help with TBE for over 20 years.

I thank the Lord that I am a member of Calvary Baptist Church and that Bro. Gilpin is my pastor, and has been for over 30 years. Bro. Gilpin has been true to God's Word, never wavering, in all the years I have sat under his ministry. He not only has been a good pastor to me, but has been a good friend to my family, also.

ALICE NORRIS,
Flatwoods, Kentucky

"This Mountain"

(Continued from page three)

of us would want low land. We would want bottom ground that we could farm and cultivate. Caleb said, "I'll take the mountain." What does it signify, beloved? I say that it signifies a challenge, it signifies a difficulty, it signifies that a man was willing to face every odd and every obstacle that God might be glorified — that God's Name might be honored.

Beloved, we face lots of mountains.

I

THE MOUNTAIN OF FEAR.

I am sure that every one of us face the mountain of fear. Oh, how many times the mountain of fear has risen up before us! The first thing you do in the morning, you fear. Before you get breakfast, you usually have some fears. You see that mountain all day long. The last thing before you go to bed at night is fear. You wake up in the middle of the night and probably you think of it. All the days of our lives we are surrounded by the mountain of fear. We live in fear, we eat in fear, we sleep in fear, we move in fear. I tell you, beloved, this mountain of fear is a tremendous mountain before every one of us.

However, I am glad to know that our Lord said to us, "Fear not." When Abraham had struck a surprise attack upon the enemy whereby he had defeated those who had carried away his nephew Lot, he was scared to death then because he knew he had struck a surprise attack at night and he knew he was no match for the enemy. He was scared to death as to what might happen. God said to him:

"Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward."—Gen. 15:1.

When the brethren of Israel were going over the land of Canaan, they came to the Red Sea. They looked back and saw the chariots of Pharaoh, the spears and the shields of Pharaoh's army glistening in the sunlight and they knew they were no match for that army—that armed force of Pharaoh. They stood there trembling. They couldn't go forward because of the waves of the Red Sea. They could not go back to Egypt because of Pharaoh's army. They stood there trembling, and God said:

"Fear ye not . . . for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more for ever"—Ex. 14:13.

In the New Testament, as the Lord Jesus Christ thrust a little church into the world, He said to His disciples:

"Fear not, little flock"—Luke 12:32.

The Apostle Paul, writing to those Hebrew Christians, would remind them that in all their troubles, God had said:

"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me"—Heb. 13:6.

I tell you, beloved, this mountain of fear which we stand before this morning—one that we face, causes us to realize that the Lord is able to take care of us, in spite of our fears.

I turn to the Word of God and I find so many times that God said, "Fear not." You remember the time when the children of Israel wanted to cross over the Jordan, to get over into the land of Canaan so badly, but there was the water standing at flood stage. God said to them, "Fear not." Pretty soon, the waters stopped, the waves piled up one on top of another, wave on top of wave, and soon Israel marched dry shod across the Jordan River.

I like to see the day when Israel was encamped before the walls of Jericho and those walls looked so formidable. God said to Joshua, "You tell the people, 'fear not.'"

I like to see the children of Israel when they were over in the land of Babylon, when Daniel was put down into the lion's den. Be-

I was born a totally depraved, vicious sinner; but I did not know it. My parents say that evidences of that sinful disposition began to manifest themselves before I was three days old. The first day I went to school I rebelled at the authority of the school. I had numerous disputes with other students. Some of these disputes ended in blows. I did not know why it was that I preferred to lie rather than to tell the truth; nor why it was that I rebelled at all authority, and defied anyone that opposed me. I went to church, but I was not interested. I was never able to understand myself until I read: "The wicked are estranged from the womb; they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies" (Psa. 58:3). Then I read Psalm 51:5, which says: "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me." Later, as a beloved brother of the cross read: "For we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 2:23). I saw myself as I was,—depraved from birth, with vicious desires and unholy passions; condemned before God. Thus I learned my first great lesson.

Just how to rid myself of the sin I possessed, I did not know. I had attended a Campbellite church, and had heard men speculate about the plan of salvation. I had heard them say with emphasis: "No man can know that he is saved until he gets to heaven." I had heard them read:

"Tis a point I long to know,
Oft it causes anxious thought:
Do I love the Lord, or no?
Am I His, or am I not?"

That type of religion made no appeal to me. If I had possessed that kind of religion, I would have been no better off than I was; I was already in a state of indecision. Then, one night I sat in a Baptist church and heard the scripture: "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). Like a drowning man grasping at a straw, I laid hold of this; and sang that night with others that trusted in the same Savior:

"Happy night, happy night, when Jesus washed my black heart white;
He taught me how to sing and shout, and be a Christian out and out,
Happy night, happy night, when Jesus washed my black heart white."

Then I could say with Paul: "I know whom I have believed" (2 Tim. 1:12). There was no guess-work about this. I could say with Naaman: "Now, I know there is no God, but in Israel" (2 Kings 5:15). As my second great lesson, I had learned that I was a sinner saved by grace.

loved, God said, "Fear not."

I like to see those children of Israel in the land of Babylon at the time when the burning fiery furnace was heated seven times hotter than it was ever heated before. Three Jews were thrown in, but they walked around unharmed, and there within that furnace a fourth one was seen. The Son of God was walking within. As I have often said, it is better to walk in a fiery furnace with Jesus than it is to walk on the outside without Him. As those Jews were thrown into that fiery furnace, He said, "Fear not."

God sealed the heavens for three and a half years in the land of Palestine, in the days of Elijah, so that there was no rain that fell upon the land. When Elijah met with these prophets who had gone over to Baal, out on Mount Carmel, God said, "Elijah, you are by yourself, but fear not."

I want to tell you, beloved, the God of this Bible is a God who speaks to us, and says to us today, "Don't be afraid."

I like the words of the old hymn:

"Ye trembling saints, dismiss your fears,
Be mercy all your theme,
Mercy which like a river flows,
In one continuous stream."

The Three Greatest Lessons I Ever Learned

PASTOR JOHN R. GILPIN, First Baptist Church, Russell, Ky.

We have come to greatly love the writer of this article. We first came to know of him, and to be drawn to him, when we chanced to pick up a copy of the Cincinnati Enquirer that told of the fight he was making against worldliness at that time as pastor of a church in Cincinnati. The section of the city he was in was greatly stirred over a sermon he preached against the modern dance. This sermon was taken up by the Associated Press, and was published in papers all over the country. Closer acquaintance with our brother has increased and deepened our love for him.

As pastor of the First Baptist Church of Russell, our brother's labors have been crowned with phenomenal success. There have been scores of additions to the church. Also the church building has been recently renovated and enlarged. We trust this betokens a solid, scriptural growth. And, best of all, our brother is waging a strong fight in Russell for the truth. He recently met J. W. West, a Campbellite debater of considerable renown, and swamped him with an avalanche of scriptural proof for Baptist doctrines and practices. He is to meet him again in June in Ashland.

This article is a clear declaration of scriptural truth as verified in experience. It shows the author to be, not a mere dry polemic; but a moving, fervent preacher, with a heart-appeal in his messages.—

Editorial Note.

I was so happy in the Lord that I felt this experience just could not last. I concluded that it must end some time. But, lo, it has not ended; but has grown sweeter with each passing day. Thus I learned my third great lesson,—that I was saved eternally, and could never be lost. This was the greatest lesson of all. Now with Paul, I say: "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil. 1:6); or with Peter: "Kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (1 Pet. 1:5); or still again with my blessed Lord: "No man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand" (John 10:29).

"I've found a Friend; oh, such a Friend!

So kind, and true, and tender;

So wise a Counsellor and Guide,

So mighty a Defender!

From Him, who loves me now so well,

What power my soul can sever?

Shall life or death, or earth or hell?

No; I am His forever."

All three of these were learned apart from grammar school, high school, college, or seminary. I learned them alone with God. Dear reader, go thou alone with Him and do likewise!

This was the first article Bro. Gilpin wrote for the first issue of TBE, when Eld. T. P. Simmons was editor. We have photographed it that you might see it as it originally appeared in TBE. This was eight years before Bro. Gilpin assumed editorship.

II

THE MOUNTAIN OF UNKNOWN FUTURE.

What do you know about what is going to happen today? Tomorrow? Next week? 1975? The year 2000? What do you know? Nothing—the unknown future. You and I sail under sealed orders every day. We don't know what is out before us, whether there is a beautiful landscape or a belching volcano, whether there is a little crib or if there is a little grave. We know not what is out before us. We are so prone to worry.

I can remember a farmer years ago, who, one day, said to his wife as they sat at the table, "I just don't know what we are going to do for meat two years from now." She said, "Well, we have fattening hogs that we are preparing for this winter, and their pigs, we'll have for next year." He said, "Yes, but I don't know what we'll do after that."

Isn't that the way most of us look at life? The unknown future—we worry about it.

In a geography class, a teacher was talking about Niagara Falls, how that the falls is wearing away. She said, "In two hundred thousand years, scientists tell us that it will be back to Buffalo." All of a sudden, a little girl in the class

started crying like her heart was broken. When asked the reason of her tears she said, "My sister lives in Buffalo."

The unknown future, beloved, you and I worry about it.

What am I going to do when I get old? Don't tell me that you don't fear about it. "Who is going to look after me when I get old?" "When I die, how am I going to be buried?" You don't know, you might not have to be buried. The Lord Jesus might come. You might be caught away in the skies. You might cheat the undertaker. "How am I going to face all my problems that come up between here and death?" Now isn't that true? Isn't that about the way that most of us act every day? That mountain of the unknown future!

III

THE MOUNTAIN OF ILL HEALTH.

You are thankful, I am sure, for the health that God has given you. To be sure, I am particularly. I know that you are thankful for what God has given to you, but you worry about it. "How about tomorrow?" "How about next year?" "What am I going to do so far as my health is concerned?" Beloved, I have found this to be true, that a lot of the sicknesses (Continued on page 5, column 1)

Many people cast a stale piece of bread upon the waters and expect a chocolate cake in return.

AN HERITAGE OF THE LORD

JAMES E. HOBBS
McDermott, Ohio

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward"—Psa. 127:3.

Any time that a man and his wife are discussed, the children are a part of that discussion. Our text tells us that children are an heritage of the Lord and naturally people are happy when they have children.

The Bible has much to say about children. They are commanded to learn from their father. "Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding" (Prov. 4:1). In fact, we are told that to obey is right. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right" (Eph. 6:1). Colossians 3:20 tells us that children are to obey their parents in all things. "Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord."

As we look at the rebellion and sin in the world today we would do well to stress these truths more. The attitude of most everyone in this day and age is to go just the opposite of these teachings. We do not find respect and obedience in children today. It is the common thing to hear children "sass" their parents, with nothing being done about it. The entire educational system stresses the idea of letting them do as they please, and then when they get into trouble no one can understand why.

When a man is called into the ministry, there are several requirements that he must meet. Of course, he has been saved and has a desire to learn and present the Word of God. It is interesting to note that the Bible stresses personal conduct in respect to being a bishop and especially in respect to his family. "One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his

own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)" (I Tim. 3:4,5). Paul told Titus that he was being left in Crete to set things in order and ordain elders, "if any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly" (Titus 1:6).

Parents are to bring their children up in the nurture of the Lord. "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4).

Considering the fact that this issue is being prepared to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ministry of Bro. Gilpin, it is fitting that his family be included. It is not our intention to glorify either Bro. Gilpin or his family. We trust that in all of this, that any glory will be given to the Lord.

MRS. JOHN D. SMITH



This is my daughter, Rhoda, at one of the musical instruments of our church. She is an accomplished musician and great help to the church, and a special blessing to her father and mother.

As I was talking to two of his children I was impressed with two verses of Scripture. I thought of what the Lord said of Abraham and felt it applied to Brother Gilpin. "For I know, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him" (Gen. 18:19). Both of them made it clear that Bro. Gilpin was very firm and steadfast and was indeed in command of the house.

The other verse of Scripture that came to my mind was in respect to Sister Gilpin. While talking to the children, I could tell that they love and respect their mother very much. "Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her" (Prov. 31:28).

In the years of their marriage, God has blessed them with three children; John, Jr.; Rhoda, who is married to John D. Smith; and Ruth, who is married to Bob Ross.

John, Jr., who is living in Ashland, has four children and one grandchild. In some ways John has been more closely associated with his dad than the girls. He has worked with his dad in the print shop and is now doing most of the work there. While Bro. Gilpin is editor of TBE, John has the biggest job. He is in charge of setting the type, printing the paper, and folding it.

Naturally, the problems that his dad has had through the years have either directly or indirectly affected John, Jr., but through it all he has stood faithfully beside him. While I was talking to him, John, Jr. told me that he felt that his dad had to have been called of the Lord in respect of his ministry. The reason was because of all the many problems that his dad has faced, without quitting.

I asked John if they made many moves from one location to another and he said "No." He said that

they could have moved many times, but his dad chose rather to stand and fight.

John, Jr. has been to every Thanksgiving service since he has been born. One Wednesday he drove 1400 miles in order to make it. He has even been to two services that Bro. Gilpin himself could not make because of illness.

The first girl in the family was Rhoda. Rhoda and "Jack" have five children, and they too live in Ashland. While Rhoda has not been as closely associated with her father as John in the daily routine of life, she has been around much of the time. I had an opportunity to talk to Rhoda about her dad's ministry. She said, while she does not agree with everything he says and does, he has been a blessing to her and her family. In fact, she said that as she gets a little older, she

JOHN R. GILPIN, JR.



Here is the fellow who has stood by me through thick and thin, and has been the greatest son that any man might ask for. I cannot speak too highly of him so far as his service and help is concerned.

has learned to appreciate more fully those lessons that she has been taught. Rhoda said that there is never a Sunday goes by out what she is touched by something in the message that has been delivered by her father. She said that he never fails to magnify God's sovereignty and make it simple enough to be understood by all.

When I asked if she thought he would ever quit preaching, she said "No." She said he would never be happy otherwise. She also said that her children loved, admired, and respected their grandfather. The Bible says, "Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers" (Prov. 17:6).

Ruth, the youngest, is married to Bob Ross, has four living children and one dead. Bob and Ruth are living in Texas and I was unable to talk with her. I wrote and asked her for a statement but due to the lack of time I have not received her answer as I prepare this article for print.

In her younger years Ruth was a lot of help to her father. She even helped with part of TBE by securing articles and preparing them for a section especially for youth. After she was married, of course, she had to be concerned with her own family and eventually moved a long distance from home.

In my closing remarks, let me say that I am sure that Brother and Sister Gilpin have had many happy years and many sad days in their home life. No doubt they look back over the years and think of the many events that have been a part of their lives. Like all parents they weep over the past, but like all Christians they look forward with joy to the time when they will be united with the Lord, for they have been blessed with the knowledge that all of their family has been saved.

"This Mountain"

(Continued from page four)

that most of us have are imaginary, and a great many of the ills that we have are strictly in our minds. You wonder about it as to what you are going to do — that mountain of ill health.

May I remind you that if it is the Lord's will for you to die from some malignant disease, or if it is the Lord's will for you to die of a terrible poisoning, or if it is the Lord's will that some terrible event come into your life physically — may I remind you that He is on the throne. He cares for His own.

A WORD FROM OUR ASSISTANT PROOFREADER

THIS IS ONE OF OUR FRIENDS, THE ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN OF CABELL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY OF HUNTINGTON, W. VA. IN SPITE OF HER MANY RESPONSIBILITIES THERE WHERE SHE HAS OVER 60 PEOPLE WORKING UNDER HER, SHE FINDS TIME EACH WEEK TO ACT AS PROOFREADER. HER WORK NATURALLY MAKES HER EMINENTLY QUALIFIED.



From my earliest memories, The Baptist Examiner came to our home. My mother and father learned much from TBE and, in turn, influenced Jon and me. It was a never-to-be-forgotten event when Mr. Gilpin came to West Virginia to preach in 1956 and we were able to hear him in person.

Not having the opportunity of attending a sound church during college, makes me appreciate even more the privilege of attending Calvary Baptist Church and having Mr. Gilpin as my pastor.

It is a pleasure to participate in the publishing of TBE by reading proof each week. Thank God for Calvary Baptist Church, her pastor, and TBE.

JUDY K. RULE,
Ashland, Kentucky

IV THE MOUNTAIN OF POVERTY.

We all face the mountain of poverty. I think we are all a little closer to it maybe than what we realize today. I am perfectly frank when I say that I think our country is in a terrible condition. But it is a blessing to me to know that in spite of the mountain of poverty, regardless of how it may come to you and to me, God is on His throne.

I was reading of recent date the words of Oliver Wendell Holmes and I thought it is so appropriate when he said:

"O love divine that stoops to share
Our sharpest pang, our bitterest
tear,
On Thee we cast each earth-born
care,
We smile at pain while Thou art
near."

Though long the weary way we
tread,
And sorrow crown each lingering
year;
No path we shun, no darkness
dread,
Our heart's still whispering
'Thou art near.'

When drooping pleasure turns
to grief
And trembling faith is changed
to fear,
The murmuring wind, the quivering
leaf,
Shall softly tell us, 'Thou art
near.'

On Thee we rest our burdening
woe,
O love divine forever dear;
Content to suffer while we know,
Living or dying, 'Thou art near.'

(Continued on page 6, column 1)

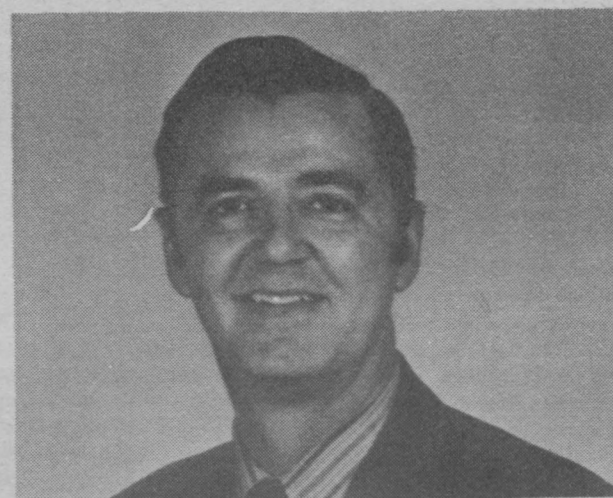
THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

OCTOBER 26, 1974

PAGE FIVE

A PERSONAL WORD FROM OUR CPA

HERE IS A MAN WHO HAS BEEN MORE THAN A FRIEND FOR MANY YEARS. HE HAS HANDLED OUR TAX PROBLEMS IN A WONDERFUL WAY AND HAS ENDEARED HIMSELF TO US. THERE ARE THOSE WHO HAVE "SQUEALED" ON US RELATIVE TO OUR TAXES AND IT HAS BEEN A JOY TO SEE HOW THIS DEAR MAN HAS WORKED WITH THE GOVERNMENT CLEARING US AND SHOWING BY OUR RECORDS THE DULCIFY OF THOSE WHO HAD "TATTLED" TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE. HE IS NOT A MEMBER OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BUT HE AND HIS FAMILY ATTEND SERVICES WITH US QUITE REGULARLY, AND FOR THIS WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL. THERE ARE JUST NOT MANY MEN IN BUSINESS WHO MEAN TO US WHAT OVA KIMBLETON MEANS.



Our association began several years ago when you asked me to do the tax work for the printing company. It has been a pleasure for me to serve you during these years as your tax advisor and CPA. Over a period of years, our relationship has changed from that of two businessmen dealing together into a personal friendship, which I consider most fortunate for me.

I know that my Bible teaches me that it is wrong to envy another, yet I feel thoroughly justified in envying you for the position you have taken throughout all these years as a minister and as a man. I was not privileged to know you during your early life when you were a young minister, but I am glad to say that I know you now as a minister working for the service of God, serving others that they might believe and reach that Heavenly Home, which we all hope to gain. On Thanksgiving Day of 1974, you will have served in the ministry of God for 50 years.

I know of the physical disabilities which you have overcome so that you might continue to serve God in the Calvary Baptist Church and its membership. I hope and pray that your health will continue to improve and that you not only finish your 50 years in the ministry, but that the church may enjoy your preaching for many years to come.

Sincerely,
OVA KIMBLETON

"This Mountain"

(Continued from page five)

THE MOUNTAIN OF SORROW.

The mountain of sorrow comes to each of us. Sooner or later, you are going to have some sorrow in your life. Maybe today, maybe tomorrow, but ultimately, some sorrow is going to come into your life. It may be a loved one that will be taken in death. It may be that some tragic experience shall overcome you. Sooner or later, this mountain of sorrow is going to confront us. How wonderful it is to know, beloved, that when the mountain of sorrow stands in our path, we have One to whom we can go.

VI

THE MOUNTAIN OF DEATH.

Out before you, unless Jesus comes, is your grave. I often say, as I look back across life, it seems to me that about all I can see back there is graves and graves and graves — graves of loved ones, graves of fathers and mothers, and brothers and sisters, graves that are all filled in. The grass is growing on most of them. It seems, as I look backwards, that is all I can see today.

Then as I look out in front, it looks like all that I can see out there is just graves and graves. The difference is that these behind us are filled in, while those before us are open. Mine is out there, yours is out there. The grave of every one of us is out there, and some of these days, we are going to come down to that grave unless the Lord comes first and catches us home.

Some of these days, we are going to come down to the last step of the way. We are going to step down into that grave. That mountain of death stands before us. Do I want to die this morning? No. Do you have grace to die with this morning? No. I don't even have enough grace to live by today. What I need today, beloved, is not dying grace, but living grace, and I don't even have enough of that to keep me going as I would like to. But I know one thing, that when the time comes that I come down to the hour of death, the God who has gone before me each step of the way, that God will provide the grace that I need for my dying day.

CONCLUSION

I turn to the Word of God and I find another mountain that means a lot to me, and that is Mount Zion. We read:

"But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his path: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more"—Micah 4:1-3.

Beloved, I am looking forward to the day when I stand with our Lord on Mount Zion. Oh, how blessed it is to know that there is a time coming when this old world is going to be different to which it is today! All the trials and problems are going to end. The mountains that confronted us, that we have had to face, will all be in the background, and then we are going to stand on the mountain that is really going to mean something to us — when all the nations of the world shall go up to the mountain of the Lord, when war is no more and peace prevails within the world, and when we walk in the paths of the Lord and the law shall go forth out of Zion. What a day is in store for the child of God!

When I think of Caleb and his experience, I likewise think of some of the experiences through which I have passed. In retrospect of my fifty years in the ministry, I have



(Reading left to right) Mrs. Georgia Halliman and children, Rhoda, John, Daniel, Peter, and Grace. Though Brother Halliman is far away in New Guinea, his family lives here near to Ashland.

We have assurance that unless they are providentially hindered, they are always in the service at God's house. What a blessing to be pastor of this missionary's family!

faced many mountains.

As a boy, I was faced with the mountain of poverty. When I went to college, I had only \$40.00 in money and one suit, and the gable end of the britches was mighty thin. With no help from any human — only from God — I went through college. It wasn't easy. I swept two rooms in a college building and did the janitorial work there which paid for two-thirds of my room and board. After supper, I worked for a painting contractor until nine o'clock. Studying was done after that. It was a mountain to be sure, but God blessed in it all. And in my senior year, I even paid another person's college expenses as well as my own.

The mountain of sickness has always reared its ugly head for me. My wife has been quite seriously ill on several occasions throughout my ministry, and I, too, have had many experiences when I felt that Jordan's chilly waters were going to soon roll over my feet. Looking back today, I can say like Ezekiel, "I was spared."

Then there has been the mountain of financial problems as to TBE. It's not been an easy matter to finance our paper. In fact, it has been most difficult. Many are the times that I have felt like quitting, and there have been several times when I felt like I would have to quit. Always, God has stood by us and taken care of us. There's never been a time when we have had surplus money but somehow, God has always seen us through.

There have been mountains of heresy that we have faced — lodgism, universal churchism, alien immersion, open communion, feminism, modernism, unionism, the priesthood of the churchism — and then some — we have faced them all. This has resulted in mountains of false friends. Some of those that we have done the most for have proven to be the greatest enemies that we have. This is hard to understand how people can take from you consistently for years and then turn their backs upon the individual that has helped them most and bite the hand that has fed them. Growing out of this mountain of heresy is also the mountain of enemies by way of mission boards, church members, Convention organizations, and false preachers.

Yes, we have had lots of moun-

tain and I imagine that we will have many more. In fact, like Caleb, I still want some more. I have never run from any difficulties and I don't expect ever to do so. I plan to keep on in His service until He calls me home. There is no retirement in sight for me. And if it please the Lord, I want to keep busy until I either go home, or else till Jesus comes, remembering that He said, "Occupy till I come."

Caleb has been one of my heroes and idols through the years. I'd like to be the same in behalf of lots of young preachers and young Christians who are coming on. If it could be that my ministry is respected and even idolized by some young man, I certainly would want him to never be disappointed, but rather, I want him to always look at me as one who never gave up, but rather as one who continued to say, "Give me this mountain."

I think about those of you that are unsaved and my heart goes out to you. There is a mountain before you today — a mountain of your past life. God knows that it isn't anything that you would like to face today. There isn't a one of us here but what we have in our past that which we would hate to have to face today. There is, I say, that mountain of your past life, and there is that mountain of guilt that rises up before you. I ask you, sinner friend, doesn't that mountain of guilt worry you today?

The songwriter says:

"Could my tears forever flow,
Could my zeal no languor know,
These for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone:
In my hand no price I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling."

Oh, I tell you, sinner friend, that mountain of your past life and that mountain of your guilt surely stand today as a tremendous burden out before you. Some of these days, the Word of God tells us, unsaved people are going to look up to the mountains, and they are going to cry to the mountains:

"Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the

throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb"—Rev. 6:16.

When that day of God's wrath comes, nobody is going to be able to stand. No one? Thank God, everyone who is in Christ Jesus will be able to stand. God pity those of you who know not the Lord Jesus Christ. May God bless you!

Many Pictures

(Continued from page one)

be like him; for we shall see him as he is"—I John 3:2.

Maybe this is the reason why I have reluctantly used my picture across the years.

However, in this paper, we are making an exception and I am trying to show you both by the words of friends, and by pictures, something of God's blessings upon my ministry. I do thank Him for all that He has done, and I take pleasure in sending out this paper containing these many pictures that God might be glorified thereby.

—J.R.G. (Continued on page 25, column 2)

HELL

"And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom." — Luke 16:23.

I presume that every subject in the Bible has been grossly perverted. I don't know a single doctrine but what is very much perverted and misapplied. However, I doubt very seriously if there is any one subject that has been as badly twisted and misapplied and perverted, and even lied upon, as the subject of Hell. In fact, there are several lies that have been told on Hell.

Bob Ingersoll said there wasn't any Hell. That was a lie and Bob knew it.

A second lie that has been told about Hell is that told by the modernistic preacher — that Hell is a figure of speech, and that we get our Hell here in this world.

Lie No. 3 is the lie that the Russellites preach. They say that a man dies and goes to torment and suffers for a little while — maybe not much.

Then if he will not repent and be saved, he will be thrown in Hell, and like a chunk of coal, will be burned up.

ELDER FRED T. HALLIMAN



Bro. Halliman is the beloved missionary to New Guinea, where work is sponsored by Calvary Baptist Church. He and his wife and five children are all members of Calvary. To say that all the members thank God most deeply for them is to express too mildly our sentiment in their behalf. Thank God for this great missionary and his family.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

OCTOBER 26, 1974

PAGE SIX

Appreciated Comments On The Part Of Calvary Baptist Church Members

By HAZEL HUTCHINSON
Huntington, W. Va.

contended for the Truth for these we have a radio broadcast and a past fifty years. paper that really tells the truth.

Imogene Wells,
Wurtland, Kentucky

David Fritz,
Ashland, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★

I believe Calvary Baptist Church is of the same type and order of the first church established by our Lord and the Apostles. It is a joy and privilege to belong to, and be affiliated with this local body.

Paul Lewis,
Huntington, W. Va.

★ ★ ★

I get a blessing and learn a lot from THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. There is no finer paper than it is. Bro. Gilpin is the greatest preacher I know. He really stands for the Truth. My daughter and I are proud to be members of Calvary Baptist Church.

