

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

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WHOLE NUMBER 2014

Six Good Rules For Young Or Old Christians

1. Never neglect daily private prayer; and when you pray remember that God is present, and that He hears your prayers (Heb. 11:6).

2. Never neglect daily private Bible reading; and when you read, remember that God is speaking to you, and that you are to believe and act upon what He says. I believe all backsliding begins with the neglect of these two rules (John 5:39).

3. Never let a day pass without trying to do something for Jesus. Every night reflect on what Jesus has done for you, and then ask yourself, What am I doing for Him? (Matt. 5:13-16).

4. If ever in doubt of a thing being right or wrong, go to your room and ask God's blessing upon it (Col. 3:17). If you cannot do this, it is wrong (Rom. 14:23).

5. Never take your Christianity from Christians, or argue that because such and such people do so and so, that therefore you may (II Cor. 10:12). You are to ask yourself, How would Christ act in my place? and strive to follow Him (John 10:27).

6. Never believe what you feel, if it contradicts God's Word. Ask yourself, Can what I feel be true, if God's Word is true? And if both cannot be true, believe God, and make your own heart the liar (Rom. 3:4; I John 5:10,11).—from *Food and Help for the Household of Faith*.

ENVY—ROTTENNESS OF THE BONES

By JAMES HOBBS
McDermott, Ohio

"A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones"—(Proverbs 14:30).

In my last article on covetousness, I said that there were two sins that caused people more misery—covetousness and jealousy. Today, let us notice the Scripture relative to enviousness, or jealousy.

The Bible is very clear in its description of the results of envy.

(1) Envy slays. "For wrath killeth the foolish man, and envy slayeth the silly one" (Job. 5:2).

(2) Envy is cruel. "Set me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame" (Song of Solomon 8:6).

(3) Envy is confusion. "But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work" (James 3:14-16).

(4) Envy is carnal. "For ye are

yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" (I Cor. 3:33).

From the above passages of Scripture we get the very clear



JAMES HOBBS

picture that the silly person who succumbs to jealousy destroys himself and is cruel to others. We see that the saved person who allows jealousy to rule his thinking causes strife, confusion and evil work in the place of that which should be God-honoring work.

The Scriptures are very clear in the warnings given us in respect to envy. We are told not to envy sinners, "Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long" (Prov. 23:17). "Be not thou envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them" (Prov. 24:1).

Many times I hear of professing Christians, whose desires tend to be toward sinners instead of saved people, and we are warned against it in this passage. It seems that oftentimes we find people looking at the prosperous with envy. "Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass" (Psa. 37:7). "But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped, For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked" (Psa. 73:2-3). (Note: Read this entire Psalm and you will find where Asaph tells how foolish he was in this and how that God held onto him even in his foolishness).

The Bible gives us some very clear examples of the results of those who were jealous of others. Cain was jealous of Abel because (Continued on page 8, column 3)

WHY JEWS, ARABS FIGHT

By CHARLES HALFF
San Antonio, Texas

The eyes of the world are upon Israel and the Middle East. Almost every week we read about some trouble between the Arabs and the Jews, but the most amazing thing is that all of this was prophesied in God's Word long ago. All we have to do is take a newspaper in one hand and a Bible in another and see how God's Word is being fulfilled right before our very eyes.

All of us have to admit that the Middle East situation is a powder keg that could well produce the Third World War. The Arab countries have refused to sit down at a peace table and negotiate with Israel. And each day the situation seems to grow worse and worse. Still smarting from the humiliation of defeat in 1973, Syria is girding for war. With arms from the Soviet Union and money from oil-rich Saudi Arabia, her eyes are on the area of Mount Hermon and

the Golan Heights which were lost in previous wars with Israel, and then Israel itself, Russia, the "big bad bear" from the North, is backing the Arab nations and furnishing them armaments because she has her evil eye upon the land of Israel, and is just waiting for the right moment to pounce down on God's chosen people. The Russian invasion of Palestine is vividly described in Ezekiel 38 and 39. (See my book ISRAEL, EGYPT AND THE END.) The best way for Russia to enter Israel is through Iraq and Syria or Jordan. And we see Russia arming the Arabs and preparing for that invasion in fulfillment of Bible prophecy.

Prophecies Being Fulfilled

The prophets of the Lord have foretold the very things which we see happening today. First, God said that He would bring the Jews back to their own land. Ezek. 36:24; Isa. 11:11-12. This has certainly been fulfilled. Secondly, God said that He would richly bless the land after the Jews returned. (Continued on page 6, column 3)

THE CHASTISEMENT OF LOVE

Some time ago the newspapers carried the story of a father and mother, who, finding their little girl had taken and eaten something from the cupboard, began to shake and slap the child. When the child became tired and sleepy, they did not let up, but continued their shaking and slapping for four hours.

What cruel punishment for such a little offense! No! it was compelled by love. The child had swallowed ten sleeping pills and the doctor said the only hope of saving the child's life was in keeping her awake.

We may not always understand the path through which our Lord leads us, but we may be certain His Chastisement is always born of love.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"America is rapidly running out of clean air, clean water and Sovereign Grace preachers."

—George Boyer,
Plant City, Florida.

REVIVAL SLATED AT HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

APRIL 20 - 27

Pastor James Washer of Missionary Faith Baptist Church of Hollywood, Florida announces a revival beginning April 20-27, 1975 with Elder Jon Rule of Taylor, Michigan as Evangelist. He will be bringing a series of messages at 7:30 p.m. each evening throughout the week, and we would urge all of our readers in this area to make plans now to attend each evening if possible.

Pastor Rule is one of the outstanding Independent Baptist Ministers of America today. He is a young, dedicated man of God whom the Lord is using greatly, and in view of our personal knowledge of his ministry, we would highly recommend that you hear him.

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon By Milburn Cockrell

"ABOMINATION OF ABORTION"

"And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive" (Ex. 1:22).

"Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men" (Matt.