Mrs. Mabel Williams,
Franklin Furnace, Ohio

★ ★ ★

A dear friend of mine sent me TBE when Bro. Gilpin first started printing it, which has been a blessing all of these years. I became ill in 1949. I was never in church until 1960 so the Bible and TBE were all I had for my spirit's food. That made me really enjoy and learn the truth of God's Word.

When I got so hungry for more truth, I began to think about a church. Of course, I could find none other than Calvary Baptist Church that I thought taught the whole truth as I had read in TBE. I asked Bro. L. D. Gibson who had baptized me what I should do, because it was ten miles away and I didn't drive. His answer was Prov. 23:23. That was enough. Now I have been a member for fourteen years which have been happy years for me. The Lord has always provided my transportation.

As for Bro. Gilpin, I think I Cor. 15:58 speaks more plainly than I can. He has been a real "war horse" for God's Word and has been a blessing that we will never know until we reach the other side.

Mrs. Ethel Snoddy,
Wurtland, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

I am most thankful to God that He has given me the privilege of being a member of one of His true churches, Calvary Baptist Church of Ashland, Kentucky; that He has given us a great pastor, Elder John R. Gilpin, who preaches the Word of God, never compromising; and granted this church the privilege of doing a great missionary work: weekly publication of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER; Sunday morning radio broadcast; and a great missionary, Elder Fred T. Halliman, in New Guinea.

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

Blanche H. Meade,
Huntington, W. Va.

★ ★ ★

I would like to express my thanks to the Lord for what He has done. He has given us a great church to go to, and the best preacher I know of. I believe that he is a sound preacher. I am also thankful that

I would like to relate my appreciation to the Lord for what He has done for me.

He has taken me to several churches, but I think this church is where He would have me to go. I'm very thankful for Calvary Baptist Church because of its pastor, fellowship, and all it stands for.

But most of all, I am thankful for Bro. Gilpin, because I believe that he preaches just what the Lord teaches.

I'm also happy for the paper, THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, that the Lord has blessed us with. I pray that the Lord will continue to bless us.

Dennis Fritz,
Ashland, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

We are so happy and thank the Lord that we are members of Calvary Baptist Church, Ashland, Ky., even though we are fairly new members.

Last year at this time, we were visiting different Baptist churches in the Tri-State area, trying to find a true and sound church. We were disappointed as we could not find any. Last Thanksgiving, November 1973, we visited Calvary Baptist Church. We didn't go anywhere else after that. We knew the Lord had led us to the church we had been looking for. We really enjoyed and rejoice in Bro. Gilpin's messages. They are always from the Word of God, and nothing else. We have really been blessed since being members of Calvary Baptist Church and having Bro. Gilpin as our Pastor. We are sure that he is a special messenger for these apostate times, with the only message to those who are falling away from God's doctrines and Truth as revealed in His Holy Word.

We pray that Bro. Gilpin has many more years in the Lord's service.

Mr. and Mrs. Winfred Miller,
Chesapeake, Ohio

★ ★ ★

I deem it a real pleasure and a great privilege to be a part of Calvary Baptist Church and her missionary endeavors as set forth via THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, a church where the "whole counsel of God" is proclaimed and practiced.

Needless to say, many have been the attacks of Satan against the church and our pastor. Praise God, both the church and Bro. Gilpin have stood firm for the doctrines of grace!

May it please God to stir up His people everywhere, and grant us grace to be faithful to His Word, lest there be a diminishing of the truth in our lives.

Jewel Fritz,
Ashland, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

Excerpts

(Continued from page one)

Snake,
"Who winded in and winded out
And left the viewer all in doubt,
Whether the snake that made the
track
Was going north or coming
back."

I thank God that by His grace He has kept me sound and true to the faith through the years without any wavering or change. With some preachers, it's best not to quote them, as to what they believed yesterday, for they may have changed their position. This is certainly not true with the editor of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, and we print these excerpts particularly to encourage young Baptist preachers to get their feet on solid ground and to stand firm for the truth of God's Word thereafter.

—J.R.G.

We appreciate our Pastor, and what he stands for — also the beautiful church building the Lord has permitted us to have.

Carl and Maxine Massie,
Huntington, W. Va.

★ ★ ★

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER is to me, the best paper in the world. Bro. Gilpin is a very kind and nice person, also a good pastor. The church is the best church that I know of.

John Halliman,
Garrison, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER to me is one of the greatest papers published as it brings forth the Word of God — teaching one who has an open mind and a willing heart. Our church to me is a most wonderful place of worship, as our dear pastor who stands for the Truth, teaches us from the Word of God. He has stood faithfully all these years. He has not leaned to one side or the other, but just goes by God's leadership. I thank our dear Heavenly Father for showing us the way each day that passes, where we are to go, and how we are to do things that come across our path. My prayer and desires are to serve our Lord in His church at Calvary Baptist Church, and to uphold our pastor as long as he preaches God's Word.

Mrs. Fred T. Halliman,
Garrison, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

What Calvary Baptist Church means to me is, it is the only place that there is for worship. The pastor is the most wonderful pastor I have ever had. THE BAPTIST EXAMINER is the most wonderful paper in the United States.

Grace Halliman,
Garrison, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

We have been richly blessed at Calvary Baptist Church.

The love of the pastor for the Word of God, and the love of the Lord Jesus, the head of the church, is reflected in the people. They have responded to his faithful ministry by a growth in grace seen and felt by one coming into their fellowship such as we did, less than two years ago.

I have known Bro. Gilpin for over forty years. I first sat under his preaching and teaching as a young man just out of high school.

He preaches the same truth today that he did then, but there is a depth to it now which shows that his walking with the Lord, and the Lord's providential hand upon him, overrules the persecution of the enemies of the Lord and Brother Gilpin. He stands tall because he has a great God.

Pastor Gilpin's preaching has been a great blessing to Mrs. Croy. She looks forward to his preaching of the Word.

I have been greatly blessed by Pastor Gilpin, Mrs. Gilpin, and their family. They together with you (of Calvary Baptist Church) have warmly welcomed us. We are grateful for this.

I have enjoyed my teaching at Calvary . . . you have challenged me to a greater study of the Word.

You have given me a sense of being used of God in His service that I wondered if I would ever realize again.

Eld. Owen J. and Mary Croy,
New Boston, Ohio

★ ★ ★

What Calvary Baptist Church means to me: it means one of the best places of worship to me.

What Bro. Gilpin means to me: he means one of the best preachers and one who has stood by God's Word all these years.

What THE BAPTIST EXAMINER means to me: it means the most wonderful paper in the world and best.

Peter Halliman,
Garrison, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

Calvary Baptist Church is one of the few churches in the United States that stands for the truth.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER means to me the only paper in the U.S. that has all the truth and nothing but the truth.

Brother Gilpin means to me the greatest friend and pastor in the U.S.

Daniel T. Halliman,
Garrison, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

"And now, Lord, the time has come for thy servant to speak." When Mr. Gilpin prays these words, the Scripture in II Peter 2:21 concerning holy men of old preaching God's Word is brought to mind.

Thank the Lord for this servant's faithfulness in declaring the whole counsel of God for fifty years in the church Jesus built.

Mrs. S. W. Rule,
Ashland, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

Brother Gilpin, have you ever wondered how many people have come to know the Truth through hearing you preach and through reading TBE. I'd imagine it's many more than even you'd think and probably you'll never know until you reach the Promised Land. I'm glad I'm one of them!! I can not really get over our good fortune to be united with a true church like Calvary. I pray for my children, too, that they may come to know our Lord personally — that He will call them out. I wouldn't trade my heritage in Christ for anything this world has to offer! And I'm so unworthy.

Still hoping to meet you and Mrs. Gilpin in the flesh one of these days.

Yours in Christian love,
Gail Knowles,
Coventry, Conn.

★ ★ ★

I'm very glad to belong to a church that preaches and believes the Bible. So many places only teach their version of the Bible. I want to hear what God has said. Also I am so glad I can bring my children to a church where I know they will hear how to be saved and be around true Christians.

Thank you so much for standing up for the truth of God's Bible.

Mrs. John C. Pratt,
Chesapeake, Ohio

(Continued on page 8, column 1)

CONGRATULATIONS FROM GEORGIA

I know that you are thankful indeed to have reached fifty years in the ministry. What a joy it must be to you to know that you have been blessed of the Lord to preach so long! May the Lord bless you many years yet to pastor Calvary Baptist Church, and to continue to send out The Baptist Examiner.

I have been reading the Examiner for some eighteen years, and what a blessing it has been to me through the years. It has been a blessing to my ministry. It is like a continuing study course. I would not want to be without it. Reading the good Scriptural messages helps my spiritual appetite to be satisfied.

May the blessings of Him who knoweth our hearts and our minds keep you and yours in His care.

Yours by His grace,

Elder David S. West, Pastor
Rye Patch Baptist Church
Jessup, Georgia

CONGRATULATIONS FROM TENNESSEE

I would like to take this opportunity to express to Bro. Gilpin my deep appreciation for his fifty years in the ministry, and congratulate him on reaching this milestone in his ministry.

I would also like to express my deep and lasting appreciation for The Baptist Examiner, and to its Editor, Bro. Gilpin. I have been receiving The Baptist Examiner for over twenty years, and I can truthfully say that it has been a real blessing to me. In my honest opinion it is the greatest Baptist paper in print, today. I would like to point out, however, that a paper is only as good as its editor and only as sound doctrinally as its editor.

I know that Bro. Gilpin has been subjected to many unpleasant things. He has been persecuted and maligned, yet through it all he has been a real soldier of the Cross, and by the grace of God has survived. When the curtain comes down on The Baptist Examiner, and when Bro. Gilpin lays down the working tools of life, I know that He will say "To God Be The Glory."

Elder Wayne Cox, Pastor
Grace Memorial Baptist Church
Memphis, Tennessee

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

OCTOBER 26, 1974

PAGE SEVEN

CONGRATULATIONS FROM TEXAS

Twenty-eight years ago I started reading "The Baptist Examiner." Editor Gilpin stated in one issue that he didn't know an Associational Baptist preacher who believed the doctrine of Election. I immediately wrote him and told him I not only believed it, but preached it. I received a prompt reply. This common courtesy on his part caused us to form a fast friendship that has never waned.



Through these twenty-eight years, TBE has been a blessing to my life. I think it is the best overall religious periodical in print.

I love and appreciate Brother John R. Gilpin and thank the Lord for his ministry.

The doctrines of Sovereign Grace, the Church, the Ordinances and the Pre-Millennial return of Jesus are taught more consistently in this paper than any in the world.

May your 50th Anniversary in the ministry be an high spiritual day. God bless you always.

Elder Harold Brunson, Pastor
Tabernacle Baptist Church
Jacksonville, Texas

Comments

(Continued from page seven)

Dear Pastor and Calvary Baptist Church:

Sixty-three years ago last March, our precious Lord graciously saved me and planted the joy bells of salvation ringing in my soul. Through these many years, He has brought many wonderful things in my life and has been a constant companion.



One of the most marvelous of all was His providence in having TBE sent to me, and using it to open my eyes to the many Scriptural Truths taught in it, that I could find in no other paper.

Consequently, I could no longer belong to, and worship in a false church, and I was perplexed as to how I could ever become a member of one of His true churches.

But thanks be unto God, for He not only opened my eyes, but He also provided the way through our beloved Pastor Gilpin for me to become a member of Calvary Baptist Church, and Calvary Baptist Church authorized Bro. Jim Blair of Sumas, Washington, to baptize me into the church.

With a joyful heart, I praise our wonderful Saviour for His bountiful blessings and providence.

Opal Sawhill,
Sandpoint, Idaho

★ ★ ★

I thank the Lord for Bro. John R. Gilpin, my pastor, and for Calvary Baptist Church. I wouldn't want to go to church anywhere else.

Mrs. Mattie C. Fitch,
Ashland, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

It was through THE BAPTIST EXAMINER that I became acquainted with Bro. Gilpin. Anyone who reads TBE knows that Bro. Gilpin is sound concerning the Word of God.



In April of 1972, God granted me the privilege of becoming a member of Calvary Baptist Church. The blessings I receive through the fellowship of my church, my pastor and TBE, though many miles separate us, are too numerous to count.

To share in a small way is a blessing for which I humbly thank and praise God.

Florence Milford,
Bay St. Louis, Miss.

★ ★ ★

These are perilous times we are living in today. But we take heart and thank God for you, for your faithfulness in His service for fifty years, laboring on the field, on radio, and editing THE BAPTIST EXAMINER each week.

We've been getting TBE for 35 years, so we feel like we know you

CONGRATULATIONS FROM INDIANA

Brother Gilpin, Just a short note to tell you that I do appreciate the ministry of The Baptist Examiner these twenty-odd years that I have known you.



I got hold of T.B.E. through a Christian man who said I believed many things such as are in T.B.E. He didn't believe those Truths then, but he believes them now! (He died about ten years ago).

I believe T.B.E. is the finest BAPTIST paper that is in print today. I don't always agree with every detail (and who does?) and thought, but do agree that it is a Baptist paper for Baptist people.

I have said for many years that the Bible (The New Testament) is a Baptist Book! WRITTEN about Baptists, by, for, and to make Baptists. TBE helps the young, the middle-aged, and the aged Christian. The Lord of Glory has used His WORD, and will continue to use HIS WORD, if it be spoken, or if it be read, to HIS GLORY!

We at this time bow our heads and thank HIM, who knows the thoughts and intents of all hearts, for HE is GOD! The Lord continue to bless you is our prayer.

I remain a Loyal (but not worthy) Servant of HIM.

Elder Ralph E. Hawkins, Sr.
Pastor, First Baptist Church
Nappanee, Indiana

very well.

We know you are God's man, in God's church, in the right place, in the right time, carrying on the great commission once delivered unto the saints of old.

And we count it a privilege and blessing to be a part of it all. May God grant you many more years in His service.

Frank and Kathryn Parrish,
Courtland, Virginia

★ ★ ★

As members of Calvary Baptist Church, we would like to testify to the fact of how much we appreciate the church, TBE, and the pastor. The reasons are:



1. We're out-of-state members who definitely believe we are led of the Lord to join Calvary Baptist Church, because of her stand for the Word of God, and our convictions that God's Word must not be compromised.

2. We look forward each week for TBE with much anticipation because it always contains messages, studies (commentaries) and discussions (Forum) on the Word of God, which enlightens, encourages, and edifies the saints, and most of all glorifies the Lord Jesus.

3. Last but not least, we are grateful for our pastor, truly a man sent from God who has kept the faith, resisted the Devil, and continues to uphold and stand for Bible truths in a day when most preachers (so-called) would rather compromise than contend.

We join with the rest of Calvary Baptist Church in thanking God through our Lord Jesus Christ for Bro. Gilpin on his 50th anniversary in the ministry, and as our pastor.

Gaylord and Thelma Haubert,
Tampa, Florida

CONGRATULATIONS FROM GEORGIA

I am a firm believer in the plans and purposes of God. I believe within the plans and purposes of God, He has been pleased to use certain means to accomplish His desired results.



The Baptist Examiner has certainly been a means that God has used to give me more knowledge of the Word of God. I praise the day when I began to receive this great Christian weekly. I am a better pastor, and the church I pastor is a better church because of The Baptist Examiner.

I would like to encourage every church that is not a regular supporter of The Baptist Examiner, to support this great paper on a monthly basis.

Elder Gordon Buchanan
Pastor
West Griffin Baptist Church
Griffin, Georgia

God, which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraining but willingly. Not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock." I Peter 5:2,3.

Pray for me for I feel very sad that I shall be missing out on the precious blessings of these God-given, God-honoring services. I pray that each and all of you shall receive great spiritual refreshment and blessings. May it be God's plan and pleasure to save all the lost in attendance.

Grace be with you all.

Mrs. Ellen Pinkerton,
Fayetteville, Arkansas

★ ★ ★

The only "church" we get are the tapes and THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. It's really refreshing to be able to put a tape full of sound eternal purpose.

ten while heretical preachers are preaching their lies all around us. And you, as a preacher, have a way of getting points across in your messages that no other preacher possesses. TBE is very helpful and inspiring — we couldn't do without it.

To sum it up, living in this part of the world where heretical preachers and false churches have a firm grip on the people, to hear the pure, clear Gospel is something indescribable. A lot of people poke fun at us because we "belong to a church in the States, and even tithe. Aren't the churches in Canada good enough?"

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Brooks,
Creighton, Sask., Canada

★ ★ ★

In writing this word of testimony concerning what THE BAPTIST EXAMINER has meant to me, I go back to the time when I first began to read TBE. I don't remember the exact date, but it was either 1939 or 1940. My pastor at that time had received some copies and gave me one to read. I liked it so much I subscribed for it and have been reading it ever since.

As a young Christian, I had a great desire in my heart to know more about God and His Will for me. THE BAPTIST EXAMINER helped me to learn more about Him by giving a "Thus saith the Lord" and giving the chapter and verse where it was found.

Through the years, THE BAPTIST EXAMINER and my pastor, Bro. Gilpin, have been a great blessing to me in not only teaching the truth of God's Word, but also in pointing out the many false doctrines that are taught by many, contrary to the Word of God.

I will always be grateful to my Lord that He led me to be a member of Calvary Baptist Church and have Bro. Gilpin as my pastor. I would that I might meet with you more often and enjoy fellowshiping with you.

Psalm 119:89: "For ever, O Lord, thy Word is settled in heaven." Since His Word is settled in Heaven, I want to be obedient to it while journeying through this life, that I might bring glory to God, my Heavenly Father, and the Lord

Jesus Christ, my Saviour. Psalm 50:23: "Whoso offereth praise glorifieth Me." Psalm 148:1: "Praise ye the Lord." I do praise and thank the Lord for the blessings He has given me through the knowledge of His Word. Thank you for teaching me the Word of God.

Mrs. Dewey V. Shannon,
Charlotte, Tennessee

★ ★ ★

Brother Gilpin to me is a wonderful preacher. He has stood by the Bible all the way. The Lord has really blessed Bro. Gilpin in His truth.

To me, Calvary Baptist Church is a wonderful church. The people at the church love the Lord so well. And the Lord has really blessed our church these past few months.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER to me is a wonderful paper. It teaches the Word of God, and I just love to read it. The Lord has really blessed the Examiner.

Rhoda S. Halliman,
Garrison, Kentucky

★ ★ ★

Now to sum up this article, I was asked to prepare: I didn't think it appropo to ask any of Bro. Gilpin's family for a statement, and I haven't gotten letters from all our members, but am glad for these printed above.

And for a closing testimony, here is my personal note of appreciation.

Several years ago — more than I care to mention — in the providence of God I received a copy of THE EXAMINER, and also, I began listening to a program on radio conducted by John R. Gilpin. Occasionally, my sisters, some friends, and I would attend revival services sponsored by the church of which Bro. Gilpin was then pastor. That's how God answered my prayer in which I asked Him to direct me to one of His true churches. I knew there were churches somewhere that embraced all the doctrines of God's Word, because Jesus said in Matthew 16:18 that He would build His church.

All the churches that I had attended, without exception, did not teach the whole truth. The Baptist doctrines which we treasure and hold dear to our hearts were seldom taught. Salvation many times was by works, grace plus works, or baptism. Many churches were more interested in the social hour than in spiritual edification, as was evidenced by the banquets, suppers, weiner roasts, ball clubs, quiltings, etc. — many of which were held in the Fellowship Hall in the basement of the so-called church.

How I do thank and praise God for directing me to Calvary Baptist Church and for a pastor like Bro. Gilpin, who, in all these years I have known him, has never failed to preach God's Word.

May it please God to give him many more years in His service!

Hazel Hutchinson,
Huntington, W. Va.

★ ★ ★

The pleasures of sin are "for a season," but its wages are for eternity.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM MICHIGAN

It is almost impossible to express with words the instruction, the comfort, the advice, and even the reproof we have received from the "Baptist Examiner."

This world is certainly a desert of wickedness. "The Baptist Examiner," stands as an oasis in that desert, providing no small refreshment on your journey to that city wherein we have our citizenship.

We pray that the Lord will continue to grant us the use of that oasis "The Baptist Examiner" provides. After fifty years in the ministry we pray God will continue to use you and Calvary Baptist Church for His eternal purpose.

To God be the glory — great things He hath done.



Medford Caudill
Pastor, Sovereign Grace
Landmark Baptist Mission
Battle Creek, Michigan

We Are Happy To Present The Edifice Of Calvary Baptist Church



ELDER OWEN CROY
Portsmouth, Ohio

I want to introduce you to the edifice of Calvary Baptist Church in the worship service of our Lord. The building is both a testimony to the Lord in Ashland, as well as across the length and breadth of the country --- it is a testimony to the fifty years of Pastor Gilpin's ministry. As he travelled greatly throughout the entire United States, various ideas as to church buildings have been stored in his mind across the years, and these have now found fruition when the days approached for the actual planning and construction of Calvary Baptist Church. Virtually every detail of our building came as a result of his visits with hundreds of churches in America. The building is located at 3339 Thirteenth Street in Ashland. As we observe it, we recognize it as Gothic architecture. The front of the sanc-

tuary faces Thirteenth Street and is constructed of two types of bricks. The central portion of the front of the church is Roman brick from the foundation to the spire that points Heavenward. On the two sides of this section of Roman brick is wire-cut brick---same red shade as the Roman brick ---but a contrast since it is of a more ordinary type of brick.

In the front of the church, there are no doors or windows, but we see the entrance to the church on the left side of the edifice. On arriving at the church building, the worshipper walks, or can enter the church by using a walker, or a wheelchair, or crutches without ever going up one step -- the walk along the side of the building is level with the sidewalk. This walk, which extends the entire length of the sanctuary brings us through glass doors into a hall that we enter.

Surrounding these glass doors by which we enter, is Roman brick and

just above these doors and slightly to the left is a bell tower with a very fine bell erected in it. This bell reminds us of the old song:

"How sweet on a clear Sunday morning
To list to the clear ringing bell."

As we walk from the front of the church to the glass doors, we see on our right the stained glass windows and on our left, in addition to the church's restrooms, there is a classroom and the church's library.

At the far end of the hall into which we have entered, we see steps for the first time. These lead to the basement. Up to now, all has been on the same level as the sidewalk in front of the church. We take a few steps after we enter the glass doors into this hall and thus we enter on the right into the spacious and beautiful sanctuary of Calvary Baptist Church.

Our eyes see immediately the floor (the same level as the sidewalk and the front of the building) all covered with a beautiful maroon tweed carpet. There are thirty-four plush seated pews which invite us to be more comfortable during the service, and the auditorium thus furnished will seat about five hundred persons.

The walls on the inside are of block and are restfully painted. The ceiling of our building is open to the roof and above us, there are five stained beams which support the roof. Truly, this auditorium is most beautiful and most worshipful.

Fourteen Harvest Festival Chandelier lights with five 60-watt bulbs on each hang from the ceiling to light the sanctuary. These are antique brass and blend in well with all the furniture of the sanctuary.

Speaking of furniture, it is all made of hardwood and matches perfectly.

Just inside the door as you enter to the right is the offering box. No collections are ever taken here and

the worshipper can make his offering, known only to God.

Several flower stands which likewise match the rest of the furniture are in the auditorium as well as two Baldwin musical instruments (piano and organ) are located at the front of the auditorium. Just in front of the pulpit stand is the Communion table which is used quarterly and on which one loaf and one cup of wine symbolizes the death of our Lord, while one church (Calvary Baptist Church) participates in this Memorial Supper.

On the platform in the front of the building is one of the most beautiful pulpits that might be found in any church. Brethren who have visited with us have many times commented upon the beauty and the weight and the design of this solid oak pulpit stand. Just behind the pulpit next to the baptistry, there is

a pew for the pastor, visiting preachers, and song leader --- commonly known as a clergy pew. On each side of the platform, there are three pews for choir needs. Calvary Baptist Church has no need for these as yet due to the size of our congregation. However, we are trusting that as the days pass by, we shall grow somewhat, and these have been installed in anticipation. All this on the platform is situated behind the railing which extends across the entire front of the platform.

One unique feature of this church is the baptistry. It is directly behind the pulpit, somewhat elevated with a glass front and is not concealed by the pulpit. It is entered from dressing rooms on either side, located just back of the choir seats. This baptistry is made of rock and during the baptismal service, water

(Continued on Page 10)

CONGRATULATIONS FROM WEST VIRGINIA

As I write this letter to express my appreciation and gratitude for what this paper and its editor have meant to me, many are the thoughts that pass through my mind. Let me share some of these thoughts with you.



My introduction to the Baptist Examiner was through Bro. Gilbert Cade soon after I was saved and baptized into the Big Creek Baptist Church. God revealing His word to me and with the aid of The Baptist Examiner I grew in grace and knowledge of the Lord.

Since being called into the ministry, it continues to be a great blessing. Even in the few times of disagreement I am still thankful for its unaltered and uninfluenced stand.

God's people this nation over should be thankful for its hard stand against such devilish isms as Romanism, Campbellism, Freewillism and Hardshellism.

Our prayer is that God may keep both editor and paper till He comes.

In Christ's Name,
Elder James D. Crowder
Wayne, W. Va.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM ARKANSAS

Congratulations to you on your fiftieth anniversary in the ministry of our Lord. I Timothy 1:12. Indeed the truth is evident that He has "enabled" you. Through many trials and snares you have come. Many have become your enemies.



Every soldier must hold high the colors of his Sovereign, and you have firmly held high the Lord's. God's people can see the truth clearly by your faithful walk.

Your ministry has blessed untold numbers. Only when you arrive home will you know the results of your stand for the Lord. I am sure that many struggling preachers of the Word have been strengthened and anchored in their ministry because of your clarion position on God's Word.

May this golden anniversary of your ministry be a most outstanding occasion. No greater honor could be bestowed than to have been the Lord's servant this many years.

May it please the Lord to bless you in His own special way. I pray thusly.

Yours with great admiration and commendation in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Very sincerely,
Elder Joe C. Shelnutt, Pastor
East Side Baptist Church
Benton, Arkansas



The Edifice

(Continued from Page 9)

runs over the stones. It is so designed that it makes a natural water-fall and the individual is thus baptized in running water. The stones used in this baptistry are various colored flintrock and were brought in from Brother Gilpin's farm for this particular purpose. Truly, when the water runs over these various colored stones with the lights playing upon it, it is a thing of beauty.

As a former pastor, I have often known controversy over what would be painted on the wall behind the baptistry. Usually someone wants to have a picture which is in violation of God's Word expressed in Exodus

19: 4 & 5. There are no pictures of Jesus here.

The entire building is heated and air-conditioned by heating and cooling units which are located in the basement. The only steps that are to be found in the building are those that lead from the back of the entrance hall to the basement. As we go down to the basement, we find three classrooms furnished for use as well as a furnace and storage room. In addition, there is a large auditorium which was used by Calvary Baptists before the upstairs portion of the building was finished. Many who attended the Bible Conference of Calvary Baptist Church in 1967 will remember meeting in this downstairs auditorium. It is not in use at present, but served a

good purpose for the church's worship until the sanctuary above was completed.

In the hall upstairs, there is a glass case which holds articles relative to the church's mission work in New Guinea. These are various items which Brother Halliman has sent to the church and they are on display in this glass case.

Also in this entrance hall is a tract rack on one wall, and a registry desk on the other.

Two things I would especially like to impress upon the reader -- (1) There are no steps from the sidewalk to the auditorium, and (2) All the furniture blends together. I had nothing to do with the purchase of any of it but I do indeed like it.

There are pictures in this issue of TBE which will help greatly to see and appreciate this edifice for God in Ashland.

Our church is small numerically, and yet it carries on a great testimony for the Lord here. There is no kitchen in the building and there are no plans for one. There are no sales or carnal gimmicks to reach multitudes -- just a faithful people and pastor who want to glorify God.

When we built this building, we borrowed money on a ten-year basis. However, at the rate we are going, we hope to have the building free of debt within the next three years. Wouldn't it be a marvel of God's grace if He should raise up someone or many to give that we might achieve this goal even before then.

Thank you for visiting with us pictorially and verbally, and we hope some day that you will visit with us in person.

One other item before I close. We would like to have you visit with us, and when you do, would you please sign the register. Pastor Gilpin will so appreciate it.



A human being cannot become too sinful for God to save.

Sin never gives what it promises to bestow.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

OCTOBER 26, 1974

PAGE TEN

A Personal Note Which Is More Than Appreciated

BRO. CLYDE EVERMAN AND HIS FAMILY HAVE BEEN SOME OF OUR DEAREST AND CLOSEST FRIENDS FOR MANY YEARS. NO FINER FAMILY EVER LIVED. IN A SPECIAL SENSE THEY HAVE MEANT MUCH TO ME, AND I THANK GOD FOR THEM.

Congratulations on your 50 years in the service for our Lord and Master. I have not known you for all of that fifty years, but a good part of them. About forty-five years ago my older brother, Russell, was working in Cincinnati and he sent my mother a newspaper clipping telling about a young upstart Baptist preacher by the name of John R. Gilpin, who had the nerve to preach a sermon against the modern dance. A few years later, after you had moved to Russell, I had the privilege of meeting you and hearing you

preach. You will never know how it lifted my soul to hear you preach the great truths of God's Word there in that one-room schoolhouse at Fairview. It was like water on a dry thirsty land. How I soaked it up!

I thank God that in these later years that He gave me the privilege to stand by you and in a small way help to hold up your arms while the battle goes on. By God's grace I will continue to do so "until the going down of the sun."

I would like to go on record as a witness to the fact that you are still "earnestly contending" for the same faith that you did back there forty to forty-five years ago, when I first came to know you.

May God give you the grace and the leadership of His Holy Spirit to continue to stand for the True and Living Way.

Your old friend and buddy,
CLYDE T. EVERMAN
Covington, Ky.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM OHIO

A statement from The New Testament Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio.

Calvary Baptist Church — the means God used to enlighten (because truth is light) several people in Cleveland a number of years ago.

It was through, what we consider to be the outstanding missionary effort in the world — TBE, that we came to a knowledge of the Sovereignty of God and Church truth.

It was (and is) through the encouragement and wise counsel of the pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Brother John R. Gilpin, that helped sustain our pastor over these many years.

It was Calvary Baptist Church which authorized and established the work here.

We love Calvary Baptist Church, John R. Gilpin and TBE, and are not ashamed to say so.

May our Great God continue to bless them all.

Elder Paul Tiber, Pastor
New Testament Baptist Church
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

CONGRATULATIONS FROM JAPAN

Greetings in the love of our delightful Lord with II Cor. 6:3-10.



What a great blessing and help your pastor, Bro. John R. Gilpin has been to many throughout the world, through the ministry of The Baptist Examiner. There are few men of his insight and understanding in the world. His willingness to expose the dual heresies of Arminianism on the one hand, and hyper-Calvinism on the other, brings upon him the wrath of many, but a man is known by his enemies and by those that would destroy him.

It is my prayer that the Lord will give our dear Brother many more years to honor and serve Him. At the time of his 50th anniversary in the ministry, I trust that there will be a great host of friends who will express their thanks to God for Brother Gilpin.

I would suggest that something very concrete be done and that a fund be raised to make it possible for Brother Gilpin to go to New Guinea, to Papua and visit the work of the Lord there. We would also like him to come and visit us here in Japan, if that is possible, and his health permits. If it should be impossible for Brother Gilpin to make the trip, the funds should be at his disposal to use as the Lord should direct him.

May our Lord direct and bless you as you give thanks to Him for His gifts to your church and to many throughout the world.

With love and appreciation in our Lord,

ELDER TIMOTHY PIETSCH
Missionary to Japan

CONGRATULATIONS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA

We are indeed grateful to our God that such a ministry as you have should continue till this present time. We, here, might have found help in other places for the purpose of starting a church, but at what price?



Your years of labor, though despised by most, is certainly seen as a blessing by those who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. We would like to be in Ashland for your 50th Anniversary to be encouraged by one who has borne the hatred of many, only to preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified, but we are not able to be there. We are thankful that God has some yet who are armed and, though the battle is sore against them, they do not turn back but continue by looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith.

ELDER LEE WILLIAMS
Pastor, The Lord's Church of
Beverly Hills, Charleston, S. C.

A Sermon From A Text Mutilated By Campbellites

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned"—Mark 16:15,16.

I've got a reason for the message I'm preaching today. I have a friend here in town who is a Campbellite. He doesn't call himself a "Christian." He doesn't say, "I'm a member of the Church of Christ." He doesn't say, "I'm a member of the Disciples;" rather, he says, "I'm a Campbellite, and I believe that you have either got to be dipped or be damned." In this conversation, he said, "I've got a text in the Bible that you nor any other Baptist preacher would ever dare preach from," and the text that I have read you just now is the one he quoted.

After I had this conversation with this dear man, I was talking with a Baptist preacher friend, and I said to him, "Do you know, one of Alexander Campbell's disciples dared me to preach on Mark 16:15,16, and I have accepted his dare. I also have a subject to go along with this text." This preacher friend asked me as to what the subject was, and I said, "A Baptist Sermon From a Baptist Text that the Campbellites Have Mutilated." This preacher friend replied, "Bro. Gilpin, tell me, are you going to preach from the whole Bible, for there isn't a text they have put their hands nor tongues to, that they have not mutilated."

But there are others who say, "But doesn't the Bible say in Acts 2:38 something about baptism putting away one's sins?" Listen: "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins."

Did you ever stop to think what that word "for" means? I see a little boy, sitting, nursing his toe; he is crying with great big tears running down his cheeks, and I say, "Buddy, what are you crying for?" He says, "Because I have stumped my toe." He doesn't say, "In order that I might stump my toe." The Campbellites have that boy saying, "In order that I might stump my toe." They say "for" means "in order to."

A man came to my study a few weeks ago and wanted to talk about Acts 2:38. He was unduly agitated when he came in, and he was

even more agitated when he went out. As we were talking, he said, "Why, when it says for the remission of sins, it means 'in order' that your sins may be forgiven." Then I said, "What did you come in here for?" "Why," he said, "because I wanted to talk to you." I replied, "What does the word 'for' mean?" He said, "I came in here because I . . .," and brother, he stopped right then when he knew he had used the word "because." He knew then he had killed his argument.

When the Apostle Peter said, "he baptized . . . for the remission of sins," he meant "be baptized because your sins have already been remitted as a result of your previous repentance."

Do you know, beloved, that baptism is merely an outward sign of the fact that you received the Lord Jesus? Listen:

"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ"—Gal. 3:26,27.

Now what does this mean? Get an illustration: Here's a lad who joins the army. Just as soon as that boy signs his name on the dotted line, he is right then subject to the U.S. Army. It may be several days before he is inducted and into uniform, but he is already a member of the U.S. Army. His family and friends know that he has joined the army, but the world at large doesn't know it until he puts on the uniform, and the day he puts on his uniform and walks down the street, everybody said, "What, he has joined the army," when in reality, he had joined several days before. The day a man believes in Jesus Christ in his heart, he is saved, and the day he is baptized, the world says, "that man has been saved." The world sees that which outwardly signifies what has already taken place in the heart.

In the light of this, I say that our text states exactly what the rest of the Word of God teaches, namely, it is faith that saves and baptism has nothing whatsoever to do with any individual's salvation. I don't sing this morning,

"There is a fountain filled with water,
Drawn from the city's mains,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains."
Rather, I sing:

"There is a fountain filled with blood,
Drawn from Immanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains."

I don't point this morning to a man standing deep in the water and say to you, "There's our Saviour," but I point to the Lord Jesus Christ dying on Calvary's cross, and I say to you in the words of John, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world."

But beloved, my text doesn't stop there. (My friend here in town dared me to preach from this text of Scripture, and I said, "I'll go you one better in that text you never heard of"). "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." I said, "You don't believe that. You say if a man believes and is baptized, maybe he'll get to heaven," but our text says, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved."

There isn't a text in all the Bible that (a Campbellite) is more scared of than this text if they will run it down to its final end, for this verse teaches unquestionably the absolute security of the believer. Here's a text that says a child of God is not only saved, but he is absolutely secure, for Jesus said, "he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Oh, how it thrills (Continued on page 13, column 5)

CONGRATULATIONS FROM WASHINGTON

If I were to try to completely express what your ministry, and that of The Baptist Examiner have meant to me, one eight page issue of the paper could not contain it.



I have been receiving TBE continuously since 1950. It was because of this paper that I came to see the doctrines of Grace. I remember reading a sermon that you preached and printed in the paper on "Election and the Sovereignty of God," when we lived in Minnesota, and I recall having taken my Bible and looking up the Scriptures that you gave in Romans 8 and 9. My wife said to me, "Do you believe that?" I said, "I guess I do." That was the first time that I had heard anything relative to the doctrines of Grace. How precious have they become to us over the years!

It is because of this Paper that I have come to know you personally. You perhaps recall how that I made a trip to Ashland to see if you really believed what you were printing in TBE. I knew of no one at that time who believed these truths.

Because of the stand that you took relative to God's Word I became a member of the church there which meant so much to me.

I have become acquainted with other brethren because of the paper. I have been encouraged by their articles knowing that there were other people who believe His Word and were willing to stand for it.

This paper and church has been a medium through which God's people could come to know and support a great missionary such as Brother Halliman, and could keep in touch with what was being accomplished there in New Guinea.

Brother Gilpin, you have been a blessing to me for many, many years. So many times you have encouraged me at times when things seemed so dark.

I am so thankful that God in His Sovereignty has seen fit to use you and TBE and the church there to be a blessing to me, and I am sure to thousands of other people. I am praying that God will see fit to personally use you until He comes back for us.

Your Brother in Christ,

JIM BLAIR
Pastor Calvary Independent
Baptist Church,
Sumas, Washington

What The Bible Teaches About The Bible

Read II Chron. 34:14-21.

I was thinking this morning how that we do not enjoy today the thing that we enjoyed yesterday. The pleasures, the games, the pastimes of yesterday when we were children are not the things that appeal to us now that we are older. Our ambitions and our childhood ideals have now changed. We don't read the same books today that we read then. The story of the "Three Little Pigs" and of "Goldilocks," while they may have appealed to your childhood fancy, are not the books that you read today. The fact of the matter is, we outgrow our ambitions, ideals, pastimes, and the books that we enjoyed when we were children. We do not consult the same authorities that we consulted then.

However, though it is true that as grown folk we do not have the same outlook on life, nor read the same books we read as children, it is definitely true that there is one Book that the world will never outgrow and that's the Word of God. I thank my God from the very depths of my heart this morning that the Bible is one Book that

the world has never outgrown. It is because of this that I take particular delight today to preach from this subject, "What the Bible Teaches About the Bible."

THE BIBLE ITSELF DECLARES THAT THE BIBLE IS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD.

Listen:

"But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ALL SCRIPTURE IS GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF GOD, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works"—II Tim. 3:14-17.

"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but HOLY MEN OF GOD SPAKE AS THEY WERE MOVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT"—II Peter 1:21.

—Saturday, December 6, 1947

CONGRATULATIONS FROM WEST VIRGINIA

We are approaching another Thanksgiving Season, a time when we are accustomed to remember blessings God has given our nation. We remember our forefathers who came and established this great nation. We remember our religious freedom. These are some of the particular blessings we remember at this season.



However, Thanksgiving is a time when I like to attempt to count my spiritual blessings. Each time I begin to remember my blessings, Calvary Baptist Church comes immediately to my mind.

I thank God who in His eternal counsel determined there would be a church in Ashland, Kentucky that would stand for the whole counsel of truth. I thank God who in His eternal counsel determined He would make me an object of His love, call me by His grace, and then use this great church to acquaint me with the Doctrines of His Grace.

I thank God for the leadership of the Holy Spirit who reveals truth and who has brought us together.

I recall Bible conferences, held in various places; what great seasons of fellowship these were! These times are fixed in my mind — when for the first time I was hearing the Scriptures expounded in their entirety. I remember so well because it was then God was enlarging my understanding of His Word and He was allowing me to make great discoveries of His Grace.

I recall TBE which has been a constant source of blessings to me — a paper which has stood for the truth for so long. Our main reason for this success is because this work is properly done through a local Baptist Church. This is the only way we can be workers together with Him. Any other work is not with Him.

In summary, Calvary Baptist Church, The Baptist Examiner, Elder John R. Gilpin, have been a constant source of blessing to me for many years. I believe this verse sums up the matter.

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" — James 1:17.

ELDER MARVIN FULTON
Route 1,
Lavalette, W. Va.



doctrinal paper of any I know of any place.

May the Lord continue this great work, and may the future years be the most fruitful years of your life.

Sincerely yours,

Elder Geo. Boyer
Pastor Ahava Baptist Church
Plant City, Florida

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 3, 1974

Dear Mr. Gilpen:

Congratulations as you celebrate your fiftieth anniversary in religious life. Mrs. Ford and I are delighted to join with the members of your congregation in honoring you at this important time.

May God grant you the peace, joy and contentment which you so richly deserve.

Sincerely,

Gerold R. Ford

The Reverend John R. Gilpen
Calvary Baptist Church
Ashland, Kentucky



UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

MARLOW WEBSTER COOK
KENTUCKY

September 24, 1974

The Reverend John R. Gilpen
Calvary Baptist Church
Ashland, Kentucky

Dear Reverend Gilpen:

Like everything else in life, an anniversary such as yours can be used to further the ministry of God. The member of your church will not only recall the years of your ministry, but have a chance to rededicate themselves. In recalling the last fifty years, through all the trials and tribulations, you must also surely rejoice in the serving of God and his people in our country. There is no doubt that the same dedication and devotion to your faith will continue to give your life a special joy.

It is a pleasure for me to have this opportunity to congratulate you on this very special occasion.

My prayers and thoughts are with you.

Sincerely,

Marlow W. Cook
Marlow W. Cook
United States Senator

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
OCTOBER 26, 1974
PAGE TWELVE

CARL D. PERKINS
7th DIST., KENTUCKY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
September 10, 1974

Reverend John R. Gilpin
Editor
The Baptist Examiner
P. O. Box 910
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear John:

I am told that you are about to round out 50 full years in the Christian ministry.

This is a remarkable record of service to your Church and to your country and I join with all of your thousands of friends in sending you good wishes and congratulations on this occasion.

You have been a mighty good friend for a long time and I have greatly valued your friendship, your counsel and your advice.

I wish for you and the community you serve many, many more years of good health and continued happiness.

Best wishes to you always.

Sincerely,

Carl D. Perkins
Carl D. Perkins, M. C.

CDP/ba

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

WENDELL H. FORD
GOVERNOR

September 6, 1974

Dear Reverend Gilpin:

I would like to extend my personal congratulations on the occasion of your fiftieth anniversary as a Baptist minister. No vocation in life can bring more satisfaction than one which involves serving humanity, and your accomplishments in this endeavor have earned the respect and praise of many.

Mrs. Ford and I join your many friends in offering best wishes for happiness in years to come. May God continue to enrich your life.

Sincerely,

The Reverend John R. Gilpin, Sr.
Calvary Baptist Church
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Wendell H. Ford

If you would not fall into sin, keep away from the brink of temptation.

Did Anything Of Importance Take Place In Palestine?

"For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe"—I Cor. 1:21.

This message is prompted by an editorial which appeared a short time ago in one of the London papers. The editorial was written by H. G. Wells, learned scholar, historian, and outstanding modernist not only of England, but of the world. In this editorial, Mr. Wells stated that he thought too much importance had been given to Palestine. He said:

"Nothing began there; nothing was worked out there. All the historical part of the Bible abounds in wild exaggeration of the importance of this little strip of land."

Immediately afterward, Alfred Noyes replied to this challenge in a letter to the London Times. Among other things, he said:

"The human head, out of which many interesting thoughts have evolved is smaller than most pumpkins."

And to this criticism by Mr. Noyes, I utter a hearty "Amen." Immediately, in addition to my text, I was impressed by two other Scriptures:

"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God"—I Cor. 3:19.

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ"—Col. 2:8.

In spite of the statement of Mr. Wells, I am convinced that many wonderful things began in Palestine. Though he says that "nothing began there; nothing was worked out there," I am convinced that the land of Palestine is of tremendous importance and that more significant events have taken place, or will yet come to pass in Palestine than in any other section of the world.

The Jewish nation began there. The world's Redeemer was born in Palestine.

The Baptist church was organized in Palestine.

The Bible was produced in Palestine.

Redemption was wrought in Palestine.

The greatest battle of all times is going to be fought in Palestine.

Finally, the second coming of Christ will take place in Palestine.

As I bring this message to a close, may I urge you to give no heed to men of the world such as H. G. Wells, who delete the Word of God from their thinking. I respect scholarship, education, and learning wherever it is found, if it honors the Word of God. Yet when one ignores the Word of God, his scholarship becomes of no consequence to me. Irvin Cobb, who died recently, stands as a good example of worldly wisdom that is not devoted to the Word of God. I repeat, beloved, that we are to give no heed to men such as Wells and Cobb or anyone else whose thoughts are contrary to the Word of God. In every particular, this book is final. May you believe it, and not Wells or Cobb, or any other scholar of this world. May you now believe its statement and receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour. "Repent ye and believe the gospel."

—Saturday, April 22, 1944

CONGRATULATIONS FROM MICHIGAN

Words and space fail me in writing my deep appreciation for the ministry of T.B.E. Not forgetting the Holy Spirit, T.B.E. has been our best human teacher of the Word.



Yours, in His dear Name,

The Corcorans
Reading, Michigan.

Redemption Through The Blood

In view of the fact that John saw Jesus as the Lamb slain, I would insist upon the fact that the title deed of creation is signed in the blood of the Lamb. Listen: "And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you" (Ex. 12, 13). "In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins" (Col. 1:14). "And without shedding of blood is no remission" (Heb. 9:22).

I say, beloved, that church letters and certificates of baptism are valueless. Nothing can, or will effect, our redemption but the blood of the Lamb.

We are living in a remarkable day

in this modern twentieth century, when modern science adds a "less" to practically everything for consequence. For example, we have horseless buggies, and iceless refrigerators, and smokeless shells, and beardless wheat, and seedless fruits; and the sad thing is in too many of our churches we have a bloodless religion. I am ready to grant the smokeless shells, iceless refrigerators, beardless wheat, seedless fruits, and horseless buggies are all improvements over the past; and yet, beloved, a bloodless twentieth century religion will send souls to a first century hell. In view of the fact that there is no way in Heaven of opening this book which is the title deed to creation, apart from the blood of the Lamb, then why in the world should anyone waste time down here looking for anything else. Though the angel searched heaven, earth and the abyss, nothing was found that could suffice for redemption except the Lamb that was slain from the foundation of the world.

It is interesting to notice that John saw Jesus in the midst of the throne. (Continued on page 20, column 1)

ALBERT B. CHANDLER

191 ELM STREET
VERSAILLES, KENTUCKY 40383

September 11, 1974

The Reverend John R. Gilpin
Editor

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

P. O. Box 910
Ashland, Ky. 41101

My Dear John,

I want to congratulate you sincerely on the completion of 50 full years as a minister of the gospel. You have performed for your fellow citizens an outstanding job and you have contributed much to the happiness and well being of your fellow citizens.

Please be assured of my high respect and warm personal esteem. I also deeply appreciate your magnificent contribution to your time and generation.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. B. Chandler

ABC:em

TWICE GOVERNOR OF KENTUCKY, "HAPPY" CHANDLER HAS BEEN MORE THAN A FRIEND. IT HAS BEEN GOOD TO HAVE KNOWN HIM THROUGH THE YEARS AND TODAY I THANK GOD FOR ALL HE HAS MEANT TO ME WHEN I HAVE BEEN IN HIS HOME AND HE HAS VISITED IN OUR PRINTING SHOP, AS WELL AS MANY CHOICE SEASONS OF FELLOWSHIP IN HIS OFFICE AS GOVERNOR AND IN VARIOUS CONVENTIONS TOGETHER. I AM THE PROUD POSSESSOR OF CAMPAIGN BUTTONS SPONSORING BOTH OF HIS SUCCESSFUL GUBERNATORIAL BIDS (1935 AND 1955).

Can One Sin Away His Day Of Grace?

Read John 17.

As each of you doubtlessly know, it is a common statement that one can sin away his day of grace. All Arminians believe this, and a great and ever increasing number of Baptists likewise teach the same.

A few years ago Hymen Appleman held a revival meeting at a nearby Baptist church. He said, in substance, one evening, that he had found a lot of people in this particular section troubled over the question of election, and he proceeded to explain it for them. He declared that God voted in favor of the sinner and that the devil voted against him, which made it a tie vote. He then declared that the sinner cast the deciding vote. Thus, the way the sinner voted decided his election. Of course, this is not only preposterous — it is absolutely absurd, for the deciding vote relative to man's salvation was cast by God before the foundation of the world.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

OCTOBER 26, 1974

PAGE THIRTEEN

Five Golden Links Which Make Salvation Eternal

"For whom he did foreknow, if God owed man anything! And he also did predestinate to be who is man? Who are you? Who am I? Just one of 1,500,000,000 like you that inhabit the globe today. Not very big are you? Just one out of 1,500,000,000. And what is this globe? Just a small part of the universe and so small at that if the sun were hollowed out, you could pour 1,200,000 earths like ours into it and there would still be room to rattle around. And what is the sun? Just one of 350,000,000 known suns and stars. And God made them all.

The whole Bible from Gen. 1:1 to Rev. 22:21 pulsates with the infinite greatness and majesty of God. In the Scriptures man is minified and God is magnified. This is much in contrast with modern theology, for much of our preaching today glorifies man and puts God in a very insignificant place. Some time ago, a popular preacher announced for his subject one Sunday morning, "God's Duty to Man." Ah, dear me, as

Do you wish your size stated with mathematical accuracy? Divide one by 1,500,000,000; and that by 1,200,000; and that by 350,000,000; and that by infinity: and that's you! And how great is God? Multiply one by 1,500,000,000; and that by 1,200,000; and that by 350,000,000; and that by infinity: and that's God!

The second link of this text is predestination. "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate." (Rom. 8:29). Predestination and election! What words are these! So seldom are they heard today in the average church that they sound as though we had borrowed a phrase from some dead language of the past.

Predestination! What a marvelous doctrine, though little taught today! Why before the foundation of the world, God chose some to salvation. "I am sought of them that asketh not for me: I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name." (Isa. 65:1). "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain" (John 15:16). "... and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed." (Acts 13:48).

"According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world." (Eph. 1:4). "But we (Continued on page 16, column 3)

A Text Mutilated

(Continued from page 11)

my heart to read this, and then turn to other Scriptures and hear Jesus say:

"And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one"—John 10:28-30.

Thank God, if a man believes and is baptized, he shall be, not may be, not perhaps, and not if he holds out faithful to the end — if he believes, he shall be saved. Beloved, I'm on shouting ground when I read a positive declaration of Jesus when He declares that if a man believes, he shall be saved, positively saved, and shall not lose his salvation.

—Saturday, Nov. 2, 1946

"According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love"—Ephesians 1:4.

However, in that same sermon, Mr. Appleman declared that the (Continued on page 17, column 5)

God is closer to you than you are to yourself.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM KENTUCKY

I'm writing at the request of Elder Joseph M. Wilson, for a testimony pertaining to Pastor John R. Gilpin's ministry (50 years).

I've been receiving "The Baptist Examiner" since September 1972. It was after reading a few copies of this paper that I began to understand something about the TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD.

God only knows how much TBE has meant to me. I look forward to its coming each week. It's so wonderful to know of, and study behind men of God who stand for the truth regardless of what comes.

Brother Gilpin!!! — you and "The Baptist Examiner" have been, and will always be, a great blessing to me!

Thank God for men as you,

ROBERT E. HOGAN,
Frankfort, Kentucky.

OUR MAN IN ASHLAND

JOSEPH M. WILSON
Gladwin, Michigan

"Render therefore to all their dues: . . . honour to whom honour." Rom. 13:7.

In the following article, I am not seeking to place man above where God has placed him. I certainly am not trying to worship man. I am simply obeying the Scripture which is at the head of this article. Some are so afraid of overdoing it, that they do not give men the honor that is due them. I have ceased long since to be afraid that, if I bragged a little on a sound, sovereign grace, church truth preacher, I might puff him up too much. I have learned, that if he does get puffed a little, there is always someone around willing to puncture him and let the air out. I have decided, that since true preachers are so hated and persecuted by the world, that it is good to give them the honor that is due them and lift them up with encouraging words at proper times.

I was recently told that Chrysler company had "a man in Detroit" to which one could refer any and every complaint about Chrysler products, and that this man would seek to deal with such complaints. This man was referred to as "our man in Detroit." This gave me the idea for this article.

Several years ago a preacher said to me, "What are you going to do when your god in Ashland dies?" I resented the statement then. I resent it now, and I always shall resent this and kindred statements. I could have pointed out to this man, and to others like him, some of the gods they have and whom they worship more avidly than I could ever be properly accused of worshipping "my god in Ashland."

John R. Gilpin is not my god and I do not worship him. This is just the usual slander of folk who will not take a strong stand for truth, and who wish to justify their weakness. Many men once stood with John R. Gilpin and TBE. Now they have changed their doctrinal position. Many men desire to profess to believe the truths taught in TBE, but they do not wish to take a strong stand for those truths. These men justify their changed positions or their weak-kneed stand by calling John R. Gilpin a pope or a god, and accusing those who do stand strongly for these things as having a "god in Ashland."

We do not have a "god in Ashland." Those of us who love and appreciate John R. Gilpin — who love and appreciate his God-given ministry do not worship him as our "god." We have our glorious Triune God in Heaven. We worship and adore God our Father who chose us to salvation — God the Son who died for our sins and is our risen Lord and Saviour — God the Holy Spirit who called us ef-

NO HALO HERE
Just getting ready to play
a prank on someone.



fectually and irresistibly to salvation. Yes, we worship, adore, pray to and seek to honor, glorify and serve our God in Heaven. We resent it when someone accuses us of having another god. We are not idolators. We worship the one True God of the Bible. You misrepresent and falsely accuse us when you say we have another god. We would never seek to give to any man the glory and honor that is due only to our God in Heaven.

But the Bible does tell us to give honor to whom honor is due, and the context proves in Rom. 13:1-8, that God is telling us to give proper honor to man. John R. Gilpin is not "our god in Ashland" for we recognize many imperfections and faults in this man. We have learned that love is not blind. Love can see the faults in its objects of affection. Love can feel for the faults, and pray about the faults of the objects of affection. True love is not that which cannot see any fault in its object, but is that which loves anyway. So we see fault in John R. Gilpin. Therefore, he is not our god. We have a God in Heaven who is without fault. He is our only God.

But, thank God, we do have a man in Ashland. We can refer to him in love and appreciation as "Our Man In Ashland." John R. Gilpin will soon, God willing, complete fifty years in the ministry. The last several years of that ministry have been spent in Ashland, Kentucky. God has greatly blessed and used his ministry in that city. From that city, the blessings of John R. Gilpin's ministry have gone throughout much of the earth. Thousands of God's children owe much to the blessings of God that have gone forth from the ministry of John R. Gilpin through The Baptist Examiner

from Ashland.

It is our sovereign God who has placed "Our Man In Ashland." It was God who unconditionally elected John R. Gilpin from among fallen mankind and predestinated him to be an object of saving grace. It was God the Son who died for the sins of John R. Gilpin so that he would not have to go to the Hell he deserved. It was God the Spirit who worked effectually in John R. Gilpin and caused him to trust Jesus Christ as his own Saviour. It is our sovereign God who called John R. Gilpin into the ministry of preaching the Word of God. It is our sovereign God who taught John R. Gilpin the truths that he has preached these nearly fifty years. It is our sovereign God who has preserved Brother Gilpin's life these years, protecting him, and raising him up when it seemed he would soon be gone. It is our sovereign God

AT EIGHTEEN
Pious And Dignified



who has enabled John R. Gilpin to weather the storms of opposition, persecution, lies, slander and the like. Oh, how men have fought this man and his ministry! How many men have told me their stories about John R. Gilpin. Surely, one lifetime of threescore and ten would not be sufficient for one man to commit the things that enemies have laid to the charge of John R. Gilpin. Yet, it was always those who used to be with him, and had changed, that told me these stories. Their change from where they once stood must cast suspicion upon the stories they told. But, surely, it is our sovereign God who has enabled this man to go through such storms and still continue his ministry to this day.

Men have done all they could to destroy John R. Gilpin and his ministry. They have, many times thought they had accomplished their purpose. But John R. Gilpin is still in the ministry, and still being used of God even until this day. So, I say it is our sovereign God who has placed a man in Ashland and given that man a ministry that has blessed multitudes in various places. So you see we do not worship John R. Gilpin. We worship God and we give God all the credit for everything that has been done through this man's ministry. But still, and in harmony with proper glory to God, we love, appreciate, and thank God for "Our Man In Ashland."