2:16). These Scriptures disclose two of the greatest atrocities ever committed by earthly rulers against the human race. The abominable and outrageous slaughter of Pharaoh and Herod is recorded in the Bible to their everlasting shame and contempt. Both of these committed a bloody and barbarous piece of work. But I fear that modern abortionists are not a whit behind these two men. The only difference is, Herod and Pharaoh

killed the infants after they were born, and abortionists of today kill them before they are born.

COURT CORRUPTION

The U. S. Supreme Court after two years of deliberation by the justices, issued a ruling on January 22, 1973, which barred the states from interfering with the decision of a woman and her doctor to end pregnancies within the first three months. The ruling (Continued on page 2, column 1)

church. You name it, we have people teaching it. This has to be leaning to their own understanding, as my Bible does not teach all these different ways of being saved. How people can read Scriptures like Jn. 3:16, Ephesians 2:8-9, and Acts 16:31, and still believe what the majority do, is beyond my comprehension.

James 1:5 says:

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Dear friend, if you are trusting in anything except the shed blood of Christ to get you to Heaven, according to my Lord's Word, you are leaning to your own understanding. Unsaved friend, if you feel that you are good enough to go to Heaven without faith in the shed blood of Christ, you, too, are leaning to your own understanding. May our blessed Lord and Saviour deliver us all from leaning to our own understanding and help us depend on Him to guide us. May our Lord bless you all!

THE MANY

NAMES OF GOD

By RICHARD E. FARNHAM
Noblesville, Indiana

El Shaddai in the Old Testament is translated in the English "The Almighty God." El means "The Strong One." Shad means "The strong-breasted One" or "The all-sufficient One." The combination indicates to us, "The strong-breasted One is to His own what a mother is to her babe, which she nourishes at her breast."

He is a nourisher and strengthener of His people. We find God representing Himself as El Shaddai to Abraham when He made the covenant: "And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him. I am the Almighty God (El Shaddai); walk before me, and be thou perfect." (Gen. 17:1) It is here that God declared unto Abraham that he would be the father of many nations and his name would no longer be Abram, but rather Abraham, "... for a father of many nations have I made thee." (v. 5) We notice that God will make Abraham exceedingly fruitful and that God will establish His covenant between Himself and Abraham, and between Abraham and his seed for an everlasting covenant. God also promises Sarai, who was 90 years old, that she would become fruitful and bear a son who was to be called Isaac. (Continued on page 6, column 4)

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The Baptist Paper for the Baptist People

JOHN R. GILPIN, Jr. Editor (Temporary)

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Abortions

(Continued from page one)
came by a 7 to 2 vote.

The decision overruled laws in all but four states — Alaska, Hawaii, New York and Washington — which already had liberalized laws. In some states the court's decision has not been well received, especially in Arkansas and Virginia.

The decision removed much of the social stigma associated with the operation, and has taken abortion out of the hands of the back-room abortionists and brought them into the mainstream of the modern medical profession. Abortion is now a constitutional right. We have now come in America to a day of abortion on demand.

Justice Blackmun, who wrote the majority decision, said on the point of fetal personhood: "The unborn have never been recognized in law as persons in the whole sense." The court specifically decided that in the early

ARE YOU THE CULPRIT?

Shortly before my father's death, he loaned our 1971 Bound Volume of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER to someone, and as yet, it hasn't been returned. If you are the one, please return it immediately as we desperately have need of same.

stages of pregnancy, a fetus is not a person entitled to human rights, but in later stages, he is entitled to some human rights. This was in opposition to many state laws which had recognized that human life and personhood existed from conception.

Women of today have taken to abortion like ducks to the water. Abortion is rapidly becoming the world's largest growing industry. In New York where the operation has been legal since 1970, some shocking facts come to light. In 1972 New York State had the honor (dishonor) of killing more babies before their birth than they permitted to be born. Official statistics released by the State Department of Health revealed that in 1972 there were 252,278 babies born and 278,000 murdered by abortions.

What has the world come to when a state murders more babies than it gives birth to? Has the world become possessed with a spirit of murder as was Cain of old? Are not such murderers walking according to the course of the one who was a murderer from the beginning (John 8:44)?

The major cities of America are becoming the centers of mass murder. Atlanta, Georgia has 7 abor-

tion clinics, some of which perform 100 cases a week. Detroit, Michigan has 22 abortion clinics.

The Internal Revenue Service has ruled that expense for abortions are tax deductible. This means added tax burden to all the people who, in a sense, must pay the murder bill.

ENGLISH EMBRYOLOGY

In England and Wales, abortion topped 100,000 in 1971 and went to 160,000 in 1972. It is estimated the number will soon reach 250,000 annually, or about one-third the birth rate. Gynecologists are making a financial windfall out of abortion over there. Some in London do nothing else and net \$12,000 per week in cash.

HOODLUMS IN HUNGARY

The bloody knives of the Communists enforce abortion in Hungary. This has been the case since the Oct. 23, 1966 Hungarian Revolution. In the 16 years following the revolution, child abortion has reached the 3 million mark. The results of this slaughter of the unborn is terrible and tragic. In Hungary, the majority of suicides are women. Hungary leads the world in female alcoholics. Under the Communist regime, the home-loving Hungarian women are deprived of their children, kill themselves, or drink to forget their deep sorrow.

FACTS ABOUT THE FETUS

When does life really begin? at birth or conception? Is the human fetus a pawn or person? Is he to be disposed of according to personal convenience? The medical, philosophical and theological experts have debated this question for years.

The human fetus is human life. Even at conception, an embryo contains the full potential of a human being. About 16 days after conception, the heart begins to beat. In a matter of weeks, human features are recognizable from fingers to toes.

In 8 to 10 weeks of age, the human fetus moves its tiny limbs. It propels itself around the womb by feet and legs. It can respond to pressure and touch. It can be startled by noise. This is no placid, dependent, fragile vegetable developing quietly in preparation for life that starts at birth! This is no inanimate jelly to be sucked out by a vacuum pump through a narrow bore tube to be thrown away.