Our man in Ashland was placed there by God. He was given a ministry there by God. He has been continued in that ministry

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
OCTOBER 26, 1974
PAGE FOURTEEN

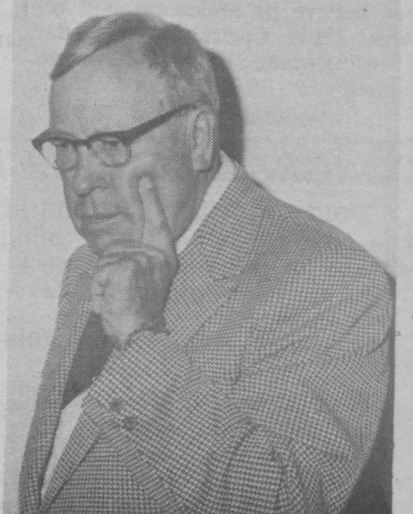
by God. God has given that man the ministry of The Baptist Examiner, and through that ministry God has blessed multitudes. Our man in Ashland has been taught the truth by God. He has been enabled and used by God to teach others these precious truths, and to strengthen and encourage others who already believed these truths. We have seen many make a profession of these truths, and then go from that profession into open defense of heresy. We have seen many make profession of these truths, but they would never really stand for them. They wanted to get along too badly with popular heretics of the day. But thank God our man in Ashland has been enabled by God to stand true and to stand strong and his stand has encouraged many of us to seek grace from God to do likewise.

Our man in Ashland, John R. Gilpin, has not changed through the years. He still preaches the same truths he did when we first heard of him. We have come to look for this. How utterly shocked we would be if TBE would come out some day with a changed position by our Brother Gilpin. When John R. Gilpin has visited other places and preached, he preached the same truths which he preached in Ashland. Of all the charges brought against this man, I have never heard any one charge him with changing his doctrines, or with preaching one thing in one place, and something different in other places. Brothers and sisters, there are many who have changed. There are many who preach according to the company they are in. But we can thank God that John R. Gilpin has stood for the same truths in every place and at all times.

Our man in Ashland is the editor of The Baptist Examiner. This paper has been used as a great rallying point for folk through the earth who believe these same truths. Oh, how few we are. How scattered we are. And what a blessing it is that we have had some common bonds through the ministry of TBE. We can fellowship our brethren of like precious faith — we can fellowship churches of like precious faith through the pages of TBE. Oh, may God continue this paper a long time. How many there are of us who would feel — oh so deeply — the loss of this paper. What a welcome visitor it is to our homes each week! How we love to read it, to think about the men and churches mentioned in it, to pray for others who receive it, and to have a measure of fellowship in this way. It would be a sad day to many of us — like unto the loss of a dearly loved one — if The Baptist Examiner should cease to be.

Our man in Ashland is the pastor of Calvary Baptist Church. Surely this is a great church — a church with a sound ministry of truth. A church with a strong missionary (Continued on page 17, column 1)

PONDERING
... The Baptist Examiner in
retrospect and prospect.



TRIBUTE TO A QUEEN

By MILBURN COCKRELL
Fulton, Mississippi

For every man who has climbed to the top of the ladder of success there has been a great woman holding the ladder for him. This is certainly true of Helen Virginia Gilpin, the wife of my beloved friend, John R. Gilpin. Too often the preacher is remembered by people, and his wife is either ignored or forgotten. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. It is my purpose in this article to pay tribute to a queen. I say a queen because a man is the king of his home and his wife the queen.

THE EARLY YEARS

At the time appointed by God, Helen Virginia was born to Everett and Mable Aylor in Burlington, Kentucky, in 1906. The Aylors were a fine Christian family. They were members of the First Baptist Church of Walton, Kentucky, where Everett was a deacon. This young girl was an heritage of the Lord, destined to play an important role in Baptist history and the preservation of the faith.

Helen was reared in the nurture and admonition of the Lord by her parents. She attended church with a young man named John R. Gilpin. Helen professed her faith in Christ the same night when John's brother did. But as of yet there was no romance between John and Helen.

COLLEGE AND MARRIAGE

Helen and John attended Georgetown College together in 1925-26. It was during this time that they began to date. As time passed, she discovered him who was the fairest to her among all the young men of that day. Helen and John were united in holy matrimony by Elder O. J. Steger in Covington, Kentucky, June 15, 1927. Then and there she vowed as Ruth of old: "For whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God" (Ruth 1:16). Helen has not failed to keep this vow.

LIFE AS A PREACHER'S WIFE

At the time of the marriage, Elder Gilpin was already the full time pastor of the Hickory Grove Baptist Church near Walton. In 1928 Elder Gilpin accepted the



pastorate of the Rossmoyne Baptist Church of Cincinnati, Ohio. Helen and John labored in this field for about a year.

The Holy Spirit then appointed Brother Gilpin to the First Baptist Church of Russell, Kentucky in 1929. Before moving from Cincinnati, Helen conceived and bare a son. He was born March 30,

1929 and his name was John R. Gilpin, Jr.

The Gilpins moved to Russell in 1929 to work in the Lord's vineyard for the next twenty-five years. During this time, Helen gave birth to two girls. Rhoda was born May 27, 1937 and Ruth June 29, 1939. Due to controversy in the church, Elder Gilpin resigned in 1954. The Gilpins continued to live in Russell though until their present house in Ashland was completed in March of 1955.

After resigning the First Baptist Church of Russell, the Gilpins and some members from the church at Russell started holding services in a hotel in Ashland, Kentucky. This work was under the authority of Kings Addition Baptist Church of South Shore, Kentucky. In 1955 Calvary Baptist Church was organized after the New Testament pattern and according to the Apostles' doctrine. The church moved to its present building in 1967.

Sister Gilpin's years at Ashland were the years of the great Bible conferences. The first was held in 1959. Eleven conferences have been held to date. Sister Gilpin played an important role in these as the general overseer of all food for the guests who came. Except for the last three, she fed them under a tent in her backyard.

A CHARACTER STUDY

Helen Virginia Gilpin has had from the time of her second birth a deep-seated love for her Lord and Saviour. She has ever sought to honor Him in all that she did. Her faith in Him has been shown by her works for Him. She has given Him glory in His church

he was sorrowful. Like Aaron and Hur with Moses, she has held up his hands when the battle was the hottest. Through all the church troubles across the years she has unceasingly retained a sweet, patient spirit. She has revered her husband and been in subjection to him.

Sister Helen has always been a lover of hospitality. Literally thousands of guests have been entertained in her home over the years. She enjoyed the companionship of Brother Gilpin's mother from 1929 until her death in 1953. I have always received the very best of treatment when visiting in her home. Like Phebe, "she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also" (Rom. 16:1-2).

Sister Gilpin has been a virtuous woman, a godly mother of children, a helpmate to her husband, a loyal and faithful Baptist, a glory to her God and a blessing to her friends. During my interview with her on August 29, she herself said: "I am happy to have been a helpmeet for a great servant of the Lord." How fitting are the words of Proverbs 3:29: "Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all."

There is one person in your church
Who knows your preacher's life.
She's wept and smiled and prayed
with him.

And that's your preacher's
wife!

She knows one prophet's weakest
point,
And knows his greatest power
She's heard him speak in trumpet
tone,
In his great triumph hour.

She's heard him groaning in his
soul,
When bitter raged the strife,
As hand in his she knelt with
him—
For she's a preacher's wife.

You tell your tales of prophets
brave,
Who walked across the world
And changed the course of history
By burning words they hurled.

And I will tell how back of them
Some women lived their lives,
Who wept with them and smiled
with them.
They are the preachers wives!



Faith never looks to circumstances, but trods onward with its
steadfast gaze on Christ.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM ARIZONA

Not too many men is God so pleased to give a ministry that has affected the lives of so many people as has yours.



The first church that I pastored and the one I now pastor, both were a direct or an indirect result of your God-wrought ministry. Only a sovereign God could take a vessel that was by nature depraved and make him a vessel of honor, fit for the Master's use.

I have always believed in following faithful followers of Jesus Christ. I Cor. 11:1, "Be ye FOLLOWERS of me, even as I also am of Christ." I Thess. 2:14, "For ye, brethren, became FOLLOWERS of the churches of God which in Judea are in Christ Jesus."

I know your heartaches have been many, but all laced with sovereign grace; your joys beyond number that glorify His name; the persecution great; but Brother John, it is God who said "Separate me this man for the work whereunto I have called him."

Remember these verses: they'll bring you sufficient joy.

Heb. 6:10-12, "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have shown toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. And we desire that everyone of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end. That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises."

Dan. 12:3, "And they that be wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars forever and ever."

Our God has favored you much, and we likewise have been favored. Our God is Almighty!

Your servant by His grace,

ELDER WIL BANG
Pastor Landmark Baptist Church
Tuscon, Arizona

CONGRATULATIONS FROM FLORIDA

I wish to congratulate you on your celebration of Brother Gilpin's 50th year in the ministry. You have had the leadership of a truly great man. Bro. Gilpin has been a blessing to many lives, and among these I count myself. I don't know any man whose convictions are so identical with my own. It takes courage to stand true to such convictions, and often the cost is very high.



Every sort of persecution and every sort of lie imaginable is circulated concerning the man who stands unequivocally for God's truth, and more often than not, the persecutors and falsifiers are those who claim to be Christians. I have been the victim of such many times, and I am sure that Bro. Gilpin has endured far more than I.

Through the years I have had people to tell me just about every mean thing that one could imagine about Bro. Gilpin. My reply has always been, "Give me the proof of this." The proof was never presented, and I have continued his friend.

Not only has the friendship of Bro. Gilpin been a blessing to me, his paper, The Baptist Examiner, has likewise been a blessing beyond measure. Papers of this kind have almost all gone out of existence. I know of no other publication that could take its place. I trust that Calvary Baptist Church, the Baptist Examiner, and Bro. Gilpin may all continue to exist to carry on their precious ministry. Thanks be to God for his favors to these in the past. May He continue his rich blessings, is my prayer.

ELDER ROY MASON,
Aripeka, Florida

CONGRATULATIONS FROM GEORGIA

I am happy to say that TBE has blessed me, my family, our church, our friends and our acquaintances. I just left Pennsylvania and I was so depressed about the darkness that the so-called Baptists are in. I know that God is sovereign, and believe me, that is the only hope of these people in western Pennsylvania.

As I left the area, I knew that there is only one hope for these people to ever get the truth and that is TBE. I don't brag on you or the paper in the flesh. I brag on the truth and soundness TBE has. I brag on God's power and what He has done through TBE. I won't take time to tell you all that I have seen transpire as God has used TBE in the lives of folk I personally know, but I am 100% behind you.

I am still praying that our church will take on TBE for support. We have the means, but our people haven't been long out of ABA.

We withdrew from that mess several months ago, but I am leading as God opens doors. Our church was organized by a Missionary Baptist Church in 1914, but you know far better than I how ABA creeps in. God has brought us to the place of independence again, and I am grateful. Thank you for all your encouragement. I know many of The Examiner writers and am thankful for each one. My goal is to eventually get TBE in every home of our city.

Yours for grace and truth,

ELD. TOM R. SOLLOSI, Pastor
Ella Grove Baptist Church,
Glennville, Georgia.

Golden Links

(Continued from page 13)
are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren, beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth" (II Thess. 2:13). "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit" (I Pet. 1:2).

God has through the ages worked on the basis of election. God chose Abel, and rejected Cain. God chose Shem as the line through which the Messiah must come; at the same time He rejected Ham and Japheth. God chose Jacob and rejected Esau. "As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated." "Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour? What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: and that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory" (Rom. 9:13, 20-23). God chose Abraham alone and rejected all his idolatrous relations.

"Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him." (Isa. 51:1, 2).

God chose the Jews for His people as a nation. Read Gen. 12:1-3. The Egyptians were far wiser. The Chaldeans were more ancient. Yet God chose Israel. Why? "For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me." (Isa. 45:4).

God has gathered out in the past 1000 years, practically all His own from the Anglo-Saxon race. The Chinese practice a nobler system of morality. India has thrice America's population. Why has He chosen thus? "Even so, Father; for it seemed good in thy sight." (Matt. 11:26).

There are many objections offered by the carnal man to the doctrine of predestination. Often do we hear it said that it is so mysterious. I am ready to grant that it is beyond the power of man to understand it. However, there are many things which we can never grasp. I cannot understand why God permitted sin. I cannot understand the many inequalities of the human race. I cannot understand the procreation of life. I cannot understand how God saves. I cannot understand why that hogs, cows, geese and sheep eat grass and yet it produces bristles, hair, feather and wool on the back of each respectively. I can only bow before God to hear Him say, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, for as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." (Isa. 55:3, 9).

Again there is the objection concerning the doctrine of election that God is unjust. May I remind you that salvation isn't a matter of justice but of grace: "For by grace are ye saved through faith." (Eph. 2:8). If we received justice we would all spend eternity in Hell. It is best that God should elect some than that all should perish.

—Saturday, June 19, 1943

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

OCTOBER 26, 1974

PAGE SIXTEEN

CONGRATULATIONS FROM MISSISSIPPI

Pastor John R. Gilpin has meant a great deal to me in the years I have had the privilege of knowing him. He encouraged me when I withdrew from the N.A.B.A. to remain an independent Baptist. His friendship during those trying days when so many former friends were denouncing me in an unchristian fashion was a debt time will not permit me to repay.



Thank God for His grace in enabling Brother Gilpin to preach the true faith for fifty years. He has certainly fought a good fight. May the good Lord grant him many years in this world to instruct and encourage young ministers like myself before his earthly course is terminated.

When I consider Elder John R. Gilpin, I can only say in the words of Paul to the Philippians: "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you" (Phil. 1:3).

The Baptist Examiner has been an unspeakable blessing to me. God the Holy Spirit has seen fit to use it to teach me many truths about the Bible, especially the doctrines of grace. It is one of the few papers where the articles which I write are welcome. May God continue to bless and enlarge the ministry of the Examiner, the greatest Baptist paper in the world today.

The Calvary Baptist Church has been a place I have always felt welcome and at home. It has been my happy privilege to attend three Bible conferences which they sponsored and to assist them in two revival efforts. My days there were wonderful times in the Lord. May the God of all grace continue to bless this great church in the years to come — if the rapture does not come first.

Elder Milburn Cockrell, Pastor
Union Grove Baptist Church,
Fulton, Mississippi.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM OHIO

I am extremely thankful to our Lord on this, your fiftieth year in the ministry, for all that you have meant to me and mine. I dedicated my book, "The Revelation of Jesus Christ," to you, and my appreciation of you is still as it was then.

I was looking through a bundle of Examiners only yesterday and I was amazed at the hundreds upon hundreds of God-given messages you have delivered over the years. I estimate that you have written between two and three thousand messages since you began your ministry in the Examiner in 1939.

You, as a young man, were a cross country runner and you, as God's minister, are still a cross-country runner. Your feet, through the Examiner, have traversed all of our states and many foreign countries.

I thank our Lord that He has given you the strength and wisdom to hold up His Word in this dark world. Our "Star-Spangled Banner" declares that our flag was still there after the long night of battle was over, and I thank our God and Father that you, through His grace, after fifty years in the ministry, are still waving the flag of truth by word of mouth and the printed page.

May our Lord continue to give you strength, grace and wisdom to wave His flag — the flag whose stars are the great doctrines of the Holy Scriptures.

Yours in Him,

ELDER WILLARD WILLIS
Pastor, Northbrook Baptist Church
Columbus, Ohio.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM TENNESSEE

Bro. Gilpin, your ministry and the Baptist Examiner has been a blessing to me since February 1955. A dear preacher friend, Bro. John King gave me a copy of The Baptist Examiner and subscribed to it for me, for a year. I read everyone as soon as it arrived. As a young Christian it was food for my soul and I waited patiently for the next issue to come to my home.

Brother Gilpin, your articles were always to the point and very educational. Since the first issue of The Baptist Examiner I received, your stand for the truth has not changed. I have almost every copy of T.B.E. since 1955 and often go back and look them over. I find that you have not come up with any new doctrines and have not changed your position as many others have. I am not afraid to quote you on doctrinal matters, because you have been unmoveable. This has caused me to have a lot of respect for you. Not many men have preached 50 years without changing their position or giving up. Thank God for your faithfulness.

I would not forget Calvary Baptist Church in its stand with you. She is a great church and has mothered some fine churches. She is known like yourself far and wide to be a sound and God-fearing church. She has been missionary not only in name, but in practice. Surely, our Lord is receiving glory from her and the members giving glory through her.

Brother Gilpin, even though you are a GREAT preacher, Calvary Baptist Church a GREAT Church, The Baptist Examiner a GREAT paper, You, Calvary Baptist Church and the Baptist Examiner owes its GREATNESS to a GREAT and Mighty God. May He continue to use this Trinity for His glory until Jesus comes to rapture us out of this sinful world.

Yours in Christ,

Dan Phillips, Pastor
New Testament Baptist Church
Bristol, Tennessee.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM NEW GUINEA

As Thanksgiving Season is upon us once again, I am reminded in a very special way of God's goodness to me not only this year but my mind goes back a quarter of a century when He began to bless me through a most unusual channel.



Just as God uses means and agencies to carry out other aspects of His great plan for the universe, He also uses means in blessing people. I refer you to Genesis 12:2 where the Lord had spoken to Abram. "And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great, AND THOU SHALT BE A BLESSING."

It was about a quarter of a century ago when I first came in contact with an issue of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. I'll be the first to admit that those first few copies failed to bless me very much, but there was something about them that was so unusual that I could not "trash can" them before reading them. Thus it was in this manner that God began to reshape my thinking and theology.

It is often said that any particular army unit is only as strong as its weakest soldier. I might add that the weakest issue of any religious paper reflects the truths for which its editor stands — in a quarter of a century I have never seen a weak issue of TBE.

I well remember the closing statement of the first letter that I ever received from you, quote: "If ever I can be of any help to you in any way please do not fail to call upon me," unquote. I have never tried to impose upon that offer, but I must admit that time and time again over the years God has used you to help me in numerous ways when there seemed to be no solution to the problem.

If I am correct, you will have rounded out a full half century in the ministry this Thanksgiving. If you have been as much of a blessing, proportionately, to those that have known you all through the 50 years as you have been to me the last 25, they are of all people most blessed. Truly, God has used you to be a blessing to multiplied thousands of individuals. May it please our Lord to use you for many years to come as a channel of blessing to His people and to Him be glory forever Amen.

FRED T. HALLIMAN,
Missionary to New Guinea

CONGRATULATIONS FROM OHIO

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His bene-

Paul thanked God for his fellow servants, those, who no doubt, had been used of God to encourage and strengthen him in his ministry.



I too want to acknowledge by thanksgiving to God for those instruments He has used to help me over the years; and naturally included in this would have to be TBE, and the ministry of Bro. Gilpin. No, I do not worship Bro. Gilpin nor blindly follow him, as he, like every other Baptist preacher, is a sinner saved by grace, and is not infallible, but I do believe in giving credit where credit is due.

It is my prayer God will continue to use TBE as it pleases Him, and would correct anything that is displeasing to Him, for I believe TBE has been a great blessing to many people in many places for many years.

ELD. WILLARD PYLE, Pastor
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church,
Chesapeake, Ohio.

THE ROSTRUM WITH BAPTISTRY IN THE BACKGROUND



Man . . . Ashland

(Continued from page 14)

program. A church which many of us have delighted to visit. It has always been a high privilege and special spiritual joy to visit with this great church. Truly, we praise God for the ministry of John R. Gilpin in and through this church.

Our man in Ashland has directed many Bible Conferences that have greatly blessed the souls of many of God's children. Can we ever forget those days of Heaven on earth? Eagle Hall, the tents in the backyard, Morehead, Huntington. Oh, what days they were! What great preaching we heard! What wonderful fellowship we had! We came from many places. Most of us only had a few with which to fellowship through the year. How hungry we were. And, Oh! how God fed and thrilled our souls through those conferences. We went home strengthened, encouraged, ready once more to go forth in battle for Jesus Christ. I suppose that yonder in Heaven, I will always look back on the Calvary Baptist Church Conferences, directed by John R. Gilpin, as outstanding experiences and blessings of my life. And surely those conferences have given birth to other conferences that have blessed our souls. And we still live in hope, that if it please the Lord, we will see some more of the great Ashland conferences.

Our man in Ashland has manifested a missionary attitude throughout his ministry. He has been used of God to encourage multitudes to support Scriptural missionary work a Scriptural way. Surely John R. Gilpin is a Missionary Baptist. This has been manifested in his sermons in TBE in which he has, so many times, preached the gospel to the lost, and exhorted men to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. This has been manifested in the missionary ministry of TBE as it has been used to carry God's Word to so many. And it has been manifested in the use of

TBE to publicize and support mission work, especially the great work in New Guinea directed by Fred Halliman.

Our man in Ashland is a personal friend to an innumerable host. How many of us have spent happy hours of great fellowship in the Gilpin home? What a list it would make! And how have we been treated? Like visiting royalty. How many of us have received a letter of encouragement or a phone call of encouragement from John R. Gilpin? I am sure that I am not the only one who is indebted to this man in this way. Many times he has written or called at just the right time with just the right word to console, strengthen, and encourage and bless. I would be lower than a dog if I did not love, respect, and appreciate this man who has meant so much to me in so many ways through several years.

John R. Gilpin is not my god. Shame on the preacher who said this to me. But he is a man in Ashland whom God has used and is using to be a blessing to thousands of God's children each week. So, I feel justified in giving honor to whom honor is due. And I think it is due to John R. Gilpin. I give my sovereign God all the glory. But I must, in honesty, recognize that God has used John R. Gilpin to be a great blessing to me. It would not be right to refuse honor to the instrument used of God in our blessings.

The preacher asked me, "What are you going to do when your god in Ashland dies?" Well, he is not my god. My God is the sovereign and eternal God of the Bible. I will say that when and if John R. Gilpin dies, and if I am still alive — I will miss him very much. I will miss the few but blessed letters and phone calls — I will miss the blessing of his ministry. But I will go on, God willing. The God who has sus-

tained John R. Gilpin these years will not have died. He will continue me and my ministry as long as He sees fit.

I will further say that I would expect to see John R. Gilpin again. Yonder on the other side. Yonder in the glory. I will see him and we will continue fellowship that was started in this life. I will further say that John R. Gilpin may not die. Oh, it may be very soon that our Lord will come, we will be given glorified bodies and caught up to meet the Lord in the air and be with the Lord forevermore.

John R. Gilpin is not my god. I do not worship him. But I know, and worship the same God he does and I love and appreciate John R. Gilpin for the blessings God has given me through the ministry of "Our Man In Ashland." May God give him as many years in the ministry beyond the fifty as it pleases God. May God continually bless, prosper, and use to His glory and the good of others, this man in Ashland. God bless you all!

Dear Brothers and Sisters who have been blessed by the ministry of John R. Gilpin and of The Baptist Examiner: Thanksgiving marks the fiftieth anniversary of Brother Gilpin entering the ministry. The Calvary Baptist Church which he pastors is planning special commemoration service at this time. This will be in conjunction with the church's usual Thanksgiving services. As you know, there is, at this time of the year, an effort made for a special Thanksgiving offering for TBE. Let me appeal to each one of you and to each church.

Let us flood the Ashland Post Office with letters telling our brother some of what he, his ministry, and TBE has meant to us. Please, each one of you, write a brief note to Brother Gilpin along this line. Then let us endeavor to lead our churches to give a very special and generous offering at this time for the support of The Baptist Examiner. I hope this will be the largest offering ever received at Thanksgiving time for TBE. Let us pray for our brother and his ministry. God bless you all.

Day Of Grace

(Continued from page 13)

sinner might sin so long that God would refuse to save him, and he thus repeatedly said the the sinner could sin away his day of grace.

I had T. T. Martin hold a revival for us a few years before his death, and in that meeting he declared over and over again that the sinner could resist God so long that he could never be saved. He even went so far as to declare that this was the unpardonable sin — the sin against the Holy Spirit. Many times during that meeting I heard him declare that the sinner could sin away his day of grace.

I

THAT A SINNER CAN SIN AWAY HIS DAY OF GRACE, FLATLY DENY AS AN UNSCRIPTURAL, UNBIBLICAL THEORY WHICH IS WITHOUT ANY SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION WHATSOEVER.

In fact, the sinner has no day of grace. He is not under grace but under law. Grace does not begin within his life until salvation becomes a present possession. Therefore, such a statement is a careless mis-handling of Scriptural terms.

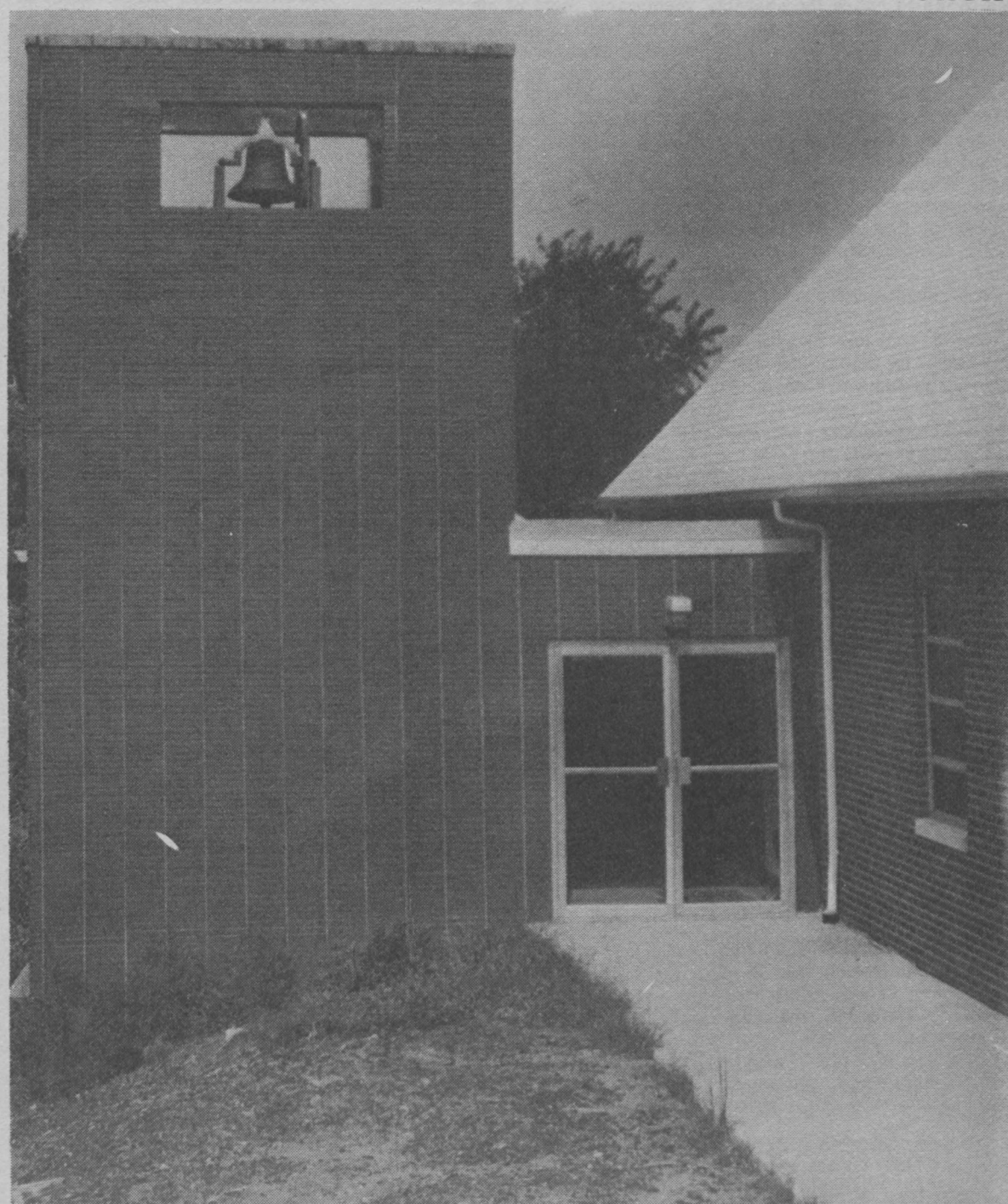
However, the Word of God shows most clearly that just the opposite is true — namely, that everyone with whom God begins to work, He eventually brings to complete salvation. Let's notice a few Scriptures in this respect:

First of all, there's Paul's great statement to the church at Rome:

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his son, that he might be the first-born among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he

(Continued on page 19, column 3)

CLOSE UP OF ENTRANCE AND BELL TOWER OF OUR CHURCH



ELDER OWEN CROY



Due to illness, both on his part and also on the part of his wife, Brother Croy is retired from the ministry but is a tremendous blessing and help to Calvary Baptist Church. His teaching ministry is truly and deeply appreciated.

'Will The United States Become Another Sodom?'

"Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."—Jude 1:7.

I don't care to discuss the sciences of life. It is merely my desire to preach the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sometimes in order to give a proper presentation of Jesus, it is necessary for us to take a look at our own depravity and see just how far removed each of us are from God. It is thus that today I speak to you concerning the city of Sodom. My text offers a good depiction of the city. Yet, if you could see the city in all of its vile and impurity, go back and read the 19th chapter of Genesis. It has always been rather interesting to me to notice the characteristics of this city of Sodom as revealed in the Scriptures. First of all, it was materialistically inclined. It was a great city of commerce. Lots of buying and selling took place in this city. It was because of this that Lot went there to live. When he separated from Abraham, we read that immediately he "pitched his tent toward Sodom," and little by little entered the city and began his trading and trafficking with the people of the city.

A second characteristic of the city of Sodom is that it was a city of unusual vice and exceeding sin. According to God's description of it: "The men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the Lord exceedingly." (Gen. 13:13). Just before God destroyed the city of Sodom, He revealed to Abraham His purpose relative to the city, which resulted in Abraham's interceding with God in behalf of the city. In connection with this conversation that passed between Abraham and God, you find Him saying, "Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous." (Gen. 18:20).

Is this is but a revelation of the exceeding sinfulness of the city of Sodom. You find it likewise depicted in Ezek. 16: 49,50. Listen: Behold, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom, pride, fulness of food, and abundance of idleness, in her and in her daughters, she did strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took away as I saw good." When too, my text offers an exceedingly characteristic picture of the sinfulness of the city. "Even

ize the closing days of this age.

Listen: "Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened"—Matt. 13:33.

This is Jesus' parable of the leaven. In the Bible, leaven is always mentioned in an evil sense. Just as leaven or yeast spoils the bread dough, so we are warned in the realm of religious truth the entirety shall be leavened. This surely does not present a very pleasant picture so far as our future is concerned.

In the city of Sodom, apparently there was no truth preached. This, the Word of God tells us, will ultimately be true. In the parable of the leaven, the meal represents gospel truth. Eventually, the whole of it shall be corrupted.

What a terrible "jolt" this Scripture brings to the post-millennialists, who insist that the world is getting better, and that eventually, the world will be so good that Jesus will come to it that He might make it His home. Instead, the Word of God tells us that just before He comes back to take possession of this sin-cursed world, that it will be so iniquitous that the entire gospel truth which He came to bring 1900 years ago, shall be corrupted and leavened with false doctrines and heresies. Instead of the dream of the post-millennialist being true, the world is to get farther and farther from God and His Word.

If you would see whether the United States is to become another Sodom, then note these words of Jesus: "For whosoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together." (Matt. 24:28). The word for "eagle" is the word for "buzzard." You know that when you look up into the skies and see an old buzzard floating about, that he is looking for something dead. Well, the Word of God declares that when Jesus comes back, that society will be just as a rotting, putrifying, decaying carcass.

Jesus, in this same chapter, in discussing the second coming says: "But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark."—Matt. 24:37,38. That which will thus characterize the days when Jesus comes back to this world, will be eating, drinking, marrying, and giving in marriage, just worldly living, no thought as to God.

Slowly but surely we are drifting into those conditions described in the words of Jesus. During the World War No. 1, a commission was sent from this country to France to study social conditions then existing. They visited all places of amusement, and observed the nation politically, socially, and in the home. When they made their report in Washington, they said, "We are supposed to be in a war to save civilization, but it is questionable if such a civilization is worth saving." Certainly, the morals of Paris then are practically the morals of this nation today.

I cite as a proof of this fact that at San Francisco, Sally Rand's nude ranch was the biggest attraction, while at New York at the World's Fair, Billy Rose's nearly nude bathing girls were headliners.

Thus, Jesus declared that society would be just a rotting carcass morally when He returned. In movies, magazines, and dances, morals and ethics today have practically putrified. The theme in it all is sex, and the sinfulness of Sodom is thus characteristic of this twentieth century.

But let's notice another Scripture in which Jesus gives us a pen picture as to what shall characterize the closing days of this age. Listen:

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from

heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed"—Luke 17:28-30.

In Lot's day, the city of Sodom, as I have said, was materialistically inclined. Jesus said that it would be the same when He comes back to this world.

Having noticed that which did characterize the city of Sodom, let me show you still further what shall characterize the closing days of this age. When Paul wrote to young Timothy, by inspiration, he made such a revelation:

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God: Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof. Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." (II Tim. 3:1-5, 12,13).

This is what Paul said would characterize the United States, and England, and Germany, and all the balance of the world when Jesus comes again.

That you might see that this world is getting farther from God, and shall continue, look at the image which Nebuchadnezzar saw in his dream. You remember in the second chapter of Daniel this mighty image with the head of gold, chest and arms of silver, belly and thighs of brass, and legs of iron. Daniel interpreted this as a dream of history. He said that Nebuchadnezzar represented the head of gold; whereas the arms and chest of silver represented Media-Persia; and that the belly and thighs of brass was typical of Greece; and the legs of iron represented Rome. You will notice the metals that made up this image—gold, silver, brass, iron, and ultimately iron and miry clay. This meant that there was an increase

in strength, but a decrease in finer qualities. We have it in the world today. The world is much stronger educationally, materialistically, and even religiously than it used to be; and yet, there has been a terrible deterioration and depreciation of the finer qualities.

There are sentimental post-millennialists who talk about the world getting better. Surely, no one can read these Scriptures without being definitely convinced that post-millennialism is an idle dream, and that instead of the world getting better, it shall get worse and worse until Jesus comes, so that the characteristics of the city of Sodom shall ultimately become the characteristics of the world, and the United States will thus become another Sodom.

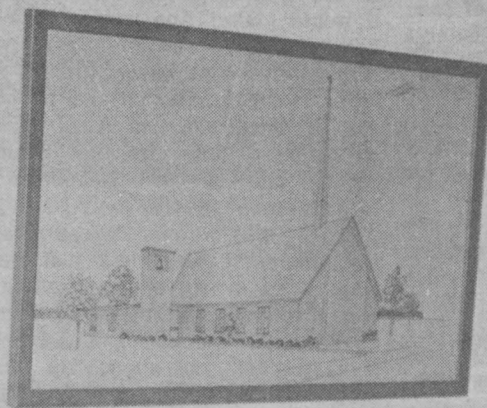
III

In view of this, what should be our proper attitude today?

Every Christian ought to be out and out for the Lord. Since by prophecy we have seen that the United States is to become another Sodom, then as long as each of us are here in the world, we certainly should be busy witnessing to the truth which has been given us, remembering that Jesus has said, "Ye are the salt of the earth," and "Ye are the light of the world." (Matt. 5:13,14).

If this should be the proper attitude of the Christian, then surely, it should be the part of prudence and wisdom for the unsaved man, in view of that which is coming to pass, that he should turn to the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. When the city of Sodom was about to be destroyed, the angel said to Lot and those who came forth from the city, "Escape for thy life." Today, I would take the position of this angel, and would say to you in the light of existing conditions of today, and prophesied conditions of tomorrow, "Escape for thy life." And if you would escape and find a refuge, a haven of rest, a shelter in a weary land, then receive Jesus Christ by faith and be saved, remembering His promise, "He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." (John 6:47).

—Saturday, January 31, 1942



The registry desk showing an artist's drawing of our church building prior to its completion.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM TENNESSEE

Dear Bro. Gilpin, and all they who faithfully serve in ministering the Word of truth to so many people in so many places in all the world. I remember very well, when I was pastor of the Mountain Home Baptist Church, Sidney St., Johnson City, Tenn., that you preached the first time in Tennessee.



That visit to Tennessee was the beginning of a great ministry of T.B.E. in the state and region, which ministry continues until this day. To God be all the glory for all the Truth published in T.B.E. in the past, and I trust will be published in the future to the edification of so many dear saints of God who have no one to faithfully feed their hungry souls in these days of heresy, tradition and idolatry. Inasmuch as you have been providentially entrusted with such a blessed privilege to minister to so many.

I entreat you, dear yokefellow, in the Great and Good name of our Blessed Redeemer, Jesus Christ, to be doubly sure that He is faithfully represented, and that God's truth is not compromised in the pages of T.B.E., as long as it is your privilege to do so.

III John V. 2

Chas. Souder, Pastor
Pilgrims Hope Baptist Church
Memphis, Tennessee

GOD'S GIFTS

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above." - James 1:17.

I wonder, beloved, just what it is that we actually receive which definitely comes from God. As I asked myself that question during the past days since Wednesday night, I have been amazed, in turning through the Word of God, just to notice the things which we every day take for granted which are positive gifts from God Himself.

I
IN THE VERY FIRST PLACE, IN A GENERAL SENSE, ALL THINGS COME FROM GOD. In reality there isn't anything that is not a gift from God. Listen:

"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue." - II Peter 1:3.

I say then, beloved, before I mention some things specifically, that in a general sense everything we have or that we receive is but a gift from God Himself.

II
BUT I WANT US TO NOTICE A FEW THINGS SPECIFICALLY THAT HE HAS GIVEN US THAT ARE DEFINITE GIFTS FROM HIM. DID YOU EVER THINK THAT SLEEP WAS A GIFT OF GOD?

"It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrow: for so he giveth his beloved sleep" - Psalms 127:2.

Notice this verse: "It is vain for you to rise up early and to sit up late, for so he giveth his beloved sleep." God gives us sleep, and since God gives to His beloved sleep, it is therefore vain to sit up late and to rise up early. Sleep is a gift from God.

III
I WANT YOU TO NOTICE ALSO, BELOVED, THAT NOT ONLY SLEEP IS A GIFT FROM GOD; WISDOM IS LIKEWISE A GIFT FROM GOD.

I tell you tonight, beloved, wisdom is a gift from God. Listen:

"Wisdom and knowledge is granted

unto thee." - II Chron. 1:12.

IV
EVEN THE FOOD THAT WE EAT AND THE RAIMENT THAT WE WEAR - THESE ARE GIFTS FROM GOD.

"Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed. (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." - Matt. 6:31-33.

Therefore, beloved, even our food and our raiment are gifts from God.

V
NOTICE ALSO THAT THE PEACE, IF THERE BE PEACE IN THIS WORLD, IS A GIFT FROM GOD. The majority of people, if you ask them as to what brought about peace and the cessation of hostilities at the end of World War II, would say the atomic bomb is responsible. I dare say if I were to go around this audience and ask each of you this question, the answer that I would get more than any other, would be that the atomic bomb brought peace.

However, I want you to notice that peace came because of God - God is the one that giveth peace. Listen: "And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid: and I will rid evil beasts out of the land, neither shall the sword go through your land." - Leviticus 26:6.

VI
IN ADDITION TO FOOD, RAIMENT, SLEEP, WISDOM, AND PEACE, WHAT HAS HE GIVEN US? - THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL - THE LORD JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF. Turn to the Word of God and listen:

"I the Lord have called thee in righteousness and will hold thine hand and will help thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles." - Isaiah 42:6.

Day Of Grace

(Continued from page 17)

also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified" - Rom. 8:28-30).

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

II

I REALIZE THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF OBJECTIONS TO THIS PRECIOUS TRUTH.

There are those, first of all, who declare their inability to understand. Possibly that inability comes from a lack of teaching, or maybe from a spiritual perception on the part of those taught, and sometimes it is just a cloak behind which individuals hide. I'm ready

What does it mean? God the Father has given Jesus Christ as a light for the heathen. Listen again:

"Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from Heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven." - John 6:32.

"Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water." - John 4:10.

VII

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST GIVES TO US ETERNAL LIFE. Listen:

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." - Romans 6:23.

How do you get eternal life? Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Beloved, you can join every so-called church organization in this town, and you can be baptized in any way you please, but you will never have life - you will never have eternal life - you will never have salvation until you receive it as a gift from God.

VIII

REPENTANCE IS A GIFT FROM GOD. Listen:

"Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins." - Acts 5:31.

"Why," you say, "Brother Gilpin, can't a man repent any time he wants to?" Listen: repentance is a gift from God. You can only repent as God gives you the gift to do so.

IX

EVEN THE FAITH YOU EXERCISE IN BELIEVING ON JESUS CHRIST IS A GIFT FROM GOD.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." - Ephesians 2:8.

I heard a preacher say sometime ago, "Why faith is the simplest thing in the world. You get in an automobile and sit behind the steering wheel, and you have faith that that automobile will take you where you want to go."

God doesn't save anybody because of a head knowledge, sense faith; God saves with faith that comes as a direct gift from God.

X

ARE YOU AT PEACE WITH GOD TONIGHT? Do you have the assurance that all your sins are forgiven? Can you put your hand upon your breast and say, "I know that my redeemer liveth"? Do you have that experience tonight? Listen to me, if that's your experience tonight, if you have peace with God in that manner, you can say that that peace is a gift from God. Listen:

"The Lord will give strength unto his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace." - Psalm 29:11.

Do you have that peace tonight? There's an old song which says,

"Sweet peace, the gift of God's love."

Beloved, if you are at peace with Him tonight, it is a gift from Almighty God.

May God bless you all!

-March 1, 1947

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
OCTOBER 26, 1974
PAGE NINETEEN

to grant that not only this truth, but any of God's Word must be spiritually perceived and that for one to understand it he must be taught of God. God's ways and God's thoughts are so much higher than ours that we cannot grasp them without divine ability.

Listen:

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts" - Isa. 55:8,9.

Then there are others who would object by insisting that God is unjust in thus choosing some, thereby guaranteeing their salvation and in passing others by. Well, beloved, it isn't a matter of justice, but of grace. Each of us, if we got justice, would go to Hell. However, I thank God that our salvation does not depend upon the justice, but rather, upon the mercy and grace of God.

In this connection, I have often thought of two individuals, perhaps in death row awaiting execution. Both are confessedly guilty. Each should die. Yet, a few minutes before the execution, the governor steps in and pardons one but allows the other to go to his death. Now which man received justice? Of course, you must admit that the man who died got justice, whereas the other man received mercy.

In the same connection, we need to realize that if each of us received justice, we would all go to Hell, but God in His grace, has chosen some unto salvation.

Still again, there are others who would object to this truth by asking this question: Why preach the gospel if the elect are to be saved? The answer is obvious, beloved. We are to preach it because God commanded us to do so.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; 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" - Matt. 28:19,20.

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" - Mark 16:15.

I don't know who the elect are, but God knows. He commands me to preach the gospel to every creature. It is my business to preach, following His command, and it's His business to save those whom He has chosen.

In fact, one mighty good reason why we are to preach the gospel is that it is the means which God has ordained whereby the lost are to be saved. While God elects men unto salvation, He also ordains the means or instrumentality of our salvation, and that is through the preaching of the Word of God.

These were the words of Jesus at a time when He might have been more discouraged than at any other experience of His life. He had just fed five thousand men, not counting women and children, miraculously, and having completed this miracle, He preached to

them His great discourse on Himself as the Bread of Life. This resulted in the loss of His entire congregation, so that by the time He had finished His sermon, of His apostles remained with Him. Jesus therefore encouraged Himself with the thought that even one whom God had given Him a love gift before the foundation of the world would come to Him.

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God" - I Cor. 1:18.

A final objection which is offered relative to the truth of election that the Bible says "whosoever will." I'm ready to grant that it is true. God does say "whosoever will." Let's read it:

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." - Rev. 2:17.

However, it is plainly evident that the only ones who would come under this classification of "whosoever will" are those whom God has chosen. If left to himself, man would choose to go contrary to God, and to direct his will against the will of God. Jesus Himself said

"And ye will not come to me that ye might have life" - Jn. 5:40.

The word "will" in this text is a past participle. Jesus literally said that this crowd had definitely will not to come to Him. This truly the attitude of every unsaved sinner. His will is definitely and woefully turned away from God. While God gives the invitation the terms of "whosoever will," only those who are the elect will ever turn to Him.

I stand before an open door over which I see these words: "Whosoever will shall enter." I walk in and look over the door the inside and I read,

"Elect according to the foreknowledge of God" - I Peter 1:2.

I realize that the message to an unsaved sinner, is "whoever will" and when I get Christ, I then realize that "whosoever wills" are those whom God had elected from before the foundation of the world.

Thus, beloved, in the light of these truths, all those whom God had elected will be saved. Men resist, reject, and spurn God's grace. Yet, through the preaching of the Word of God and the working of the Holy Spirit, all those whom He has chosen will eventually and ultimately be saved. One of them will be lost. No one will be able to "sin away his gift of grace." Instead, all of God's people will ultimately come to Him.

May you therefore remember that election is not salvation, rather, is "unto salvation." In view of this fact, may you therefore receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour and be saved.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" - John 1:12.

May the Lord bless you!

-Saturday, July 7, 1947

CONGRATULATIONS FROM KENTUCKY

I heard of John R. Gilpin for the first time in 1948 when someone from Pennington Gap, Virginia sent me the Baptist Examiner. I did not believe in the doctrines of Sovereign Electing Grace at that time and therefore did not care for TBE.

I continued to read it occasionally and under its influence, along with much personal teaching by Elder Frank B. Beck and the writings of Spurgeon, C. D. Cole and others, I came to understand and believe in the Sovereign Grace of God in 1951. It was at this time, I met Brother Gilpin personally.

In the last 26 years, his ministry through TBE and the church he pastored has been a great blessing to me and has helped others in the churches I have pastored. I have known him and each member of his family and enjoyed the hospitality of their homes during the Bible Conferences.

I do thank God for him and his family and hope for them the best in this life and the great reward of the faithful in the future.

PASTOR GERALD B. PRICE,
Covenant Baptist Church,
1533 Versailles Road,
Lexington Kentucky.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM VIRGINIA

We believe THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, of which our Lord has graciously allowed you to be editor, is a world-wide ministry, the greatness of which I could not begin to tell. It has blessed me so many times when I felt like I could not go on, then THE BAPTIST EXAMINER would arrive in the mail, giving me a new look at everything. For us to honor God for giving you this position, both as a pastor and an editor, know of no greater way than for the many subscribers and readers of TBE to send a special offering on Thanksgiving - that is those like myself that cannot be there.

That way, it will help your work.

When there does come a time when offerings come small and far between, I believe with all my heart that God will be honored that way, and that you will accept such offering as us saying thanks to our Great God for you. May you continue for many years in this great work if it be the will of the Lord - another fifty years.

Very respectfully and sincerely
ELDER JULIUS D. WISHON
Meadowview, Va.

"WHITTLERS OF THE WORD"

Jeremiah 36:19-25.

This brief Scripture which I have read is taken from interesting Scriptural story of the Old Testament, Jehoia- was king of Judah. A study of his life as recorded in II Kings and II Chronicles reveals how utterly sinful he was. the express command of God, Jeremiah who had pre- ussly been delivering his messages orally, now wrote his ssages, and through the aid of the princes, he succeeded raving it sent unto the king. When Jehoiakim read it, so pleased was he with the message of the Word of God, t he had it cut to pieces with his penknife. Having cut to ces Jeremiah's prophecy, he burned it in the fire, and s completely destroyed it. He thus became, so far as the istorical record is concerned, the first whittler of the Word od.

I preached sometime ago in a church in which a Bap- preacher got up angrily and stomped noisily out of the ding because I preached the truth of the security of the ed. Yet here it is, beloved, plainly to be seen in God's rd. I thank God that when a sinner is saved, that he is ed forever. Every man who teaches or preaches other- e, or who says that you may be saved today and yet lost orrow, does the same as Jehoiakim — he whittles on d's Word. I tell you, beloved, there is many a man who has ible that is badly torn into shreds just by the whittling d taking out of it the things that do not suit him.

Long ago, I came to this conclusion, that if God didn't an what He said, why didn't He say what He meant. I ieve the Bible literally as it is, and in my ministry I aim to ach it. I certainly don't want to come up to the judgment d have God say that I have been a whittler of His Blessed ok.

Yet withal, beloved, Jehoiakim could not get rid of the le. Jeremiah sat down and wrote his prophecy again, d incorporated this story into this first. I tell you, beloved, Bible cannot be destroyed. Listen: "For ever, O Lord, thy rd is settled in heaven." (Psa. 119:89). "Heaven and earth ll pass away, but my words shall not pass away." (Matt. 35).

"Last eve I stood beside the blacksmith's door
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
Then looking in, I saw upon the floor
Old hammers worn with beating years of time.

How many anvils have you had, said I,
To wear and batter these hammers so?
Only one, said he, the anvil
Wears the hammers out, you know.

And so I thought, the anvil of God's word
For ages skeptic's blow have beat upon,
And though the sound of falling blows was heard,
The anvil is unhurt — the hammers gone."

In closing, may I pray God, in your behalf that you will d His Word, love His Word, and stand by His Word. What- r you do, don't be a whittler of the Word of God. May d bless you all!

—Saturday, February 3, 1940

Redemption . . . Blood

(Continued from page 13)

ther words, he saw Him on His ne. What if there is great apos- ? What if the foundations seem e shaking? What if Christianity n trial? What if there are mod- sts and evolutionists? Christ is on His throne.

hat if women are out of their -given sphere in business, in ch, and in politics, God is still is throne.

hat if sorrow comes in battal- ? What if the Devil does destroy home? There are those here in presence this morning who have ed husbands and wives and child- since last we met together a year

ago on this Thanksgiving occasion. What if your home has been destroy- ed? What if God has led you through the wilderness? What if friends for- sake you and foes arise? Remember, Christ is still on His throne.

The marvel of marvels, the slain Lamb accepted the angel's challenge to loose the seals, to open the book, to claim the inheritance, and say, "It is mine." When He did so, all heaven was set rejoicing. Listen: "And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are prayers of saints" (Rev. 5:7, 8). You will notice by these

verses when the Lamb took the book all heaven said, "Hallelujah, hal- lelujah, every prayer is to be an- swered!" Mother's prayers are to be answered. Maybe she pray- ed her last time ten, twenty, thirty, or forty years ago; now she is in glory, and her prayers are to be answered. Fathers' prayers and wives' prayers, and husbands' pray- ers, and children's prayers, and pastors' prayers, and teachers' and martyrs' prayers, and every- body's prayers, that have been of- fered in Jesus' name will be an- swered for the glory of God.

And then as soon as Christ claims the inheritance, notice the singing that takes place. "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation" (Rev. 5:9). There is just one sub- ject of their singing, and that is the blood of the Lamb. That's why I preach on it so often. That's why I like to sing about it. In heaven the only theme that will ever excite our hearts to sing will be that of the blood of the Lamb.

And what a crowd it is that thus sings of redemption through the blood! "Every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation." When I attended the World's Baptist Al- liance in Toronto, Canada, in 1928, I heard men from China, and Italy and South America, and the islands of the sea testify as to what Jesus meant to them. Dressed in their native costumes they came from the east and the west, the north and the south, to honor the name of Him who died for them. Some- how as I recall that experience, that conference fades from my memory, and I see the nations, the kindreds, the tongues, and the people of the earth rise up to sing the same song, --the blood of the Lamb. You might just as well learn how to sing now, you will have to when you get to Heaven; and I certainly would hate for any of you, my people, to be in the primer class in Heaven on the question of singing.

I would hate to think of any of you having to learn, "do, ra, me," after you get to Heaven.

And what a choir it was that John saw! The number of the choiristers was beyond his calculation. "And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and elders: and the num- ber of them was ten thousand times ten thousands, and thousands and thousands" (Rev. 5:11). Bring on your adding machines, your posting machines, your stenographers, and your bookkeepers, and even after you have calculated the number of this choir, all you can know is that it is composed of ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousand and thou- sands. This brings us lots of joy, for in our stand for the truth here we are often in the minority; but up yonder, we are going to be in the majority.

What a scene this is! When the choir leads off, do you notice that which happens? Every creature in Heaven, which includes the angels, the arch-angel, the cherubim, the seraphim, the writers of the Script- ure, the saints and martyrs of days gone by, all fall down to praise the Lamb. And then down on earth, every creature in the earth does likewise. I verily believe that in that day when the earth is completely redeemed back to God, that even the animals -- the elephant, the giraffe, the monkey, the lion and the wolf, and all the balance of the animals of this earth will prostate them- selves, giving honor and allegiance to Jesus. Even those under the earth do likewise. The Devil comes out of his abode, and the fallen an- gels who are reserved in darkness and chains likewise praise a re- deemer who has never redeemed them. Even those within the sea, including the whale, the fish, and all the forms of life that inhabit the water--all of these and all those in Heaven and on earth--yea, every creature sings the praise of the Lamb so that in view of His re- demption, we have universal adora- tion of the Lamb who is king. Un- doubtedly, this is the greatest con- gregational singing ever known. We have never heard the like of it in this world, but some day we are going to sing in that group who sing the praises of the Lamb.

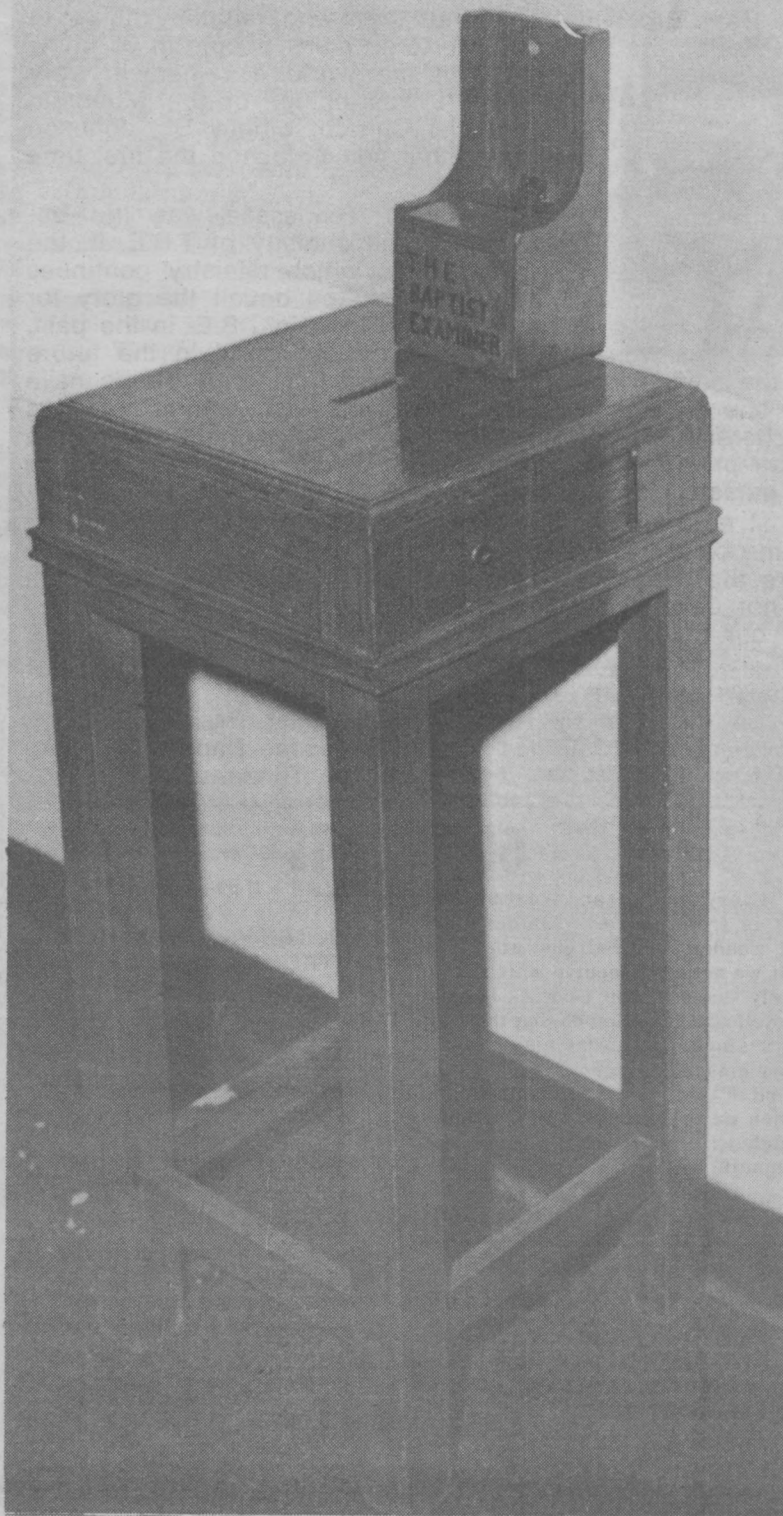
—Saturday, November 30, 1940

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

OCTOBER 26, 1974

PAGE TWENTY

THE OFFERING BOX



The fact that the members of Calvary Baptist Church contribute an average of \$500.00 each, (both old and young) each year, would tell you that this box is used regularly by the members of our church.