At birth the main thing that changes is the baby's environment. It has been alive and active many months before this. If a man has the right to destroy life in its early stages, who can say he cannot do so at any stage? And if at any stage, then why not after birth?

LIFE AT CONCEPTION

The medical profession and philosophers may argue about when life begins, but the theologian has no business doing so. The Bible plainly teaches that life begins at conception. The Scriptures reveal that the moment of conception the total human being is present. The Psalmist cried: "In sin did my mother conceive me" (Ps. 51:5). Notice the "me" existed at conception.

Job 3:3 reads: "Let the day perish wherein I was born, and the night in which it was said, There is a man child conceived." Observe again the man existed from conception. In Luke 1:36 the angel told Mary: "Thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her."

John the Baptist was considered a son from conception, and he is said to have been filled with the Holy Spirit from his mother's womb (Luke 1:15).

The innocent unborn, unwanted life is recognized by God as human life, if not by the Supreme Court or in the heart of its mother. The unborn fetus is a real person, and should be entitled to the protection of the state as much as a person who is born.

THE RIGHT TO LIFE

The Bible teaches man's life is

Memorial Pulpit

By JOHN R. GILPIN

Our Beloved Pastor and Editor, Now in Glory



"I SHALL NOT WANT"

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want"—Psalm 23:1.

Isn't it wonderful to know that we serve a God of absolute sovereignty — a God who is sovereign in every particular? There is nothing that comes to pass — there is nothing that takes place, but what is a part of His sovereign will and good pleasure for our lives. Too many times you and I as human beings are tempted to think of God that He is just a big man. In fact, I think the majority of people think of God as a big man, whereas God is not to be thought of in that respect. God is sovereign over all. Listen:

"These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself: but I will reprove thee, and set them in order before thine eyes"—Psa. 50:21.

That is the way most people think about God. They think of God as a being just about like ourselves — maybe a little bit bigger than we are, but one just about like ourselves. To me, it is marvelous to think of God as being a God of absolute sovereignty — a God who does exactly what He wants to do — a God that directs and leads us from day to day, and whose way and will is final so far as our lives are concerned. I tell you frankly, I am glad that I serve a God of sovereignty, who is above me and over me, who leads and directs me, and who controls every step of my pathway.

"Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet

looked out, and there underneath the eaves of the hospital, a little sparrow had taken shelter, and apparently was perfectly contented. It had found refuge there underneath the eaves of the hospital, away from the storm and the elements of the day. I thought then of that song, which says, "His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He cares for me." I go back to that morning in my memory, many, many times in my life, and I think of that experience. I rejoice as I come to bring you this message, that we have a God that looks after us, just like God looks after the little sparrow, and we can say in the words of the Psalmist, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

I never had it so forcibly drawn to my attention as I did one night, about twenty-five years ago, when Mrs. Gilpin was ill and I spent a whole night at the hospital. I was burdened and upset in view of her physical condition. It was the night before Thanksgiving and as you know, Thanksgiving has always meant a great deal to me. I am always happy on Thanksgiving morning that we have the greatest service of the year. Well, the next morning was Thanksgiving Day and I was to preach. That morning, about 6:00, I walked out in the solarium, as I was tired from the night's vigil. In view of the fact that I hadn't gotten any rest during the night — in view of the fact that I hadn't even had my clothes off all night — in view of the fact that I hadn't shaved yet — and in view of the fact that I had a sermon to preach in two or three hours time, I felt exceedingly worn and perturbed to start the day off.

The interesting thing was the weather that morning, for it was a cold, rainy, gloomy, dreary, drizzly fall day. As I stood there in the solarium, on the second floor, I

I SHALL NOT WANT AS TO DIVINE SATISFACTION. "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures"—Psa. 23:2.

Did you ever notice that when daylight comes, or even before daylight breaks, the cattle will get up from where they have been sleeping, and will begin browsing and eating, searching for their food, and after a little while, when they are filled, they will lie down, perhaps under a tree, or at least in the grass, and chew their cud. Thus, as they lie there, they are perfectly satisfied.

Beloved, that is exactly what this passage of Scripture says: I shall not want as far as divine satisfaction is concerned. These green pastures are typical, I think, of the Scriptures. When it is said that

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

handicapped and the mentally deranged whose lives can have far less potential than an unborn child? How can people speak of the civil right of a mother to murder her unborn babe, and then allow no rights whatever to an unborn infant? How can the liberal religious

(Continued on page 7, column 1)



Greetings:

All of you are doing a wonderful job pertaining to the paper. I thank the Lord for you all, and all glory to our blessed Lord.

Mrs. Arthur Harris
Arkansas

Dear Bro. John,

One wonders why you keep looking for an editor. Your father would certainly be proud of the job you are doing.

Yours in Christ,
Hobert & Opal VanHoose
Ohio

Dear John, Jr.,

It's good to be getting T.B.E. each week. We receive a great lift from it and words are so inadequate, but we think it is the greatest. Our prayers are with you each day and all those who have a part in this great work.

The Curries
Maine

Dear Bro. Gilpin,

I wish to say that I still greatly enjoy the Baptist Examiner each week. It always brings an extra blessing to be able to read your late father's sermons in Memorial Pulpit. Even though he is gone to a better world than this, his ser-

mons can still bless the hearts and lives of many people.

May God grant you Grace and Strength to carry on this great work in memory of your Father.

Sincerely,
Willard Windsor
Alabama

Gentlemen:

I am very glad that TBE is still being published. It is the best publication I know of and it is my prayer that it will always be in existence.

Sincerely,
R. L. Mangum
Kentucky

Dear Bro. Gilpin,

We are happy to know that the paper will continue to be published. We are trying to help out with giving extra at our church, the Victory Baptist Church of McNeil, Arkansas. May the Lord bless all of you in the work.