PURGATORY

"Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." — Heb. 1:3.

Let me ask you, sinner friend, a plain, straight - forward simple question, where will you be in eter- nity?

If you will go to the various so- called churches of this town and elsewhere, you will find that there are four possible places that will be suggested as to where you will be in eternity: namely, Heaven, Hell, Purgatory, and Annihilation.

Beginning with the last, beloved, let me say that there are individuals who believe in Annihilation. They believe that when you die, you will probably be given a second chance, and then if you refuse that second opportunity, you will just be shoveled into Hell, like so much coal, and burned up, or annihilated. You will come to nothing, and that will be the end of you.

Then there are those who believe that in eternity you will be in Purga- tory -- maybe for a while, to get out, or maybe for eternity you will be there. They believe that Purgatory is a place of tempered suffering, depending upon the sins of your life that you have committed here within (Continued on page 21, column 4)

CONGRATULATIONS FROM OKLAHOMA

In the past years, God has used Calvary Baptist Church and her pastor, John R. Gilpin, to bring many blessings to many people. I have shared in these bless- ings and am very thankful to God for this great church and her work. TBE has been used greatly to preach the truth to a large number of God's people. It is the truth of God's Word that is sweet to the children of God, and TBE has been used by God to guide many to this truth.

I am thankful that God has allowed me to know Brother Gilpin, His Church in Ash- land, Kentucky and to have this great paper in my home each week.

I can remember the wonderful times of joy and fellow- ship at the Bible Conferences that Calvary Baptist Church has had in the past years. It was at these Conferences that we had the privilege to meet many of our brethren that are dear to our hearts.

I would like to congratulate Brother John R. Gilpin in his many years of service to our Lord, and I do thank our Lord for such a man of God.

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above." —James 1:17.

ELDER DAVID O'NEAL,
Pastor, Sovereign Grace
Baptist Church,
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Martin E. Holmes, Pastor
Grace Baptist Church
Sunbury, Ohio



THE UNPARDONABLE SIN

"And the scribes which came down from Jerusalem said, He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of the devils casteth he out devils. And he called them unto him, and said unto them in parables, How can Satan cast out Satan? And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house be divided against itself that house cannot stand. And if Satan rise up against himself, and be divided, he cannot stand, but hath an end. No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house. Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme. But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation. Because they said, He hath an unclean spirit." - Mark 3:22-30.

I doubt seriously if there is any portion of the Word of God that has been more abused and more falsely preached than this portion of Scripture. It has been twisted, perverted, distorted, and misconstrued by Arminian evangelists in a thousand ways.

THE UNPARDONABLE SIN IS NOT ANY ONE PARTICULAR SIN OF THE FLESH.

I remember one man who thought that stealing was an unpardonable sin.

"And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." - Luke 23:42,43.

If I had no other Scripture than this, I would know that a thief could be saved and that stealing was not an unpardonable sin.

Still others think that the sin of drinking in unpardonable. That is a grievous sin one may easily learn from the reading of God's Word.

"Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine." - Prov. 23:29,30.

Likewise, murder is not an unpardonable sin.

We have at least one illustration from God's Word of a murderer who was saved. Barabbas is that murderer (Luke 23:19).

Furthermore, adultery is not an unpardonable sin.

However, notice from God's Word the number of harlots who were saved. Do you remember the harlot Rahab? She was saved. Do you remember the woman of Samaria (John 4), who had had five husbands and was then living in open sin with another man, whom Jesus saved?

The sin of profanity is another which is often thought to be unpardonable.

The Word of God gives us an example of one who used profanity and yet we know that he is in Heaven today. I speak of Simon Peter.

Jesus said that all sins and blasphemies could be forgiven. He said: "Verily I say unto you, All sins

shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme." - Mark 3:28.

THE UNPARDONABLE SIN IS NOT THE REJECTION OF JESUS CHRIST AS SAVIOUR. This is the common interpretation placed upon this Scripture by most Arminian evangelists.

In the Old Testament there is a Scripture which is often correctly quoted but incorrectly applied. It says: "My Spirit shall not always strive with man." - Gen. 6:3. This was God's message to the antediluvian civilization in that He declared he would not always tolerate the sinful civilization of Noah's day. It is the favorite verse of those who believe that the unpardonable sin is the rejection of Jesus as Saviour. Sometime ago I read a message from this text on the subject, "Sinning Away One's Day of Grace." The preacher endeavored to show that a sinner can by continually rejecting Jesus, thus commit the unpardonable sin.

However, beloved, the sinner can't sin away his day of grace because he has never had any grace. There is no such thing as waiting too long nor neglecting one's opportunity for salvation until the Holy Spirit departs. Three Scriptures make clear the fact that all those whom God elects shall eventually be saved.

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

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

"And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed." - Acts 13:48.

No man can read these Scriptures without the realization that God saves only those whom he has elected unto salvation.

THE UNPARDONABLE SIN IS NOT AS THE CATHOLICS SAY, TO DIE OUTSIDE THE CATHOLIC FOLD.

So far as they are concerned the only sin which is unpardonable is to die a Jew, a Protestant, or a Baptist - that is, to die without being a Catholic. This is the only unpardonable sin they know - dying outside Catholicism.

Many have a Lord-saying profession apart from a possession of Christ as Saviour. Let me insist that no man is saved by his church membership. When our Lord comes, His concern will not be whether your name is on some church book, but whether your name was inscribed in the Lamb's Book of Life.

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

THE UNPARDONABLE SIN IS THAT OF ATTRIBUTING THE WORKS OF CHRIST TO SATAN.

When Jesus spoke the words of our text He was talking to those who

OUR ENEMIES

There are those who say that a Christian ought not have any enemies. Of course, this might be the ideal situation, yet it is not practically possible. Our Lord Jesus had plenty of enemies. The Apostle Paul and all the balance of the New Testament characters had plenty of enemies.

"He has no enemies, you say! My friend, the boast is poor. He who has mingled in the fray Of duty that the strong endure, Must have made foes! If he has none Small is the work that he has done: He has bit no traitor on the hip, He has cast no cup from tempted lip; He has never turned the wrong to right, He has been a coward in the fight."

Tennyson said: "He makes no friends who never made a foe."

Elbert Hubbard said: "If you have enemies, you are likely to be in the same predicament with regard to friends."

Some say that the way to get along with your enemies is to have nothing to do with them. This is definitely wrong. This is merely the way to get along without them.

Our Lord gives us specific instructions as to our enemies. He said: "Love your enemies." He does not mean that we have to go into ecstatic jubilation over them. It means though the exact opposite of hating them. It means that we are to hold an attitude of goodwill toward them. It means wishing them well rather than ill.

Our Lord likewise said: "Bless them that curse you." This is not an easy thing to do. However, we are not looking for that which is easy but that which is pleasing to God.

It may be that by blessing those who curse us we will be able to make friends of our enemies. As the poet has said:

"He drew a circle to keep me out, 'Heretic, devil, thing to flout' But love and I had the luck to win. We drew a circle that took him in."

Actually, we ought to feel for our enemies. Longfellow wisely said: "If we could read the secret history of our enemies, we should find in each man's life, sorrow and suffering enough to disarm us of all hostility toward them."

"If every man's internal care Were written on his brow, How many would our pity share Who raise our envy now."

May God help this editor and each to whom these lines come to live with the publican, the sinner, and our enemies that we might win them. Unless we do, worse than failing to win them, we lose ourselves.

"He doeth well who doeth good To those of his own brotherhood He doeth better who does bless The stranger in his wretchedness. Yet best, oh, best of all doth he Who helps a fallen enemy."

-Saturday, October 14, 1946

said that He was doing His work through the power of the Devil. This was their charge.

"And the scribes which came down from Jerusalem said, He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of the devils casteth he out devils." - Mark 3:22.

Jesus thus declared that all other sins and blasphemies might be forgiven yet when one attributed the works of Christ unto Satan, that was committing the unpardonable sin and he was in danger of eternal damnation.

Thus this is not a sin which might be committed by a thoughtless child, or immature youth, or one who is feeble-minded, or by the ignorant. It is a sin that is committed in defiance of God, of which very few have ever been guilty throughout all the ages since the foundation of the world.

However, everyone here has many sins though whereof you are guilty. While you might shrink from the thought of this unpardonable sin, you have willingly embraced many sins of the flesh to your bosom. In God's

CONGRATULATIONS FROM KENTUCKY

There was a time in my ministry when I hated the very name of John R. Gilpin. I had never met him, I had never heard him preach, nor read any of his articles, but I had heard of his stand on certain Bible truths, and I would not allow his name to be mentioned in my presence. My wife had known him all her life but she just prayed that God would open my eyes to these truths.

As I grew in the Word, the Holy Spirit began to reveal to me the doctrines of the church and sovereign grace. One day someone called me a Gilpinite and I said to him, "I don't know what you mean, but if he believes these truths I want to know more about him."

Since that time Brother Gilpin has been a great help to me, I do not want to glorify Brother Gilpin, but I do want to let everyone know that God has used him and TBE to help me in more ways than I can say.

I hope Brother Gilpin considers me his friend, because I am. I pray for him and ache for him when he is hurt. Today I rejoice with him as he celebrates his 50th year in the ministry.

May God bless you, Brother Gilpin.

Yours in Christ,

Elder James E. Hobbs
Pastor Kings Addition
Baptist Church
South Shore, Kentucky

Purgatory

(Continued from page 20)

this world. It is further said by those who believe in a Purgatory that after your sins have been purged and after sufficient suffering has been expiated in behalf of those sins, that you will be able to get out of Purgatory.

Then there are those of us, beloved, who believe that every man who is saved when he died, goes immediately into the direct presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. I can't say it emphatically enough, nor can I say it forcibly enough, but, beloved, when a saved person dies, that one goes immediately into Heaven, into the direct presence of the Lord Jesus Himself.

There is a fourth place where you will be in eternity, and that is Hell. Sinner friend, I want to be fair with you, and I wouldn't be your friend if I didn't tell you the truth. If you were to die without Jesus Christ as your Saviour, you would go into eternity into a Devil's Hell.

I say then, there are four possible places that are suggested by the various religious groups as to where you will be in eternity.

THE PURGATORY OF THE CATHOLICS IS A MISNOMER.

"And as it is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment." - Heb. 9:27.

Notice that it doesn't say that after death comes Limbo, and after Limbo comes Purgatory, and after Purgatory comes the judgment. Rather, it says that the next event following death is the judgment.

Read Luke 16:19-26. There are three things that stand out in this passage of Scripture. The first is that after death comes Hell - not Purgatory, not Limbo, not a half way place, not a suffering that is tempered, but Hell. It says: "And

sight you therefore stand guilty. Has he not said:

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." - Rom. 3:23.

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners: of whom I am chief." - 1 Tim. 1:15.

May God in His Grace reach down and touch the heart of someone of His elect, that you now may be saved for His own glory.

-February 18, 1950



God is closer to you than you are to yourself.

When looking for faults, use a mirror, not a telescope.

God's promises are always greater than our needs.

Doubt asks, "Can God?" Faith says, "God can."

Anyone who looks for friends without faults will have no friends.

in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments." I say then, after death comes a Hell of suffering for every individual that dies outside of Jesus Christ.

The second thing that stands out is that in this Hell there is nothing but suffering. There isn't any tempered suffering. There isn't any water to be given. There isn't any release from the suffering. There isn't any possibility at all whereby that suffering will be diminished - just suffering, suffering, suffering.

The third thing that stands out is that there is a gulf fixed so that the individual that goes to Hell stays in Hell, and the individual that goes to Heaven stays in Heaven. A gulf is fixed between the two and the Word of God says that there can be no passing from Heaven to Hell, nor from Hell to Heaven.

In the light of this passage of Scripture, I say away with the idea of a Catholic Purgatory where there will be tempered suffering for a little while and then the sinner will be released from that suffering to enter into Heaven.

Listen again: "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal." - Matt. 25:46.

I tell you, beloved, in the light of these Scriptures, Purgatory as taught by the Catholics is definitely anti-Scriptural and contradictory to the Word of God.

HOWEVER, SINS MUST BE PURGED.

In one respect the Catholics are right. They are right when they insist that there must be a Purgatory; I say also to you, there must be Purgatory. There has to be some time, somewhere, someplace, a way whereby sins may be purged. Though the Catholic idea of Purgatory after death is un-Scriptural, I would insist at the same time that there must be a Purgatory whereby sins may be purged. Thank God, beloved, I can tell you about that Purgatory!

Beloved, there is the Purgatory that every sinner needs - the blood bath of Calvary whereby Jesus Christ purged our sins away.

"Whom God hath set forth to be propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God." - Rom. 3:25.

If you want to get propitiation for your sins, if you want to have a sacrifice for your sins whereby they might be blotted out, you will find that propitiation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have another Scripture which tells us the same truth.

"The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sins." - 1 John 1:7.

"And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance for ever." - Isa. 32:17.

May God help you to come to the Purgatory of the Bible, to the killing place on Calvary, to the sacrificial ground at the Cross, and trust in Jesus who died there for all your sins.

May God bless you!

-March 17, 1950

CONGRATULATIONS FROM FLORIDA

My new husband of a year and a half seems to think his letter of testimony should be sufficient for me, too, but although I am in accord with what he said, I want to add a bit just for myself, to express my own feelings about THE BAPTIST EXAMINER and what it has meant to me through the years. It had a part in opening my eyes to my need of another immersion with proper authority; for the evening I talked to Bro. Mason about the matter, he handed me one of your papers with an article on that subject he told me to read, so I was doubly convinced.

That was 35 years ago and I've loved and admired THE BAPTIST EXAMINER all these years, and read every word of every issue that comes. It has helped to educate me in the things of the Bible, so words can't begin to express my admiration and love for your paper.

It was a real thrill on our recent trip to Kentucky, to meet its editor and attend services in his fine Church, to hear two sermons there and I got to meet some of your sweet members, including the Halliman family, whom I had long admired. Our prayers are with you daily for continuance of health and prosperity, and we offer congratulations for your fifty years in the ministry.

NELLIE M. MASON
Aripeka, Florida

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

OCTOBER 26, 1974

PAGE TWENTY-ONE

Some Scriptural Reasons Why Peter Wasn't 1st Pope

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus"—1 Tim. 2:5.

Peter was not the first Pope because Paul withstood face to face once when he did wrong. "But when Peter came to Antioch, I withstood him face to face, because he was not to be blamed. For before that certain came from Antioch, he did eat with the Gentiles; but when they were with him, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision. And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation. But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the Gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of the Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?" (Gal. 2:11-14). Let me ask two questions, in the light of the Scripture: Whoever heard of a Pope doing wrong? Whoever heard of withstanding a Pope? Both of these are logical questions, and surely in the light of this Scripture, the conclusion must emphatically be that Peter was not the 1st Pope.

Peter was not the first Pope because the disciples asked him to give an account of his ministry to the Gentiles. Up to this time, the Gentiles had never had the gospel preached unto them. God led Peter to preach unto them, and then the church at Jerusalem called Peter "up on the carpet," and demanded an explanation of him. "And the apostles and brethren that were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had received the word of God. And when Peter was come to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision contended with him, saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them" (Acts 11:1-3). If Peter were an inflexible Pope, he surely would not have had to give an account of his action to the rest of the disciples. The very fact that they demanded this explanation would indicate to him that he was not a Pope, but was simply an apostle like the balance of Jesus' early disciples.

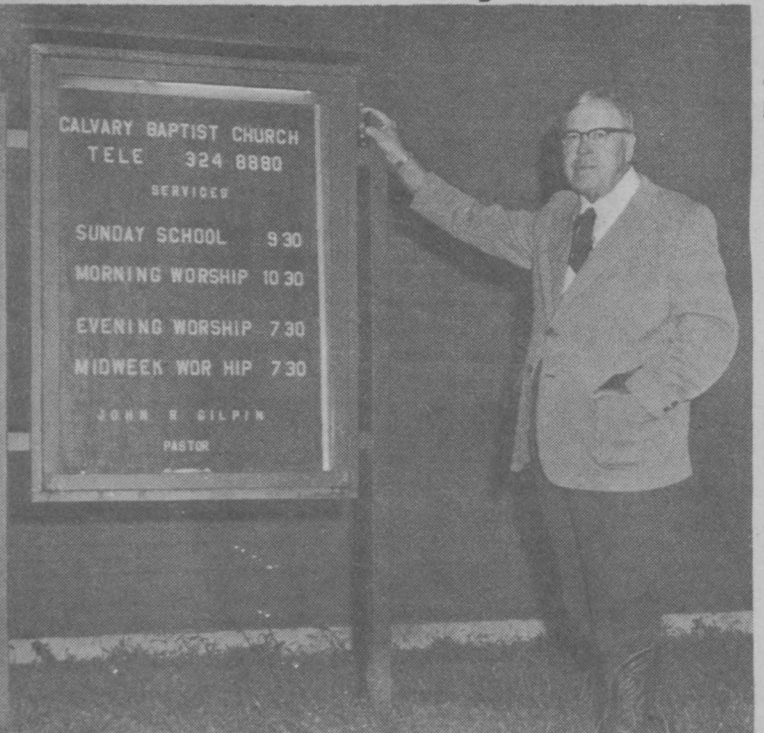
Peter was not the first Pope, because of his own statement in the home of Cornelius. When he went to Caesarea, to preach unto the Gentiles, he went to the home of Cornelius. "And the morrow after they entered into Caesarea. And Cornelius waited for them, and had called together his kinsmen and near friends. And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him. But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man" (Acts 10:24-26). Here was the best opportunity in the world for Simon Peter to tell the world that he either was, or was not a pope. Instead of allowing Cornelius to fall down and worship him at his feet, Peter said, "Stand up; I myself also am a man." What a contrast between Simon Peter and the modern Pope. The Pope of today, demands just such adoration and worship as Simon Peter refused. If one gets to his presence today, he must either kneel and bow in submission unto him, or else, as an infidel, pay the cash in order to see the Pontiff. Surely in view of this Scripture, and these reasons which I have given, we are compelled to say that Simon Peter was no more than any of the Apostles. He was not a Pope, he was just God's servant on earth.

These Scriptures prove to us that Peter was not the first pope. That being true, Pope Pius is not his successor. This being true, Pope XI is not God's official representative on earth.

Sometime ago, I heard of a man who had joined a Catholic church. He declared that he did so for one reason. When asked why, he said, "I have committed my salvation into the hands of the priest, and he is responsible for it." The Baptist to whom he was speaking, said, "That is exactly what I have done. I have put myself in the hands of my priest, and He is responsible for my salvation. The only difference in regard to the priest; yours is a man, while mine is Jesus Christ." It is my prayer tonight, beloved, that in this hour, there shall be many who shall cast themselves into the hands of the Lord Jesus Christ as the only priest, and depend upon Him for eternal salvation and everlasting life.

— February 25, 1939

The Bulletin Board In Front of Our Church Building



Why Baptists Do Not Receive Anything But Baptist Baptism

Matthew 3: 13-17

This leads me to declare that since the ordinance of baptism was given to the church and that only the church which Christ established has the authority to baptize, then Catholics, Pedobaptists, and Campbellites do not have the authority. All will admit that the Y.M.C.A., the B.Y.P.U., the Christian Endeavor, the Epworth League, and similar organizations have not the right to baptize since they are not churches. When Wesley, Luther, Campbell, and others started their churches, they were no more churches than the above named organizations are churches now. Campbell had been excommunicated from a Baptist Church for heresy. Luther was excommunicated from the Catholic Church. Wesley didn't even call his organization a church, but rather, the "Methodist Society." Christ had given the command to baptize to the church; Luther, Wesley, Campbell and others, were only men, with no more authority to baptize than any man today. If they had no authority then, when and where did they get this authority? If they were wrong then in assuming this power of baptism, when did their organizations become right? How long must a wrong remain wrong before it becomes a right? FOREVER AND FOREVER!

I tell you beloved, these heterodoxical organizations have no more authority to baptize than does the Red Cross. Look at it from the standpoint of our United States currency. Since I own a printing plant and have paper and ink at my disposal, wouldn't it be alright for me to print some paper money? I might be able to do just as good a job as that done at Washington. To all appearances, what I might print would be just as good as that which might be printed under government supervision. Yet, I have not the authority to do so. The government would declare that I was counterfeiting. In view of this, beloved, I declare that anything but Baptist baptism is counterfeit and is worthless in the realm of baptism as the counterfeit dollar is in the realm of United States currency.

The perpetuity of any organization is at stake when the administrator of its laws is left to aliens. So with baptism. In the north particularly, Baptist Churches have allowed aliens to administer the ordinance of baptism, and thus the perpetuity of the Baptist Churches of the north, while hoped for by all, is seriously doubted by many. Instead of being bulwarks of strength, they are today strongholds of weakness, receiving any or no baptism, and are gradually coming to foster an inclusive church policy. The only guarantee for Baptist perpetuity of the future, as we have known for the past twenty centuries, is for Baptists to administer their ordinances apart from alien assistance or interference. Logically, my message should come to an end here. But that you may appreciate and understand my great affection for this ordinance, I beg you clemency for a further word. In the cemeteries all over the world, there are hundreds and thousands sleeping. There are graves of fathers, and graves of mothers; graves of brothers and graves of sisters; graves of gray-haired saints and graves of babies. There are graves of your dead and mine. With what pain to our hearts they left us. The clouds that fell upon the casket lid were as arrows to our hearts. With what sorrow we look upon those baby clothes and baby shoes, and think of those baby hands folded cold and pulseless upon a lifeless breast! Again and again we ask, "Is there no hope that they shall live again?" Yes, as long as water stands in the baptistry, as long as water flows in the Ohio, Miami, Mississippi, Kentucky, and the Cumberland; as long as the waters of the five oceans and the many seas remain, there is hope that is expressed in the voice of many waters. The cataracts leaping in the sunlight, the roar of turbulent falls, the silent flowing of smooth streams, the white-cap of shoreless seas, these

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
OCTOBER 26, 1974
PAGE TWENTY-TWO

The Bride Of Christ And Marriage Of The Lamb

"And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true saying of God." - Rev. 19:9.

I am sure that there is nothing that thrills my heart concerning the Word of God more than what is out in store for the child of God on that glorious day when the bride of Christ shall be presented to the Son of God, and when the marriage of the Lamb shall take place. To me, the Bible is just one long continuous love story, beginning with the book of Genesis and going all the way through to the book of Revelation. Finally, when you come to this nineteenth chapter, you have the consummation of all the promises of God concerning the marriage supper, when the Bride is presented to the Lord Jesus.

THE GROOM — JESUS.
I am sure that all of you will agree with me that the groom is none other than the Lord Jesus Himself. Listen: "The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for HIS SON." - Mt. 22:2. The son that is thus referred to is Jesus Christ Himself. "Behold, the BRIDEGROOM COMETH. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the SON OF MAN COMETH." - Mt. 25:6, 13.

Surely the bridegroom at this glorious wedding that we are all looking forward to is none other than Jesus Christ Himself. are the echoes of numberless baptisms, which cry with a voice that is heard around the world, "The dead shall be raised." But wherein does the water give hope of a resurrection?" you ask. Listen to Paul: "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism unto death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we should be also in the likeness of his resurrection." (Rom. 6:4, 5). Will you hear Peter?.... "when once the long suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ." 1 Pet. 3:20, 21).

-Saturday, March 23, 1940 (continued on page 23, column 2)

CONGRATULATIONS FROM OHIO

TBE has been a tremendous blessing to me. I make this statement without a single degree of reluctance. Every family in our church receives TBE, and we send it to hundreds of other people.

I thank God that early in my Christian life I became acquainted with The Baptist Examiner. It will soon be a score of years that I have been privileged to receive this grand and glorious paper. It is our constant and fervent prayer that God will continue His blessings on the ministry of TBE.

TBE is a flowing and growing force against the damnable heresies of Arminianism, Hardshellism, mission boardism and universal-invisible churchism, and I would certainly be remiss, if not downright dishonest not to say, "I am proud to be identified with TBE in its stand against these hellish heresies."

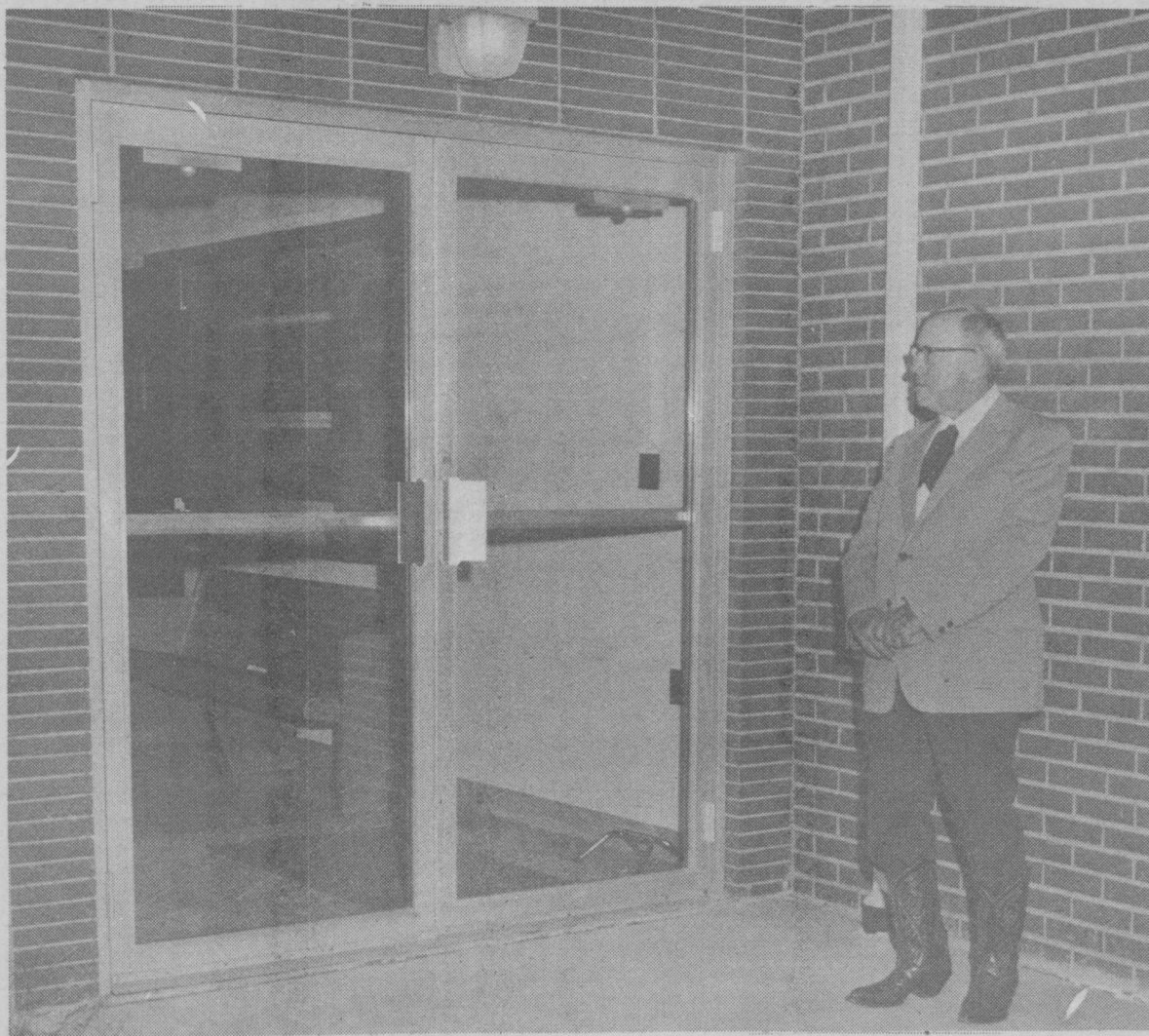
I am not unaware of the critical and malicious statements made against TBE and its Editor, but thus far I have never heard of a single charge that was provable. In fact, all the charges I have heard against TBE and its editor were mere "hear-say" and the Bible strongly condemns hear-say. (Jer. 23:30-31; 1 Tim. 5:19, etc.).

These people that slander TBE I fear are like those Jeremiah spoke to when he said, "Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit" (Jere. 7:8). Our personal experiences with TBE, Calvary Baptist Church and Pastor John R. Gilpin, has been one of continuous joy for us and I refuse to envision the time when TBE will no longer come to my door. Brother Gilpin said to me, "If you write an article to be printed in TBE be sure it praises and honors God, we want God to be glorified." Well, nothing glorifies God more than a tenacious adherence to the Blessed Book, and I rejoice in accusing TBE of being guilty of preaching the WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD.

Every Baptist ought to receive and read TBE every week.

ELDER OSCAR B. MINK,
Pastor Mansfield Missionary Baptist Church,
Mansfield, Ohio

ENTRANCE TO CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH



How I wish a thousand worshippers would walk through those doors today!

BAPTIST PECULARITIES

"Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." - Titus 2:14.

The word "peculiar" doesn't mean what most people usually think. It doesn't mean "queer," although I am frank to say the majority of people think that this world "peculiar" always carries with it the idea of being queer.

Beloved, I am thinking that a lot of people misinterpret this Scripture entirely. God does say we are to be peculiar, but He doesn't say we are to be queer, and He doesn't say we are to be a crank.

May I say at the very outset that I am a Baptist.

Now I want to take the Word of God and show you some of these Baptist peculiarities. Since the New Testament was written by Baptists, for Baptists, about Baptists, and to make Baptists, then anything I read out of the New Testament has to be a Baptist peculiarity.

I

WE ARE TO OVERCOME EVIL WITH GOOD.

We read:

"Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with

good." - Rom. 12:19-21.

II

WE ARE TO SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

We read:

"But SEEK YE FIRST the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." - Mt. 6:33.

Somebody may say, "Brother Gilpin, that was spoken to the unsaved; that is a message to the unsaved." That was what Moody preached, and that is what lots of men in the past have preached, but because they preached it, doesn't make it so. This Scripture was spoken by the Lord Jesus Christ to individuals who had a Heavenly Father, for in the preceding verse He said:

"For your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things." - Mt. 6:32.

(Continued on page 25, column 1)



Bride Of Christ

(Continued from page 22)

All Baptists will be in the bride. Compromising unionistic Baptists - modernistic Baptists - Arminian Baptists - alien immersion, open communion Baptists - Baptists that are lodge members - worldly Baptists - Baptists that compromise both as to doctrine and practice - and especially universal church. Baptists will never be any part of the bride. Rather the bride will be a select number of Baptists. They

will all be Baptists that are in the bride, but that bride will be a select number out of all the multitude of Baptists.

III

THE BRIDE'S DRESS.

In marriage in this life, the bride gets ready for the wedding. It isn't that the groom makes her ready, but the bride herself gets ready for the wedding. It is thus in the marriage of the Lamb.

Listen:

"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and HIS WIFE HATH MADE HERSELF READY. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." - Rev. 19:7, 8.

All the folk who believe that the bride of Christ is going to be made up of all the redeemed say that we have to have the righteousness of Christ to be in the bride. The Scripture doesn't say so, but rather it says that the bride has made herself ready, and that the fine linen she attires herself with is the righteousness of saints.

Now, notice the bride has to get ready for the wedding. Revelation 19:7, 8 tells us that the wife made herself ready, and that the fine linen is the righteousness, or the righteous deeds, of the saints. Beloved, the bride has something more than the imputed righteousness of Christ. Previously, the bride had no righteousness at all. Then the day that she was saved the bride was clothed in the righteousness of the Son of God. However, the bride has an additional ornament, and that ornament is the righteousness of the saints.

IV

A NEW HOME.

Beloved, there is going to be a new home. Oh, how it thrills my heart this morning when I think about that new home that is awaiting us after awhile. 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.

Oh, glorious day when we come into His presence.

Thank God for that blessed day when the marriage of the Lamb takes place. May God grant that each of us shall be worthy to have a place in, and be a part of the Bride! May God bless you!

-September 22, 1962

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

OCTOBER 26, 1974

PAGE TWENTY-THREE

"WILL THERE BE ANYBODY IN HEAVEN BESIDES BAPTISTS?"

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God" - I Cor. 1:18.

It is commonly reported, and the accusation is often made, that I say there will be no one in heaven but Baptists. In view of the fact that this criticism constantly arises I bring to you now this message.

The religious world is shot to pieces. Professing Christians sing:

"Onward Christian soldiers marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus going on before.
We are not divided—"

What a lie! We are divided. These are great bodies of professing Christians who declare that immersion only is baptism, while in contrast, there are others who say there are three modes, — sprinkling, pouring, and immersion — and the candidate may take his choice. Other great supposedly Christian bodies teach baptismal regeneration while others reject such as heresy. Likewise, there are large bodies of professing Christians who say that Christ died only for the sinner's past sins, and that it is necessary that the sinner keep himself saved from future sins, while others declare that Christ died for all sin — past, present, and future. Some great bodies of professing Christians declare that one is saved partially by grace, and partially by works; while others say that it is all of grace. The majority of so-called Christians believe, teach, and practice what is commonly spoken of as open communion — namely, that any professing Christian partake of the Lord's Supper, regardless of his denominational preference; while in contrast, there are others who believe in what is called close communion, or that the Lord's Supper is restricted to the one local congregation. There are those who preach eternal salvation — namely, that when one is saved, he is saved forever; and in contrast, there are those who preach that one may lose his salvation after having been saved. The first believes in the security of the believer, while the second believes in falling from grace.

Let's be honest, beloved, we are divided. It is popular today though to throw aside one's convictions, which leads me to say that we are at the flood tide of compromise. The popular idea is to take a pinch of Methodism, Campbellism, Catholicism, and a little pinch off all the denominations, mix it together with a little soft soap, flavor with applesauce, give it a thorough coat of white wash, and the result will be a modern Christian. Not at all! It will be a modern compromise instead.

In the Biology Department of a college, there was an old professor who knew everything there was to know about bugs. The boys of the school tried to deceive him one day by piecing a bug together with glue. They got the head end off one bug, the middle piece of another, and the tail of a third, and glued these together. Then they took wings, feet, and feelers of still other bugs and glued them on this improvised bug, then they took it in to the old professor and said, "Professor, when we were out hunting specimens today, we found a strange bug which we cannot classify." The old near-sighted professor took the bug, turned it over, studying it very carefully. Finally, he turned to the boys and said, "Boys, this is a humbug." In the light of this, I declare that every patched up, compromising Christian is a spiritual humbug.

It is true that we draw the line on Scriptural teaching very closely. We do not enter into union meetings with other denominations because we believe the Lord would not be pleased. Listen to these Scriptures: "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3). "If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds" (II Jn. 1:10, 11).

Furthermore, we do not accept the baptism, even though it may be immersion, that is administered by others. We consider any immersion other than Baptist immersion as alien immersion, and we do not accept it. Jesus recognized no baptism but that which was administered by John the Baptist when He was here in this world. I am sure that He will recognize none other when He returns. For that reason, believing that we are the church which He established, we do not recognize any other baptism today.

Furthermore, we believe in close communion. We do it because we believe the Word of God thus teaches. Listen to this Scripture: "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body; for we are all partakers of that one bread" (I Cor. 10:16, 17). This refers to one cup, one bread, and one body; we believe that we ought to observe this oneness. Therefore, at the Lord's table, we only have one cup, we only have the one piece of bread, and it is just the one local body — the one local church that partakes of the Lord's Supper.

I come back to my subject which is a question, "Will There Be Anybody In Heaven Besides Baptists?" Yes, multiplied thousands who have believed on Jesus Christ and have been saved. Then why are we so narrow? We are not doubting their salvation, but we just want to be sticklers for what the Word of God has to say as to other things as well as that of salvation. May God help you tonight to get right with God, which is only possible by an acceptance of Jesus Christ, and then after you are saved may you become a member of the church which He established, and may you stand for the entirety of the Word of God.

—Saturday, November 11, 1939

INSIDE THE HALL



Looking through the glass doors toward the street with the two restrooms on the right.



ESTABLISHED: Daily 1896 — Sunday - 1920
Ashland Daily Independent
Published Every Afternoon and Sunday Morning

ASHLAND PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.
226 - 17TH STREET PHONE (606) 324-2136
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101
September 6, 1974

OFFICE PHONE 739-8844
CATLETTSBURG, KENTUCKY

OFFICE OF
WILLIAM E. FANNING, JUDGE
DIVISION NO. 1
BOYD CIRCUIT COURT
CATLETTSBURG, KENTUCKY 41129
September 23, 1974.

HOME PHONE 325-3094
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY

Mr. John R. Gilpin
Editor
The Baptist Examiner
336-13th St.
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

Dear John:

Please accept my sincerest congratulations on your completion of 50 years in God's ministry. It is a record in which any man may take pride.

I have always enjoyed our association in printing and publishing, and I wish you continued success in the profession. Your long and steadfast devotion to the Gospel of Christ stands as an inspiration and example much needed by the present-day generation.

With good wishes always, I am

Very truly yours,

J. T. Norris, Jr.
J. T. Norris, Jr.
President & Editor
Ashland Daily Independent

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
OCTOBER 26, 1974
PAGE TWENTY-FOUR

HOWARD D. SHELTON
MAYOR

CITY OF VANCEBURG
COUNCIL MEETING: FIRST MONDAY NIGHT OF EACH MONTH
VANCEBURG, KENTUCKY 41179

COLLEEN BREWER
CITY CLERK

GERALD LYONS
Clerk Boyd Circuit Court
CATLETTSBURG, KY.

September 9, 1974

Rev. John R. Gilpin
P O Box 910
Ashland, Ky 41101

Dear Rev. Gilpin:

I have known you practically all my life and I want to congratulate you for being a minister of the Baptist denomination for 50 years November 28th. Wishing you many more years of service in our community.

Sincerely yours,

Gerald E. Lyons
Gerald E. Lyons, Clerk
Boyd Circuit Court

GEL:s1

Elder John R. Gilpin
P. O. Box 910
Ashland, Kentucky 41101

September 6, 1974

Dear Brother Gilpin:

I have information that during the Thanksgiving Season, you will have completed fifty years in the ministry and that a special celebration is to be held by your church.

Having known you since 1931, when I was appointed Circuit Judge of the 20th Judicial District Greenup and Lewis Counties, I consider it a privilege and I take great pride and pleasure in extending to you my heartfelt congratulations on attaining this honor.

The members of your church and all who have had the pleasure of observing the wonderful work you have done, should be, and are proud of the good you have done.

Mrs. Parker joins with me in wishing you many more years in your wonderful work for the Lord.

I often think of you --- in fact, almost every week as I take THE BAPTIST EXAMINER home. You have been so kind to send it to my wife since 1945. She is a regular reader and enjoys it very much, although she is 78 and not in good health, having been in the hospital twice this year.

I trust that the celebration planned for you will be, and I am sure it will, the grandest event of your most useful life, and that you will live to enjoy many more.

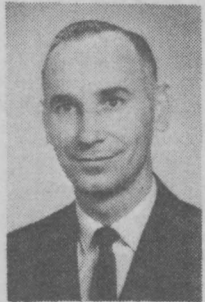
With every good wish to you and yours, I am

Sincerely,

Harvey Parker, Jr.
Harvey Parker, Jr.
Police Judge
Vanceburg, Kentucky

CONGRATULATIONS FROM KENTUCKY

Praise the Lord for you and The Baptist Examiner. Only eternity will reveal the good that The Baptist Examiner has done.



I am thankful that the Lord has given you these 50 years in the ministry. The Lord has used you in His service. The Lord has used you greatly through The Baptist Examiner to lead many people from error to the Truth. Both you and the paper have been a tremendous blessing to me.

May the Lord be pleased to give you many more years to preach and edit The Baptist Examiner.

Yours in Christ,

Elder Bill Mitchell, Pastor
Briar Creek Baptist Church
Williamsburg, Kentucky.

Baptist Peculiarities

(Continued from page 23)

He was talking to people who had a Heavenly Father, and nobody but a saved man has a Heavenly Father. Every unsaved man has the Devil for his spiritual father. Listen:

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do." - John 8:44.

III

WE ARE TO GLORY IN OUR TRIBULATION.

Paul said:

"And not only so, but we glory in tribulation also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience." - Rom. 5:3.

This is a Baptist peculiarity, that Baptists are to glory in their tribulations.

IV

WE ARE TO WALK BY FAITH.

God says we are to walk by faith and not by sight. Listen:

"For we walk by faith, not by sight." - II Cor. 5:7.

Why shouldn't we walk by faith, for He controls our destiny.

"KNOWN UNTO GOD ARE ALL his works from the beginning of the world." - Acts 15:18.

"And we know that ALL THINGS work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." - Rom. 8:28.

V

THE PECULIARITY OF IMPUTED RIGHTEOUSNESS.

The Word of God tells us how the righteousness of God is imputed to us and our sins are imputed to Him. Listen:

"And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore it was IMPUTED TO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS. Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification." - Rom. 4:21-25.

VI

THE CHURCH, ORDINANCES, AND HER COMMISSION.

I want to insist that the church Jesus built was a Baptist Church, the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper were given to that church, and the commission was given to that church that Jesus built. Beloved, that is a Baptist peculiarity.

We read:

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." - Mt. 16:18.

Beloved, there have been Baptist Churches in the world from that time down to this, and there always will be Baptist Churches in the world. There will never be a time when there isn't a Baptist Church in the world. Why? Because Jesus said, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Beloved, I say to you this morning, I want you to be a sound Baptist. I want you to be a peculiar Baptist. I want you to get your feet solidly on the ground, and stand there. I don't like the idea of a person wavering backwards and forwards from one position to another. I like for a man to find what he believes, and stand for it, until Jesus comes. If I can, I want to help you to be that kind of Baptist.

May God bless you.

-October 9, 1965

Hell

(Continued from page 6)

Then there is the lie of the Congregationalists. They say that everybody is saved; that God loves everybody, and that God is a God of love.

I

THE BIBLE TEACHES THERE IS A LITERAL HELL.

In spite of what the modernistic preachers of today have to say, in spite of what the infidels say, in spite of all these and the various lies that they tell, the Bible speaks about a Hell. Listen:

"And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to HELL." - Mt. 11:23.

II

WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS HELL? Hell is a prison.

"For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to Hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment." - II Pet. 2:4.

Hell is a lake of fire.

"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the LAKE OF FIRE." - Rev. 20:15.

Hell is spoken of as a bottomless pit.

"And I saw an angel come down

from heaven, having the key of the BOTTOMLESS PIT and a great chain in his hand." - Rev. 20:1.

Hell is a place of sorrow.

"The SORROWS OF HELL compassed me about." - Ps. 18:5.

"Upon the wicked he shall rain SNARES, fire and brimstone." - Ps. 11:6.

Hell is a place of wailing.

"And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be WAILING and gnashing of teeth." - Mt. 13:42.

Hell is a place of torment.

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

Hell is a place of eternal unrest.

"And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have NO REST day nor night." - Rev. 14:11.

Hell is a place of unanswered prayer.

We read:

"And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame." - Luke 16:24.

"Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them." - Luke 16:29.

Hell is a place of darkness.

"But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness." - Mt. 8:12.

Hell is a place where mercy is denied:

"And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me." - Luke 16:24.

Hell is a place of everlasting punishment.

"Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever." - Jude 1:13.

Hell is a place where nobody wants his loved ones to go.

Listen:

"For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment." - Luke 16:28.

Hell is a place of fire where folk are cast into it alive.

We read:

"These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone." - Rev. 19:20.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM PENNSYLVANIA

I read your article entitled, "Will We Make It to 2001?" I believe if the Lord doesn't come first, you will. We here also pray that God will raise up many new friends and churches to help you carry on the work God has called you to do.



Let me say for myself that over the years you have been a great help and comfort. You and I have not looked upon one another face to face, often, but I count you as one of my dearest friends in Jesus.

I praise the Lord with you for the years of service He has given you. THE BAPTIST EXAMINER has helped me over many rough spots. Therefore, I am so glad and thankful for you.

ELD. WAYNE E. MOWRIS,
Titusville, Pennsylvania

TULIP BAPTISTS

(Read John 4.)

The outline for my message is as follows:

T-total depravity
U-conditional election
L-limited atonement
I-irresistible grace
P-perseverance

If you will notice on the left hand side, the large letters - reading down is T-U-L-I-P, tulip. I want each one of these letters to represent a particular doctrine - a doctrine that we find in this fourth chapter of John.

I have read to you a great passage of Scripture - the fourth chapter of John - and I think this chapter illustrates to us every one of these truths. I think we can see in this woman of John 4 every one of these truths working. I think she can be said to be a sample sinner, and that we could push her forward and say, "This is a sample of what a 'Tulip Baptist' is."

I

TOTAL DEPRAVITY.

There isn't any question but what this woman was totally depraved. I need not go back and argue as to what her nature was. Her practice is enough to show that she was totally depraved. Listen:

"Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither. The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband: For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly." - John 4:16-18.

The New Testament presents to us the same truth. When the Apostle Paul was writing to the church at Rome, he said:

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." - Rom. 3:23.

II

UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION.

Here was a woman who was unconditionally elected of God unto salvation. There is not a condition laid down in this fourth chapter of John relative to her salvation. We read:

"And he must needs go through Samaria." - John 4:4.

How many conditions did the Lord Jesus Christ lay down relative to this woman's salvation? Not one. How many conditions did He enumerate in order that she might be saved? Did He tell her to keep the law? Did He tell her to reform? Did He tell her to do any of the things that man ordinarily does today? No. Why? Because she was unconditionally elected of God unto salvation before the foundation of the world.

III

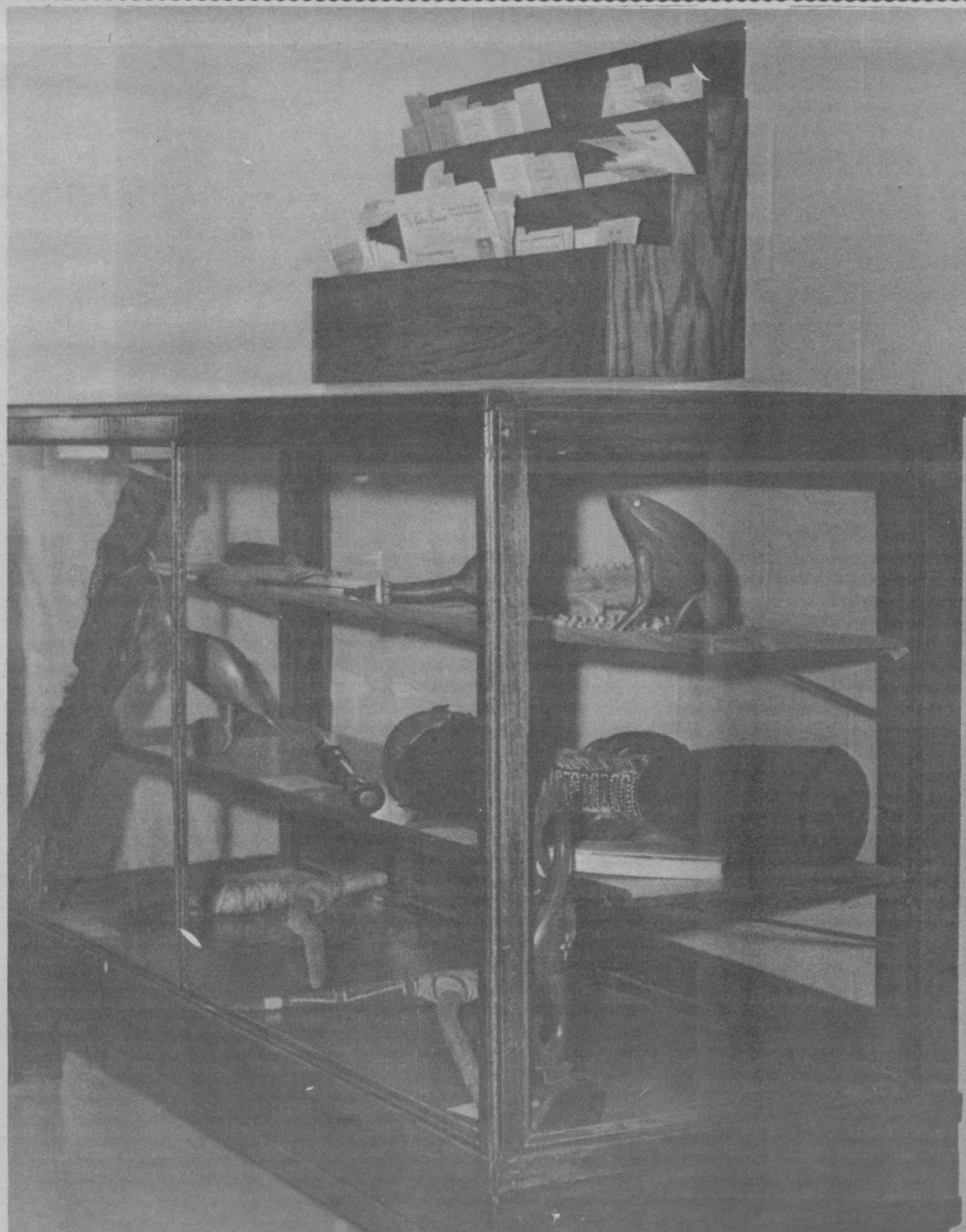
LIMITED ATONEMENT.

How many people did Jesus Christ appeal to in this fourth chapter of John? It was limited to this woman first of all. Then a little later, we read:

"And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did." - John 4:39.

It doesn't say that this woman and all the city believed on Him, but it does say that this woman believed, and it says that many of the Samaritans of that city believed. Notice, it doesn't say all of them. His message of eternal life was a limited message. It was limited to the woman and to a

(Continued on page 26, column 5)



The Trophy Case Showing Artifacts of New Guinea
With Our Tract Rack Located Immediately Above

Who Will Be Elected?

"Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall." (II Peter 1:10)

In conclusion, let us recapitulate: There are votes cast against you and votes cast for you. The Devil, your evil associates, and your evil habits are votes against you. A Christian home, a true church, the Bible, the sermons you hear, a praying mother, the Lord Jesus Himself, and the work of the Holy Spirit are each a vote in your behalf. May I inquire as to how you will vote this morning.

I do not say that your vote is the deciding one. Of recent date in a nearby church, a preacher made this statement: "The Devil votes against you, God votes for you, and you cast the deciding vote." This is not only untrue — it is a wicked perversion of God's Word. You don't cast the deciding vote, for the deciding vote as to your salvation was cast in eternity by God before the foundation of the world. "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world." (Eph. 1:4)

Yet, today, in view of God's vote for you and the Devil's vote against you, I ask you, "How will you vote?" May God grant that you shall turn your sin to Jesus and receive Him today as your personal Saviour. If it please God, may you now "make your calling and election sure."

— Saturday, November 15, 1941

Are The Heathen Lost Without The Gospel?

"And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee all nations be blessed." (Gen. 22:18)

Are the heathen lost without the gospel? Before we answer this question, it might be well to ask and answer another: what is a heathen? Webster says, "An heathen is an unconverted member of a people or nation who does not accept God or His Bible." What a contrast between Webster's definition and the one you've always had in mind relative to the heathen. Now be honest: is it not true that you thought an heathen was a savage living without clothes on the wild island — a cannibal — one who eats with his fingers and who

lacks the refinement and culture of the more advanced races of civilization? Now isn't this just about the idea you have always had of an heathen?

Webster's definition is in perfect accord with the Word of God. In the Bible an heathen literally is anyone who has never been born again.

All persons have the same nature. "And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth." — Acts 17:26. That nature is sinful. "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me." — Ps. 51:5. "The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. They are all gone

aside, they are altogether become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one." — Ps. 14:2, 3. "But the scripture hath concluded all under sin." — Gal. 3:22. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." — Rom. 3:23.

Whether he lives in the heart of Africa or in America, he becomes a helpless bond servant because of this nature of sin. Therefore all are lost.

II

The Bible demands a new birth, if you are to enter the kingdom of Heaven. Hear Jesus as he spoke to Nicodemus, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." — John 3:3, 5, 7.

Since the new birth is thus demanded, then whether one lives in the Orient or in the Occident he is lost until he is born again.

III

In view of the fact that the Bible demands repentance of all men, we must conclude that the heathen are lost who have not repented. "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent." — Acts 17:30, 31.

If good men — religious men — go to Hell because they do not repent then surely in view of the fact that God demands repentance, the heathen cannot be saved apart from repentance.

V

Again the heathen are lost because the Bible declares that there is no entrance to Heaven without Christ. "I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture." — John 10:9.

Since there is no way to get rid of your sins but through Jesus and you cannot get to Heaven without Him, the heathen are lost without Jesus.

VI

Paul's statement to Timothy would show us also that the heathen are lost without the gospel. "Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory." — II Tim 2:10.

Even though he believed in the elective grace of God, he also believed that God had set him apart to preach the gospel to the unsaved. He wanted to see all of God's elect, redeemed. Therefore he was willing to endure all things that they might come to such a saving knowledge of God. This would say to us then that all men are lost without the gospel and only if the gospel of redemption comes to them will they be saved.

VII

The heathen are lost without the gospel because there is positively no salvation without Jesus Christ. "This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." — Acts 4:11, 12.

VIII

God is most careful to declare to us through the Apostle Paul that the heathen are lost without the gospel. "For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law." — Rom. 2:12. In the light of this verse we must see that the heathen have sinned without the law.

While it is true that while the heathen which have sinned without the gospel will have much less punishment in Hell than the heathen who have sinned in the light of the gospel, the fact remains that both have sinned and both shall perish.

IX

The fact that one cannot be saved by sincerity likewise proves that the heathen are lost without the gospel.

May I confirm to my audience tonight that no one is saved by his sincerity. What he does and what he believes may seem perfectly all right to him, yet he may be miles removed from the truth. These are the words of Solomon, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." — Prov. 14:12.

X

Finally, the heathen are lost without the gospel for the plan of salvation.

(Continued on page 28, column 1)

THE LORD'S SUPPER

"For as often as ye eat of this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come" — I Cor. 11:26.

This Memorial Supper which shows forth Christ's death, has many restrictions placed against it. These restrictions were not placed there by Baptists, but were placed there by the Lord Jesus Christ, Himself.

First of all, it is restricted to a local church. Of this we are assured by Paul's letter to the church at Corinth. Listen: "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body; for we are all partakers of that one bread" (I Cor. 10:16, 18). You will notice that he speaks of three entities — one cup, one bread, one body. The one body represents the one local church in the city of Corinth. Paul declared this in I Cor. 12:27. "Now ye are the body of Christ."

Therefore, beloved in the light of these Scriptures, the Lord's Supper is to be restricted to a local church. A Baptist who is a member in good standing in any Missionary Baptist Church, should not even partake of it anywhere except in the church where he has his membership. A further proof of this is to be seen in that the church at Corinth was to exercise discipline concerning those who partook of the Lord's Supper. Of course, this would be an impossibility except as all those who partook of the Lord's Supper were members of the church in Corinth. One church cannot exercise discipline over the members of another church, and therefore, since they were to discipline those who partook of the Lord's Supper, it is plainly evident that each local church is to observe the Lord's Supper for itself, and that we are not to partake of it in any church other than wherein we hold membership.