Sincerely,
The Warrens,
Arkansas

Dear John, Jr.,

I think you are doing a wonderful job with the paper. I would like to see you stay on as Editor even after your church calls a pastor.

Yours in the Lord,
Kenneth Abbott
Oklahoma

Dear Bro. Gilpin, Jr.,

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to you and your staff for keeping this wonderful paper in print. My husband and I have been subscribers for years and we enjoy it immensely. T.B.E. is the finest Baptist paper in print, and we get a lot of spiritual food from its pages.

Your sister in Christ,
Mrs. Ramona L. Pierce
Florida

"I Shall Not Want"

(Continued from page two)

they are green, this means that they are always fresh, and never exhausted, and certainly, that is true of the Bible. The Bible is always fresh. The Bible is never exhausted. It is just like green pastures. In other words, as far as I am concerned, God completely satisfied me to the extent that I could lie down with the promises of God all around me, knowing that I have a complete and perfect divine satisfaction.

You notice that He says, "He maketh me to lie down," as if to say that God enables us to see the preciousness of His truth. We would never realize how precious the truth of God's Word is if God didn't enable us to see it. Therefore, He makes us to lie down in green pastures. He shows us how precious the truth of His word is, and He gives us satisfaction. We lie down surrounded by the promises of the Lord and are satisfied, just as the cows are satisfied when they have eaten until they are full, and have gone to lie down and chew their cud, and thus be perfectly satisfied. So it is with you

and me. We can say, "I shall not want as far as divine satisfaction is concerned."

I think of one who is a marvelous illustration of this, and that is Mary. You remember the two sisters, Mary and Martha. Martha was a housekeeper, and the other one — well, I imagine her house looked most horrible most of the time. Martha was really a housekeeper and I can see her as she comes into the room where her sister, Mary and the Lord Jesus Christ were in conversation. She had been out in the kitchen getting dinner ready and I can see her as she walks in the door and wipes her hands on her apron, as she stands there and says, "Master, I wish you would have my sister come on out to the kitchen and help me get dinner." Jesus said, "Martha, you are troubled about many things, but Mary has chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." Mary was completely satisfied to sit there and listen to the words of Jesus. Martha wouldn't be satisfied until she had the best dinner in the world on the table and saw everybody eating until they were full, but Mary was satisfied to listen to

IS "THAT" IN THE BIBLE?



WHO WAS KILLED FOR PRACTICING BIRTH CONTROL?

Answer:

Onan, Genesis 38:8-10: "And Judah said unto Onan, Go in unto thy brother's wife, and marry her, and raise up seed to thy brother. And Onan knew that the seed should not be his; and it came to pass, when he went in unto his brother's wife, that he spilled it on the ground, lest that he should give seed to his brother. And the thing which he did displeased the Lord; wherefore he slew him also."

Jesus.

I say to you, beloved, our God gives to us a divine satisfaction. It has been amazing to me as I have faced life, and some of the

problems that I have had, how that God has satisfied me even in the face of problems. Many times when I have had difficulties of the worst type confronting me, I have been able to go along, being perfectly satisfied, because the Scripture says, "I shall not want."

II

I SHALL NOT WANT FOR DIVINE GUIDANCE.

"He leadeth me beside the still waters . . . He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake"—Psa. 23:2,3.

Notice the divine guidance that God gives to us, for He leads us.

There is a song which means much to me:

"In shady, green pastures, so rich and so sweet,
God leads His dear children along;
Where the water's cold flow bathes the weary one's feet,
God leads His dear children along.

Some thro' the waters, some thro' the flood,
Some thro' the fire, but all thro' the Blood;
Some thro' great sorrow, but God gives a song,

In the night season and all the day long."

Isn't it wonderful to know that God leads His children?

Do you know why you are here? There isn't a doubt in my mind but that God led you here. There is a man worshipping with us today from Western Kentucky. He might think that he just happened to be here today, but he is here because God led him here this morning.

There is a dear sister who heard the broadcast this morning, who came into the service to worship with us today. She is not here just because she decided to be here, but she is here because God led her here.

The Apostle Paul wanted to preach in Asia. He thought that he was going to do mission work in Asia. He thought he ought to continue there. The Word of God tells us how he went to two different places and each time, God shut the door. There was no place for (Continued on page 5, column 1)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

APRIL 12, 1975

PAGE THREE

GET THE PUMP WITH THE Pledge!



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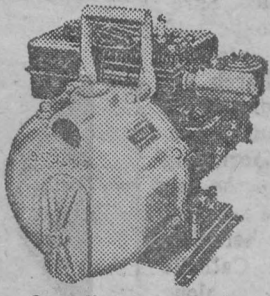


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The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT TO:

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER — P. O. BOX 910 — ASHLAND, KY. 41101

"Where can I find what the seven churches spoken of in Rev. 2 and 3 represent? Or do they 'represent' anything?"

PAUL
TIBER

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



The question contains its own answer in the Scripture reference. Each church is mentioned by name and is a local church.

There is a major theology which attaches representation to these various churches. This doctrine places the lukewarm church of Laodicea as the representative church of our day. There is no Biblical warrant for such an interpretation, because in order for that position to be viable, one must construct a universal church.

Simply stated, the seven churches are not representative.

Church, and also this theory that the Seven churches "represent" something they were never intended to represent. As some of you know, Bro. Gilpin published a booklet of mine entitled, "The Myth Of The Universal Invisible Church Exploded." No one has even made an attempt to answer this booklet, and some who have read it have repudiated the Universal theory.

Those who hold that the Seven churches represent "The Church" in seven different ages of church history, utterly ignore the little groups and bands of Baptists who held to the truth, and suffered persecution of every kind, even to death. "The Church," according to them, was the old Catholic Church that slaughtered Baptists by the tens of thousands. Church history should be traced through the real churches that remained true to Christ and His cause — not through the huge evil persecuting group, which the Scriptures designate as the "Great Whore" (See Rev. 17:1).