The second restriction given to us in the Scriptures, is that it must be held by a church. "For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it." (I Cor. 11:18). This verse, as the context shows, speaks

clearly of the Lord's Supper. Paul declares that they must come together in the church in order to observe the Memorial Supper. It should never be observed in a sick room, nor in a hospital, nor any place else other than at some designated church meeting. If the membership of a church votes to meet in a sick room and observe the Lord's Supper, this is permissible, however, for a pastor to carry the elements of the Lord's Supper — the bread and wine — into a sick room or into a hospital, and observe the Lord's Supper without the church having voted to do so, is a violation

(Continued on page 27, column 3)

Tulip Baptists

(Continued from page 26)

number of the Samaritans in that city.

IV

IRRESISTIBLE GRACE.

This woman was saved, and you can certainly see in this how God's grace is irresistible. Notice:

"The woman then left her water-pot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men, Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?" — John 4:28, 29.

Talk about irresistible grace, you have it here. She is irresistibly drawn by the Holy Spirit. That is the way God draws His own to Him. If you are one of God's elect, God is going to irresistibly draw you. You can't keep from it.

V

PERSEVERANCE.

We read: "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." — John 4:14.

Jesus says to this woman, "You drink of the water that I give you and you shall never thirst."

CONCLUSION

T - total depravity; U - unconditional election; L - limited atonement; I - irresistible grace; P - perseverance. I chose to call this message "Tulip Baptists."

— April 8, 1972

CONGRATULATIONS FROM MICHIGAN

It was in 1955 or 56 that I first saw a copy of TBE. I was in the home of Dan Phillips, for a meal while holding a meeting at the church pastored by T. B. Freeman. I glanced briefly at the paper. Brother Phillips asked if I would like to receive the paper, and more out of politeness than enthusiasm, I replied that I would. He then had the paper sent to me for a year. At the time I was a weak believer in, and preacher of the doctrines of Grace. I knew nothing at all of church truth at that time.

Soon, TBE began its weekly visit to my house. Oh, that paper, that paper! How I wrestled with it, and fought with it. At times, it was a blessing, and at other times it was a trouble to my soul. I let it expire — then took it again. Gradually, God began to teach me more strongly the doctrines of Grace. Gradually, God taught me the wonderful truths about His church. God used TBE to do these two things for me. Oh, how I praise God today for TBE and for the great blessing it has been to my life and ministry. I believe that I am sound in the Faith. I do believe that God used TBE greatly in teaching and in strengthening me in the truths of God's Word.

When I first met John R. Gilpin, I did not know what to expect. His writings were so hard at times. I had heard so much about him from his enemies. I did not know whether to look for wings or horns — I saw neither. Through the years, I have learned to love, respect, and deeply appreciate Brother Gilpin as a person and as a preacher. I have found him to be very kind and considerate — always willing to help those who desire to stand for the truth.

There came a time when I thought my ministry was over. What dark and desperate hours, days, weeks, and months they were! But my God — praise His name — had a ministry yet for me. And since that time, I have had a greater ministry in the ways that really matter, than ever before. I know of a fact that I owe my ministry of recent years to what God did through John R. Gilpin and TBE. I do not give them the credit. God could have done it another way. But He did it this way, and I deeply appreciate what God has done for me and my ministry through Brother Gilpin and TBE. I am a friend and supporter, and intend to continue as such. I do this day praise God for TBE and John R. Gilpin and what they have meant to me. May God continue to bless and use John R. Gilpin.

ELDER JOSEPH M. WILSON,
Pastor Grace Baptist Church,
Gladwin, Michigan

ELDER J. FRANK McCRUM
Pastor Zion Baptist Church
Detroit, Michigan

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
OCTOBER 26, 1974
PAGE TWENTY-SIX

These Necessary Things

"... these necessary things." - Acts 11:28.

Let me remind you, beloved friends, that every man born into this world is born spiritually dead. He is just as dead to God as a corpse is to this world. Most people don't like to face that fact, but it is the truth just the same. A corpse can get out of the casket, lay aside the burial shroud, and walk out of the building, unaided and unassisted, just as easily as a lost man can save himself apart from the Spirit of God.

That is why it is that an unsaved man can't do anything to save himself. It is impossible for you to do anything whereby you might be saved.

"There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God." - Rom. 3:11.

Some preacher may tell you to seek the Lord, but the Word of God tells us that there is none that seek after God. How could you expect a dead man to seek the Lord? How could you expect a man who is as spiritually dead as a corpse is physically to seek the Lord? Beloved, it is the Lord that does the seeking.

I

GOD MUST ELECT ONE UNTO SALVATION.

Chronologically, that is the first thing that must be done for you. If God doesn't elect a man unto salvation, that man will never be saved.

"I am found of them that sought me not." - Isa. 65:1.

I say to you, God is found in men who never one time sought the Lord. Rather, the Lord sought them.

It is not necessary that men seek the Lord, but rather, above everything else, God must elect one unto salvation. Unless God choose you unto salvation before the foundation of the world, you will never be saved. It is God that makes the choice.

"But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning CHOSEN YOU to salvation through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth." - II Thess. 2:13.

It is God who chooses men unto salvation. I don't say that the choice God makes is salvation, but it is unto

salvation and results in the sinner's salvation. It is God that makes the choice.

II

JESUS CHRIST HAD TO DIE.

If the Son of God had merely come into this world and lived a perfect life, which He did live, but had not died, not one individual would have ever been saved. You can't be saved by your goodness, nor by the goodness of Jesus Christ. You can't be saved because Jesus Christ lived a perfect life when He was here in the days of His flesh. Beloved, there is only one way that any man can be saved, and that is that Jesus Christ died to pay his sin debt and died in his place at Calvary.

The Word of God tells us that Jesus Christ had to die.

"... the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." - Rev. 13:8.

"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS according to the scriptures." - I Cor. 11:3.

III

THE WORD OF GOD HAS TO BE PREACHED.

There will never be any person in Glory except on the basis that he heard the Word of God, which told him about the Lord Jesus Christ and brought salvation to him.

Some preachers' specialty is sob stories. I knew of a church that has been cursed for years by a preacher whose specialty is one sob story after another. There are thousands of such churches. The Word of God has never said that God will honor a sob story, nor a funny yarn, nor any kind of a story, but He has promised to honor the Word of God. Listen: "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." - Rom. 10:17.

IV

THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS TO QUICKEN YOU.

It is the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Trinity, who takes the Word of God and applies it to your heart and quickens you and makes you alive in Christ Jesus.

"No man can come to me, except the Father, which hath sent me (Continued on page 28, column 1)

The Lord's Supper

(Continued from page 26)

of God's Word. I remember a few years ago that a well-known evangelist in Chicago announced in his radio program one Sunday, that if everyone would have this bread and wine next Sunday, that he would observe the Lord's Supper by way of radio. On the next Lord's Day he did so, and announced that he was the first preacher to ever observe the Lord's Supper over the air. This was purely a farce. It was an anti-Scriptural move on the part of the heretical preacher who compromised his convictions in order to gain fleeting popularity. The Lord's Supper is never to be held anywhere but by a church. No pastor, no priest, and no one else has the right to change God's plan.

The third restriction God's Word gives us, is that the Lord's Supper is only for saved people. When I say saved people I do not mean that all church members are to partake of the Lord's Supper. A man can be a church member without ever knowing the first thing about the plan of salvation. I personally believe that Hell will be chuck full of church members who thought that all they needed was just to be a member of a church in order to get to Heaven. To be saved, you have to be born again. Jesus said, "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." John 3:7.

When Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, no one was there but His disciples. "Now when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve. And as they were eating, Jesus took bread and blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it: For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for the remission of sins" (Matt. 26:20, 26-28). Therefore, beloved, no one but saved people should partake of the Lord's Supper today. Those who are seeking after salvation are barred. Those who have never accepted Christ as Saviour are barred. The only man who can come to the Lord's table is that individual who has repented of his sins, and believed on the Lord Jesus Christ as a Saviour, and now has a definite knowledge that he is a child of God.

In the fourth place the Bible restricts the Lord's Supper to baptized people. The Great Commission offers to us a splendid illustration of this truth. Let me read it to you: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: 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" (Matt. 28:19, 20). He tells this church at Jerusalem that they are to lead men to Christ. In the second place, they are to baptize them, they are to teach them "All things whatsoever I have commanded you." The Lord's Supper is thus to come after baptism, and no one is to partake of the Lord's Supper except those who have been Scripturally baptized. When we come to the book of the Acts, we find that this early church carried out this communion precisely as the Lord Jesus gave it, for on the day of the Pentecost when Peter preached and three thousand souls were saved, the next step was that of baptism. Then after they were baptized, we read, "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:42). You will notice that this verse declared they continued in "breaking of bread." That is to say that after they were baptized, they partook of the Lord's Supper. In my home I have three children. One of them is a boy about eleven years of age. Like all boys, he doesn't like soap and water any too well. Apparently, he is afraid that it will ruin his "school boy complexion." However, I have a rule that before coming to the table, he has to wash. Beloved, God has the same rule relative to the Lord's table.

A man that has just been saved, but has not yet been baptized, regard-

less of what church he may be in, in that place. In this modern day, is not to partake of the Lord's Supper until after he has been baptized. This is one reason why Baptists practice close communion. We do not consider that anyone who has been sprinkled or poured has been baptized, for we do not consider sprinkling nor pouring as valid baptism; hence, we do not allow those who have received sprinkling nor pouring for baptism to come to the Lord's table with us. Likewise, we do not consider that even those denominations who practice immersion for baptism as having valid baptism. We believe that Jesus gave the ordinance of baptism to His church, and since we are certain that we are the church which Jesus Christ established 1900 years ago, and since we are positive that all other denominations can be traced to some human origin, we therefore, do not believe that they have any right to baptize, even by immersion, and that since they do not have the authority to administer immersion, we do not consider them as having been baptized. It is because of this that when one of another denomination comes to us who has received immersion at the hands of his own denomination, we do not receive him without re-baptizing him, which has been Baptist practice through the ages. In a sense, beloved, our close communion actually becomes close baptism, and we restrict those who come to the Lord's table just like the Word of God declares, because they have not been baptized.

In the fifth place the Lord's Supper is restricted to an orderly walk.

Listen: "For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you. When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's Supper" (I Cor. 11:18-20). Paul literally declared in these words that this church at Corinth could not Scripturally partake of the Lord's Supper because of the doctrinal divisions and the heresies that existed

in that place. The same is true whenever you have various denominations coming together to observe the Lord's Supper. Suppose for the sake of argument, that we imagine that we are now ready to observe the Lord's Supper, and that a Campbellite, a Methodist, and a Presbyterian, are ready to partake of the Lord's Supper with me. Yet, when we sit down to the table together, I hear Paul say that if there be doctrinal division and heresies among you, that you cannot eat the Lord's Supper. Therefore, I ask first of all as to what each of these brethren believe; and by way of illustration, we will ask them what they believe concerning the plan of salvation. The Campbellite brother declares that he believes in Jesus and the water of the baptism; and that no man can odist brother declares that he believes that a man can be saved without baptism, but that after he has been eternally saved, he can fall away and be eternally lost. The Presbyterian brother says that he believes that Christ saves, and that He saves forever; and thus far I agree with him; but he ruins it all by saying that after he is saved, that his children won't need to be saved, for they will inherit grace from him in view of the fact that he himself has been saved. I differ with the Campbellite brother relative to the question of being saved by being baptized. I listen and hear the echo of Paul's words when he declares that if there be doctrinal differences and heresies, that it is impossible to eat the Lord's Supper. How then can Baptists, Campbellites, Presbyterians, and Methodists, partake of the Lord's Supper together?

I declare, beloved, that in the light of the Scriptures that whenever doctrinal differences and heresies exist, that it is impossible to partake of the Lord's Supper together.

-Saturday, August 17, 1940



Sin has the habit of running past the red signal before it stops.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM ALABAMA

How well I have come to see the truth found in Jer. 10:23 where we read, "It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." When I would try to direct my own steps I would learn very soon that I had made a serious mistake. In Prov. 16:9 we are told that "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps." In my early twenties my heart devised a way whereby I would be a well-to-do country merchant. But since there was nothing at all whatever in that community to enhance the spiritual growth of a young Christian, my Lord brought about a condition over which I had not control that caused me to forget about my being a well-to-do merchant.

I began teaching school at the age of twenty. And that was my very life. However, I was never able to get located in a place where I had opportunity to grow spiritually. So after some seventeen years in that profession it seemed that I was being literally drawn by an unseen hand to this place where I now live. Here I came under the teaching of a truly great pastor and Bible teacher. Here for the first time after I married I had that which was conducive to real spiritual growth. For some twenty-one years I enjoyed, and tried to profit from the teaching of Brother Hugh L. Tully. But when he died in January 1957 it seemed that this old world suddenly turned dark and gloomy. Whereas he had hated the cooperative program with a passion, it was the new pastor's pride and joy. The church had completely changed direction, and did not seem to notice it.

Now when the world seemed to be crumbling about my head, I learned to my great joy that my dear Lord had not forsaken me. In due time He caused me to learn about Brother John R. Gilpin and The Baptist Examiner. How I do praise my dear Lord continually for His having used you, my dear beloved Brother Gilpin, and TBE to establish me in the faith, and to ground me in the great Bible doctrines to the point where I can say that with my precious Lord's help, I shall not be moved. As you celebrate your fifty years in the ministry it will be my prayer that God may be pleased to continue to use you to help those who need help so much until He comes for us. Happy is the man who knows the Lord, and who has someone like you and TBE to help him along his pilgrim pathway.

By Amazing Grace,

ELDER E. G. COOK,
Pastor Philadelphia Baptist
Church,
Birmingham, Alabama

CONGRATULATIONS FROM MINNESOTA

I have been a reader of The Baptist Examiner for a good number of years. Naturally, your close friends and associates will speak of your years in the ministry. Since I have not met you personally, I will look in the Book for my message of encouragement and congratulation to you.



Jeremiah's heart was at war with his duty. He was in a cruel dilemma. He faced severe opposition and difficulty. He became discouraged and wanted to enter the hotel business (ch. 9:2). He decided not to speak any more in the name of the Lord (ch. 20:9). He admits he was a man of strife and contention (ch. 15:10). Pashur smote Jeremiah, and placed him in the stocks (ch. 20:2). He was opposed by false prophets, and ch. 23 is his answer to their opposition. Hananiah opposed Jeremiah concerning the king of Babylon, and Jeremiah tells Hananiah he will die for teaching rebellion against the Lord. He died two months later (ch. 28:17).

Jeremiah was confronted by the angry mob who said, "Thou shalt surely die," (ch. 26:8). He answered them, (26:14, 15), and was delivered from them, (ch. 26:16, 24). In ch. 38 the prophet is accused of treachery and treason (v. 4), and placed in the dungeon (v. 6), and rescued by his friend, Ebed-melech (vs. 12,13). In ch. 43 this noble prophet was carried into Egypt against his will.

But under these terrible circumstances in his lifetime, Jeremiah remained faithful in delivering his message with unwavering fidelity for over forty years. Though Jeremiah had many enemies, he also had some true and loyal friends. His mission required faith, courage, strength and will. His was a mission that no weakling could fill, and no coward would undertake.

After the destruction of Jerusalem, Nebuzaradan talked to Jeremiah. The captain loosed the prophet's chains (ch. 40:2-6), and offered him a home and sustenance in Babylon for the rest of his days. But the prophet could not find it in his heart to leave his people. He had been discouraged earlier, but now he chose to remain in his place of service.

The true pastor is always interested in the on-going and well-being of the church he pastors, but some people will try to destroy the church by having "roast preacher for Sunday dinner." I have said for many years that the critic needs more help than the criticized.

Calvary Baptist Church is to be congratulated for having a service of honor for you at this time. I extend my personal congratulations to you, Pastor Gilpin, as you have reached this diamond jubilee milestone in your ministry, and in your life. God bless you.

Yours, because His,

ELDER WELLIE MIDGLEY
Pastor Calvary Baptist Church
Pengilly, Minnesota

HEAVENLY PRIORITIES

"And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go bury my father. Jesus said unto him, let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God."

And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house. And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." - Luke 9:59-62.

This is a very much misunderstood passage of Scripture. I doubt seriously if the majority of preachers have ever understood the message that Jesus was giving. We would certainly say, at the very outset, that it was a test of discipleship. That is obvious.

Years ago, when I was a boy in college, there was a lad who roomed near me who had a pennant on his wall that was strangely worded. It said, "I am willing to be third." I remember reading it, looking at it and pondering it for some period of time. One day, I asked this lad as to the meaning of it. He said, "My mother gave it to me when I left to come to college. She said, 'God first, others second, and self last. I am willing to be third.'"

Not many people are willing to be third. Not many are even willing to be second. Most of us want to be first in anything that we do. But, beloved, our God is to come first. This text would certainly indicate to us that there is such a thing as Heavenly priority.

I GOD SHOULD BE FIRST IN THE CHRISTIAN'S LIFE.

"SEEK YE FIRST the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." - Mt. 6:33.

Many is the time that I have heard this preached to unsaved people.

Necessary Things

(Continued from page 27)

DRAW HIM: and I will raise him up at the last day." - John 6:44.

"IT IS THE SPIRIT THAT QUICKENETH; the flesh profiteth nothing; the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." - John 6:63.

"Salvation is of the Lord." - Jonah 2:9.

Beloved, when God wants you to do something, you might just as well do it, because you will have to do it in the end. God ordained that Jonah should preach in Nineveh. Though Jonah didn't want to preach there, God brought him to Nineveh by way of the fish's belly and when old Jonah stood on the shores of Nineveh, he was ready to preach, as God had ordained that he should.

-September 1, 1973

Heathen . . . Gospel

(Continued from page 26)

tion through all the Bible is, "faith in the Lord Jesus Christ." "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias said, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." - Rom. 10:13-17.

If the sinner, irrespective of where he lives, is not trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ who died for his sins and rose again for his justification, then he is lost - irrevocably lost, without God.

In closing, may I appeal to those of you who are saved. May you not be content to be only a child of God yourself. May it be your desire to see that the heathen who have never heard the gospel shall come to a saving knowledge of Jesus.

May God bless you!

-February 7, 1953

Many is the time when I have heard a preacher say to a sinner, "You seek first the kingdom of God and God will take care of you. He'll look after all your material needs."

Beloved, that is not so. That is a falsehood. This text was never spoken to unsaved people, for we read in the preceding verse:

"Your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things." - Mt. 6:32.

This was spoken to people who had a Heavenly Father, and Jesus said to those who had a Heavenly Father, "You seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."

And behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the FIRST and the last." - Rev. 22:12, 13.

Beloved, in that closing chapter, the Lord Jesus Christ said, "I'll still remind you that I am first. I'll be the last also, but I am first." Beloved, Jesus Christ is to come first. That is Heavenly priority.

II

NOT EVERY MAN HAS PUT GOD FIRST.

Even in the Bible, men didn't put God first always. Adam - oh, what a failure he was in putting God first! Look at him as he hides in the Garden of Eden. See him with those aprons covering his body. See him and Eve as they peep around from behind the bushes of that tree to see if God is still there. He wasn't putting God first. He was hiding from God.

III

DOES IT PAY TO PUT HIM FIRST?

Take Enoch, for example. We read: "Enoch walked with God and was not, for God took him." - Gen. 5:24.

Look at Enoch. Oh, what a man he was! He had a family to rear, just like you. He had a sinful world in which to live, just like you. He had all the recreation and pleasures of life to appeal and beckon to him, just like you. He had everything to contend with that you and I have to contend with, but Enoch walked with God. Oh, what an example he is to us - a man who recognized Heavenly priority.

I tell you, beloved, it is wonderful when we get to the place that we are living in the light of Heavenly priority, giving God first place in our life.

-September 15, 1973

"Why Christ Died"

"It is finished." - John 19:30.

"Christ died for our sins." - I Cor. 15:3.

It has always been conspicuous to me that as Jesus died, there was no one to stand by Him, and no one to cheer Him on. His Father turned His back, so that the sun refused to shine as His Son died on the Cross of Calvary. Even the angels who had ministered so graciously to Him so many times during His ministry, took wings and flew away to other worlds. His disciples forsook Him, so that the Lord Jesus Christ was left to die alone.

Beloved, when the Lord Jesus Christ came to die, there was no band to play, and there was no cheering section to cheer Him on. There was no one there to sympathize or assist. There was no one there to even be a friend, and the Son of God died alone.

Why did He die?

Christ died that we might become righteous in Him.

Christ died that we might no longer live unto ourselves.

Christ died that we might die to sin in Him.

Christ died that we might become the sons of God.

Christ died that He might bring us to God.



Much may be known of a man's character by what excites his laughter.

The God Who Opens

"Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law." - Psa. 119:18.

I need not remind you that the God we serve, the God we read about in the Bible, and the God we preach is a God of absolute sovereignty. I need not remind you that He is sovereign in every particular. Especially, beloved, does the Bible reveal to us that God is sovereign in the matter of opening. That is why my text, I think, is written as it is: "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law."

This text would seemingly indicate that God has to open our eyes - that we can't see anything unless God opens our eyes to the truth.

Now every time that I read my text which says, "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law," I am impressed by this fact, that God is in the business of doing that very thing.

I

GOD OPENS OUR EYES.

"Except a man be born again, he cannot SEE the kingdom of God." - John 3:3.

You and I are so spiritually blind and distraught that we are unable to see spiritual truths and spiritual things unless the Lord opens our eyes.

Beloved, this Bible doesn't leave us in any doubt that God is the one who opens our eyes so that we can see spiritual truth.

"The Lord openeth the eyes of the blind." - Psa. 146:8.

If God is able to open blind eyes so that we can see materially, then, beloved, I am definitely persuaded the same God is able to open the eyes of individuals who are blind spiritually, that we might see the truths of the Word of God.

Those of you who have any knowledge of the Word of God, I ask you, where did you get that knowledge? You didn't learn it because of superior intellect. You didn't learn it because you studied the Bible a little more than somebody else. You didn't learn it because you applied yourself to the Word of God. Instead, you learned it because God opened your eyes.

II

GOD OPENS OUR EARS.

God likewise opens our ears so that we can hear His Word and His voice. Listen:

"Mine ears hast thou opened." - Psa. 40:6.

If you will read the entirety of that Psalm and the setting of the verse, you will find that it is talking about our spiritual ears. God opens our spiritual ears for us to hear His message unto us.

III

GOD OPENS OUR UNDERSTANDING.

God has to open our understanding in order for us to accept truth. Now follow me: He has to open our eyes for us to see the truth, He has to open our ears for us to hear the truth, and He has to open our understanding in order for us to accept the truth.

We read:

"And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? Then OPENED HE THEIR UNDERSTANDING, that they might understand the scriptures." - Luke 24:31, 32, 45.

IV

GOD OPENS OUR HEARTS.

I'll go further and remind you that God opens our hearts that we might receive the truth. If you don't know by now that I am not an Arminian, you will by the time I get through with this thought, because I certainly want to burn it into your heart that God has to do it all. He has to open our hearts in order that we might receive the truth. Listen:

"And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: WHOSE HEART THE LORD OPENED, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul." - Acts 16:14.

Listen, beloved, God opens our eyes to see the truth, He opens our ears to hear the truth, He opens our understanding that we might under-

What A Glorious Future

"As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness." - Psalm 17:15.

In this particular Psalm, David is referring to his enemies.

It made no difference how many enemies David had, he was still falling back upon this fact, he was depending upon God. He was expecting God to care for him day by day, and when he died, he had the assurance that he was going to see the Lord and was going to stand in righteousness before Him.

I

WE WILL LIVE AGAIN.

David said, "I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness." Notice those words, "When I awake."

Death does not end all. Death does end all materially. Death does end all physically. Death does end all mentally, but death doesn't end all spiritually. There is going to be a resurrection time and it is that to which David referred when he said, "When I awake." There is going to be an awakening time.

II

WE SHALL SEE THE LORD.

David said, "I will behold thy face in righteousness." David expected to see God after this life.

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall SEE GOD." - Matthew 5:8.

Someday, beloved, all the redeemed, the pure in heart, shall see Him. Listen:

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we SHALL SEE HIM as he is." - I John 3:2.

I say then, beloved friends, not only is it true that we shall live again, but when we live again, we shall see the Lord. We shall behold His face.

III

IT IS ONLY THROUGH RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT WE SHALL ATTAIN HEAVEN

David said, "I will behold thy face in righteousness." The only way we will be able to see Him will be in righteousness.

stand the truth, and He opens our heart that we might receive the truth.

V

GOD OPENS DOORS OF SERVICE.

After we are saved God opens doors of service. I don't think there is one single thing I have ever done in my ministry that amounted to anything apart from God opening the door of service.

"For a great door and effectual is OPENED UNTO ME, and there are many adversaries." - I Cor. 16:9.

VI

GOD OPENS PATHS OF BLESSING.

"He OPENED THE ROCK, and the waters gushed out; they ran in the dry places like a river." - Psa. 105:41.

"... and prove me now where-with, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not OPEN you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." - Mal. 3:8-10.

I say to you, beloved, God is in the business of opening paths of blessings. He gave those Jews the blessing of water to drink out there in the wilderness, for He opened that rock and the waters gushed out. God opened the womb of Rachael, who was childless, and she bore a child for her husband. Beloved, that same God promises to open the windows of heaven and pour us out a blessing today when we take Him at His word.

VII

GOD IS GOING TO OPEN A BOOK FOR JUDGMENT.

We read:

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the BOOKS WERE OPENED: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books according to their works." - Rev. 20:12.

Sinner friend, God is keeping a book concerning your life. He is keeping a record.

Just like He opens other things, that same God is going to open the book of your life at the judgment, and will pronounce judgment upon you, on the basis of the life that you have lived here on this earth in rejection of His Son, Jesus Christ.

May God bless you!

-December 2, 1961

May I remind you that there are three kinds of righteousness spoken of in the Bible. First of all, there is perfect human righteousness, the kind that Adam had in the Garden of Eden.

Then there is a second kind of righteousness and that is self-righteousness. That is what Adam had just as soon as he sinned.

If they had not been self-righteous, trying to establish their own righteousness, they never would have tried to make clothes for themselves.

"But we are all as an unclean thing, and all OUR RIGHTEOUSNESSES ARE AS FILTHY RAGS; but we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities like the wind, have taken us away." - Isaiah 64:6.

There is a third type of righteousness and that was the kind Adam had when he got outside the Garden of Eden.

It was then that Adam learned the meaning of divine righteousness.

IV

WE WILL BE SATISFIED

David said, "I shall be satisfied."

Beloved, this world can't satisfy. There isn't anything in this world that could ever satisfy any of us. You can't be satisfied by the pleasures of this world.

Furthermore, unbelief can't satisfy.

Voltaire tried it but when he came down to his dying bed, he said, "I wish I had never been born." Voltaire found that unbelief didn't satisfy.

Money can't satisfy. Jay Gould died the richest man in the world, yet on his death bed he said, "I suppose I am the most miserable man on earth."

Yes, beloved, my text tells us that we shall live again. It tells us that when we do, we shall see the Lord. It tells us that the only way we will ever see Him is by being clothed in His righteousness. It tells us that when we do see Him, we are going to be satisfied.

V

WE WILL LOOK LIKE GOD

David said, "I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness."

What kind of likeness are we going to have? We are going to be like the Lord Jesus Christ.

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be but we know that, when he shall appear, we SHALL BE LIKE HIM; for we shall see him as he is." - I John 3:2.

CONCLUSION

Notice my text again: "As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness."

Beloved, if I never speak again, if I never preach another sermon, I want you to remember that this is my experience. If our Lord were to call me home, I want you to know that this text is my personal experience. I thank God for my experience in the light of this text.

May God bless you and may God save you!

May 31, 1958

CHRIST'S THREE APPEARINGS

At His first appearing, the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins. At His second appearing, which is now, every day He appears in the presence of God in our behalf. Some of these days He is going to appear a third time, for He is going to appear in the skies, without sin, not for sin, but He is going to appear to take us unto Himself.

Job says:

"For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth." - Job 19:25.

Someday He is coming back. He is going to put in His appearance a second time here within this world. The first time He came in humiliation; the second time He is going to come in sovereignty. The first time He came as a babe; the second time He will come as a man. The first time He came to be in the hands of men; at His second coming men are going to be in His hands. At His first coming the Lord Jesus Christ came as a babe to weep; when He comes again, the world is going to weep in His presence. I tell you, beloved, Jesus Christ is coming back again.

May God bless you!

-September 7, 1963