I wish that more people would ask and consider the question posed by our questioner. The two questions just dealt with need to be junked from the thinking of those who love the Lord and His Word.

Going back to the question we were asked, let me say, "No, the seven churches don't 'represent' anything. Just read the Scripture—Rev. 2 and 3, and take it for what it says."

E. G.
COOK

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BIBLE TEACHER
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The first thing we need to learn about the Book of Revelation is that it is a Book of prophecy. I have some books on Revelation that deals with it as just history. To do that is to completely ignore what our Lord says about it. Five times He calls it prophecy. Please read 1:3; 22:7, 10, 18, 19 and check me on it. And since He says five times that it is a Book of prophecy, we do well to deal with it as prophecy. That being true we must of necessity consider chapters 2 and 3 as prophecy pertaining to this church age.

We must remember that all seven of the churches listed in these two chapters were true churches of the Lord Jesus Christ. But the letters to these churches set forth prophetically this entire church age. The first one is the church at Ephesus. This church represents all of our Lord's churches up to about 251 A.D. The name Ephesus means "dearly beloved." And these early churches

were dearly beloved of the Lord. We notice in 2:6, however, that there had something crept into, at least, some of the early churches, that they hated. Our Lord says He also hated it. That was the deeds of the Nicolaitanes. To me this simply means the beginning of a graded ministry. Our Lord says in Mt. 23:8, "all ye are brethren". But in some of these churches the "big shot" preachers began to assume authority over other preachers which was definitely our Lord's business. So neither He nor His true churches liked to have them do that.

The next church is the one at Smyrna. Smyrna means "myrrh." And we are told that the more myrrh was beaten and crushed the sweeter was the fragrance of it. Smyrna represents our Lord's true churches that were so sorely persecuted by the Catholic Church during the Dark Ages. Untold thousands of the members of these churches were beheaded, thrown to hungry lions, burned at the stake or buried alive. These churches had to hide out in caves and in the mountains in order to worship. But in 2:9 our Lord said to them, "I know thy tribulation and poverty, (but thou art rich)". They were rich in spiritual things. If there will be any such thing as envy when we are in our glorified bodies, we just may envy those precious saints who suffered so much, and who died such ignominious deaths for their Lord's sake, because great will be their reward in Heaven.

The next church is the one at Pergamos. Pergamos means exalted through marriage. This church represents the apostate churches that our Lord's true churches were forced to withdraw fellowship from in 251 A.D. They were the ones that had begun to practice the deeds of the Nicolaitanes in 2:6. So in 2:15 these churches not only practiced a graded ministry, they taught it as a doctrine. They were the ones that became married to the state. The Roman Emperor, Constantine the Great, took these churches under his wings, built lavish places of worship, and even paid the pastor's salary. These churches were highly exalted in the eyes of the world. They were the ones that began to preach baptismal regeneration to baptize infants, and even established a law in 416 A.D. requiring infants to be baptized. It was in these churches that the hierarchy began to develop. This thing did not spring into being over night. It developed over a period of three or four hundred years.

The next one of these churches is the one at Thyatira. Thyatira means a continual sacrifice. Surely, no one should have to be told that this church represents the Catholic Church. This church encircles the globe. And somewhere around the earth this church (according to them) is sacrificing Christ anew every hour of the day in their mass. In 2:20 we see that woman Jezebel who calls herself a prophetess. That is the Catholic Church who claims that she alone can interpret God's Word. In the letter to Ephesus, we see in 2:6 Nicolaitanism budding, in the letter to Pergamos we see it blooming in 2:15, and in the Catholic Church we see it bearing fruit in the pope, cardinals, archbishops, bishops and priests. But since our Lord's true churches purged themselves of this hated thing in 251 A.D., we see no mention of it in the letter to Smyrna.

The next of these churches is

the one at Sardis. Sardis means separation. So this church represents the Protestant churches that separated themselves from the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church by the 16th century had become so corrupt, that in the eyes of the world these Protestant churches were doing a wonderful thing. So in 3:1 our Lord says to them "thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead." In the eyes of the world these churches seemed to have spiritual life in them, but God says they are dead. How can a spiritually dead mother bring forth live children? Since I have friends and relatives in these churches, I rejoice in what we see in 3:4, which means that our Lord has a few of His people in these churches.

The next church is the one at Philadelphia. And Philadelphia means "brotherly love." This church represents our Lord's true churches from about the time of the so-called reformation to the rapture. In the letter to this church you see no condemnation, but rather an open door. And in 3:9 we see that the false churches in the world will be made to worship at the feet of these churches. Also in 3:10, I find consolation. That verse means to me that these churches are to be kept out of the great tribulation. The Greek word here is EK which means "out of," not in or through, but out of. That will necessitate the rapture before that awful tribulation begins. The Ephesus type churches merged into the Smyrna type churches, and the Smyrna type churches merged into the Philadelphia type churches, but the Pergamos type churches developed into the Catholic Church.

The last of these churches is the one at Laodicea. And Laodicea means the "rights of the people." Among these churches you often hear someone say I have as much right to my belief as you have to yours. And, technically, that is true. But Scripturally, none of us have that right. Only God has the right to tell us what to believe. This He does in His Word. These churches are very unique in that they were originally some of the Lord's churches. In 3:11, He accuses them of being lukewarm. He is talking about their spiritual condition. So He threatens to spue them out of His mouth because of this condition. They had to first be in His mouth before He could spue them out. If you notice, He says nothing about spuing the Catholic Church or the Protestant churches out of His mouth. They were never in it. But these churches were in His mouth. In verse 17, we see another reason for His spuing them out of His mouth. It is because of their great boasting of their wealth. So to me, these are Baptist Churches who are in a lukewarm condition spiritually, and who are filthy rich in this world's goods. A number of these churches have church plants that are valued in the millions of dollars. This looks wonderful in the

eyes of the world, but He does not seem to like it so much.

And what a sad picture it is to see our Lord, who loved these churches and gave Himself for them, standing at the door knocking. He has been crowded out of His own churches by the worldly things that have been brought into them in order to keep worldly members happy. They no longer need Him. They get their Sunday School lessons from the communistic National Council of Churches, and their instructions from headquarters. A sad picture indeed! But a still more pathetic picture is to see the pastors of some of these churches standing in the pulpit telling lost people that the knocking is on their heart's door. If they are unable to see that the knocking is on the door of their church, they are poorly qualified to be a Baptist pastor.

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Anytime we have a question about some Biblical teaching, the first source of information is the Bible itself. Please understand that I am not trying to give a short or "smart-aleck" answer, but this is something that bothers me a great deal. There is nothing wrong with reading books about the Bible, but don't let them be the final authority.

There are some who interpret these churches to represent a church age theory and think that these churches represent certain periods of history. These periods are, according to this theory.

(1) Ephesus — 70-170 A.D. (2) Smyrna — 170-312 A.D. (3) Pergamos — 312-606 A.D. (4) Thyatira — 606-1520 A.D. (5) Sardis — 1520-1750 A.D. (6) Philadelphia — 1750-1900 A.D. (7) Laodicea — 1900 — the rapture.

This theory, while it has some ideas that sound good, is too close to the universal invisible church theory. Frankly, I do not consider this theory at all when studying these two chapters.

The book of Revelation is to be studied just like all the other books. It must be taken literally as much as possible. There are some passages in all the Bible that have spiritual applications, but in most cases a literal understanding is correct. Revelation 1:11 tells us plainly about these churches: "... What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia. ... Obviously, these were actual churches in Asia and these messengers were sent to them. Each message is sent to that particular church, but was to be adhered to (Continued on page 5, column 5)

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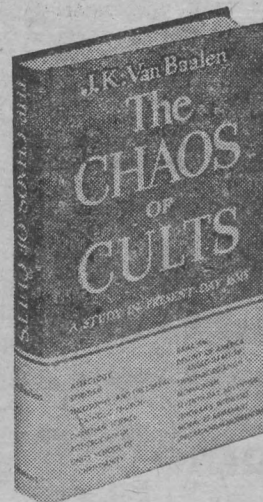
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PAGE FOUR



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"I Shall Not Want"

(Continued from page three)

him to preach, and he went on down to Troas, and the Word of God says that he saw a vision of a man in Macedonia, saying, "Come over into Macedonia." God shut the door in two other places, and then opened the door and led him over into Macedonia.

Beloved, we have a God who leads us, and I say to you, I shall not want as far as divine leadership is concerned.

I read how the Psalmist David said:

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way"—Psa. 37:23.

Yes, beloved, your steps, my steps, everybody's steps — every step we take every day is ordered by the Lord.

I like that old song:

"He leadeth me! O blessed tho't!

O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!

Whate'er I do, where'er I be, Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me."

III

I SHALL NOT WANT AS TO DIVINE RESTORATION.

"He restoreth my soul" — Psa. 23:3.

That word "restore" doesn't mean too much to us within itself, but if you will break it down to one of our modern words, you will get a better picture of it. It is the word "repair."

Beloved, God operates a repair shop. He repairs the soul, and you and I need repairs every day.

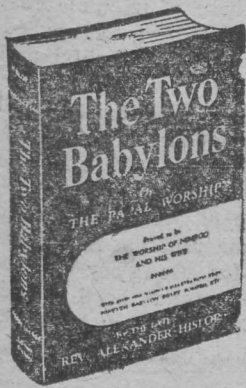
In our homes, we realize that things have to be repaired. Sometimes you have some little appliance, such as toaster, which you can't repair yourself, and you have to take such to some repair shop. Then sometimes your major appliances, such as your refrigerator, goes bad and you have to have a man who is capable of doing that kind of repair come to your home and repair it, or maybe take the appliance away to repair it. Some-

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times your watch goes bad and you have to take it to a jeweler. Anyway, there are repairs that have to be done.

I ask you, wouldn't it be wonderful if you could just repair everything about your home that went wrong, and you never had to worry about these repairmen, or the repair bills, or the delay in getting the fixture repaired? Wouldn't it be wonderful if you could do all that repair work? Well, beloved, we can't, and that is why we have to have other places we can go for repairs.

My text says, "I shall not want," and we shall not want as far as divine repair is concerned, and the best part about it is, God repairs us completely. He repairs everything concerning us. While we are unable to do our repairing and have to call in somebody to take care of the repairs in our home, God repairs all of us fully. I shall not want relative to divine restoration.

Does your soul ever get "run down" to the place, about like the heel on your shoe sometimes? I have a tendency to wear my shoes out on the right side of the right heel and on the left side of the left heel, and they have to be repaired quite often. Beloved, I get in the same shape spiritually sometimes, as my shoes do. Just as my shoes need repair, my soul needs repair. I get run down to the heel sometimes spiritually, and I need repair. I say, I shall not want relative to divine restoration.

IV

I SHALL NOT WANT AS TO DIVINE PROTECTION.

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me"—Psa. 23:4.

I see David as he goes out to fight against the Philistine giant—how that David tries to wear Saul's armour, but can't do so. As he walks down the hill to meet the giant on the other side of the brook, he reaches down and picks up five smooth stones and drops them into his shepherd's pouch. As he crosses the brook and goes to the other side to meet the giant, Goliath, the Word of God tells us how that Goliath laughed at him, and made fun of him. Goliath looked back at the army on the hill and said, "Here they are sending a boy to fight with me. Why don't they come out and fight as men?"

You know, beloved, that little boy had something all that army didn't have. He was depending upon God for divine protection. I can see that Philistine giant as he got so happy. It amused him to think that he was fighting against this little fellow that he laughed uproariously. Finally, the helmet upon his forehead fell back a little, and left his forehead bare. That was the time that God had predetermined from the foundation of the world for that giant's death, and David took his slingshot and struck the giant on the forehead and he fell dead.

I want to tell you, I shall not want as to divine protection. We have a God that protects us. Why was it that the giant laughed? Why was it that the giant's helmet fell back just at the right time? Why was it that all of this took place? I'll tell you why. God in His sovereignty looks down upon us, and I shall not want for divine protection.

I look at Joseph in Egypt when he was sold by his brothers into the hands of the Ishmaelites and they in turn carried him down to Egypt and sold him to the Egyptians. I remember some of the problems that Joseph had, I can remember how the woman lied on him, and how they put him down in the dungeon. I can remember all the things that were said about him. Folk say, "Where there is so much smoke, there is bound to be a little fire." Well, beloved, there was a lot of smoke in Joseph's life, but there wasn't a spark of fire as far as Joseph was concerned.

It looked like everything was

against Joseph. Can you imagine an innocent man spending two whole years in a dungeon, yet the Word of God tells us that at the end of the two years, God brought him out just at the right time — at the time that was predetermined by God before the foundation of the world. God took care of him. We serve a God who divinely protects us.

Notice those Jews when they came to the Red Sea, with the army of Pharaoh behind them. What did they do? Well, God led them through, and then God brought that wall of water on either side together, and all the Egyptians were slain thereby. Moses was on the other side of the sea, and the Word of God tells us how he sang a hymn of praise. He took that old shepherd's staff and led that crowd in singing, and Miriam led the women, and they had a time of praise. Why? Because God had protected them there at the Red Sea.

Beloved, I shall not want for divine protection, and the interesting thing about this is, God not only says that He protects us, but He even protects us when we come down to die. The Psalmist says, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil." Notice, He does not say, "As we walk through death," but "through the shadow of death."

A dog can bite, but the shadow of a dog can't bite. I might see a vicious dog and be scared, but the shadow of a dog can't bite. The shadow of death can't hurt. David said, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil." Beloved, I say to you, even when we come down to the hour of death, I shall not want as to divine protection.

V

I SHALL NOT WANT AS TO TEMPORAL THINGS.

"Thou preparest a table before me"—Psa. 23:5.

The table that God provides for you and me isn't always set with the same thing, just like the table that you have isn't always set with the same thing. Sometimes you have your table set more bountifully — maybe when Thanksgiving times comes, or when you are going to have the preacher at your home, or when you are going to have guests at your home. I remember several years ago I was invited into a home. They knew the preacher was coming, and the woman "killed the fatted calf" and everything else that went along with it. It was a good dinner — an exceedingly good meal, and I complimented her, and told her she had done wrong, but that I appreciated the wrong she had done. She said, "It is true, Brother Gilpin, I have wrecked the budget for the rest of the week."

That is true, beloved; you do sometimes, and then sometimes you have scant meals. The time may come when you may open a can of sardines, or when you have cereal. In other words, you cut down. We don't always set the table just the same.

I think our Lord does likewise. Sometimes He sets our table very bountifully as far as material things are concerned; then sometimes He sets the table very scantily for us, but there is one thing certain, I shall not want as to temporal things.

I don't believe there is a child of God that is trying to walk with the Lord, regardless of what his material status may be, and irrespective of the temporal things that he may have but that God gives him satisfaction, and God enables that man to face even the worst of life's experiences, saying, "I shall not want." We read:

"Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?"

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
APRIL 12, 1975
PAGE FIVE

GARDEN OF GRACE

I wandered into a garden a short time ago. The wonder of this garden is a rare privilege to know. It is so peaceful, its beauty so sweet, That words can't describe it, its rapture's so complete. The beautiful Rose of Sharon walked with me there, And the blissful communion is beyond compare.

In my years of salvation, I was caught up in deceit, When Jesus opened my eyes, I fell at His feet. Not of works, God is the One to choose. Salvation of works, one could surely lose. The Master revealed this knowledge to me For in times past I would never agree.

As I looked at the truths that to me were revealed, I marvelled at the comfort each truth concealed. Why can't others these truths receive? Softly Jesus answers, "Can a dead man believe? Until I give life, they are as grains of sand, Blind and deaf, how can they understand?"

How thankful I am! that before creation began, God chose men to salvation and not to works of man. He loved me throughout an eternity To pay the sin price — Ah! the security. So the doctrines of grace are like a rare garden to me, A priceless gem to know salvation is free.

Louise Rogers
Glennville, Georgia

Which of you by taking thought the Lord SHALL NOT WANT any can add one cubit unto his stature? good things"—Psa. 34:10.

And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they sow not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall He not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 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"—Mt. 6:26-32.

Here the Lord talks about how He takes care of the birds, and the lilies, and the flowers. They are all looked after by His own hand. They don't do anything themselves, but He looks after them. Then He says, "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."

It is a heathen man, a barbarian, an unsaved man, that worries about what he is going to eat, and what he is going to wear, and how he is going to get along in the world, or how he is ever going to make ends meet. The Lord said: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you"—Mt. 6:33.

I tell you, beloved, I shall not want relative to temporal things. The Psalmist gives us a remarkable thought in this respect:

"The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek

Notice, God puts us on the basis of the beast and the lion, and He says that they do suffer hunger, but they that seek the Lord, shall not want any good thing.

Listen again: "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread"—Psa. 37:25.

Yes, beloved, I shall not want relative to temporal things.

VI

I SHALL NOT WANT AS TO SPIRITUAL THINGS.

(Continued on page 6, column 1)



The Forum

(Continued from page four)

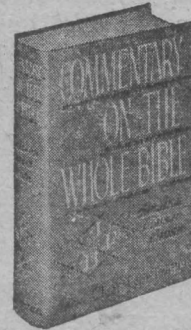
by all churches. "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches..." (Revelation 2:17).

These were literal churches and the problems were actual problems found in the churches. They, of course, represent problems that could and do exist in our churches today. We have in these two chapters a very good lesson of the local church. Christ is in His churches as we see clearly here, and each church is separate from the other. Revelation 1:20 tells us that the candlesticks are the churches and the stars are the messengers (ministers) of the churches. One of the most important lessons that we see here is Christ is in the midst of the churches and that He holds the pastors in His hand. "Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; these things saith He that holdeth the seven stars in His right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks." (Revelation 2:1).

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"I Shall Not Want"

(Continued from page five)

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life"—Psa. 23:6.

Doesn't this sound like He is going to take care of us with spiritual things?

Spurgeon used to refer to this passage by saying that the goodness and mercy were God's watchdogs, and just like a watchdog follows along behind you, that goodness and mercy follow after the child of God from day to day, and as far as we are concerned, we will never lack spiritual things.

In the Old Testament, God says: "As thy days, so shall thy strength be"—Deut. 33:25.

Here is a marvelous promise — a promise that isn't just for the next day, but it is for the next 365 days. In fact, it is for all the years of your life. I shall not want as far as spiritual things are concerned, for He has already given me a promise that "as thy days, so shall thy strength be."

Notice again:

"My grace is sufficient for thee"—II Cor. 12:9.

Isn't it wonderful to know that God's grace is sufficient?

Suppose there is a fish in the Atlantic Ocean that swims up beside a big whale, and says, "I am worried to death. I just can't sleep at night." The whale says, "Why?" The fish says, "I am afraid the ocean is going to go dry."

Beloved, that would be just as sensible as you and me worrying about how we are going to get along in this world. It would be just as sensible as for you and me to wonder how we are going to get along in this world when God has already said, "As thy days, so shall thy strength be," and "My grace is sufficient for thee." Beloved, He is going to give us strength by the day, and if His grace is sufficient for us, then I shall not want relative to spiritual things.

VII

I SHALL NOT WANT IN ETERNITY.

"And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever"—Psa. 23:6.

This has to do with eternity; all the other verses have to do with this life. Notice, we are going to dwell with the Lord forever.

Sometimes a wicked man runs into a church to say a prayer. He may go to church today and then not go back again for a long time. But David, taking a long view of life, looks out into eternity and says, "I will dwell in the house

of the Lord for ever."

You and I go to church on Sunday, and as I say, the wicked man sometimes runs in and out of the church of the Lord when he is afraid, but David said, "I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever" — not just occasionally, but forever; not just once in a while, but forever. I shall not want in eternity. The same God that has been taking care of me along life's pathway, that same God is going to continue to take care of me until I come down to death, and even beyond death — in eternity — I shall not want.

We read:

"And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God"—Rev. 21:3.

Isn't it going to be wonderful some of these days when that comes to pass?

T. T. Martin was a good friend of mine, and a good preacher. A. D. Muse, who grew up under T. T. Martin, was also a good friend of mine, and a good preacher, who had been in my home, just like Brother Martin, many, many times. A few days after Brother Muse died, which was several years after Brother Martin died, I was in Louisville, in the home of Mrs. Muse. She called me and insisted that I come down about a matter, and I went to her home and talked with her for some period of time. She referred to the day that Bro. Muse had died, and she said, "You know, T. T. and A. D. had a hallelujah time that day when they got together again." I thought, that is right, I imagine they did have a hallelujah time. I imagine they shouted Hallelujah all over God's Heaven that day when they got together again.

Beloved, that is going to be true of everyone of us. I don't want for anything in this world, for the Psalmist says, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." The same God that looks after me in this life, is going to look after me in eternity, and I shall not want even in eternity. He says, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever." I am going toward my heavenly home, and I have two heavenly attendants to go along with me—goodness and mercy—and those attendants are going to guide me on the way to my heavenly home, and when I get there, I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. I shall not want in eternity.

That is what my Lord meant when He 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, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also"—John 14:1-3.

Thank God, someday we are going to be with Him. Some day we are going to be with the Father, some day we are going to be with

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the Son, and some day we are going to be with all the saints of all ages. I shall not want in eternity, just like I shall not want here with in this world.

CONCLUSION

Notice who it is that can say, "I shall not want." It is the man that has a shepherd. If you don't know the Shepherd, then you can't say that. You are worried to death about how you are going to make ends meet, and you are worried to death about how you are going to get along in this world, but the individual that knows the Shepherd can say, "I shall not want."

Therefore, I ask you, do you know the Shepherd? Do you know the Lord Jesus Christ? Do you know Him as your Shepherd and Saviour? Might it please God to open your heart this morning and reveal to you Jesus Christ, who died for your sins, that you might be saved, is my prayer.

May God bless you!

Jews And Arabs

(Continued from page one)

Ezek. 36:34,35 and Joel 2. This has also been fulfilled. And thirdly, God said there would be much fighting and wrangling over Jerusalem. And this is being fulfilled today. Listen to the prophecy:

"Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a BURDENSOME STONE for all people: ALL THAT BURDEN THEMSELVES WITH IT SHALL BE CUT IN PIECES, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it"—Zech. 12:2-3.

God's Word makes it plain that Jerusalem and the Middle East will be the storm center of the world until Jesus Christ returns as King of kings and Lord of lords. There might be a temporary lull in the fighting between the Arabs and the Jews, but according to Bible prophecy we can expect nothing but trouble and turmoil in the Middle East until Jesus Christ returns as the Prince of Peace. The prophecy says that Jerusalem shall be a burdensome stone for all people.

Isaac Versus Ishmael

The present trouble in Palestine began in the tent of Abraham nearly 4,000 years ago. It is a family squabble between two brothers, sons of the same father, but of different mothers. As you know, Abraham had two sons — Isaac and

Ishmael. Isaac is the father of the nation of Israel and Ishmael is the father of the Arab nations.

Now in order to understand what this conflict is all about between the Arabs and the Jews, let's go back to the beginning of these two nations and see to whom the land of Palestine was promised. If we are to understand the Israel-Arab conflict today, we must first of all settle this question.

Abraham was a man of 75 years when, in answer to God's call he entered Canaan. Sarah, his wife, was already 65 years old. God had promised to make Abraham a great nation, which would have necessitated God giving this couple of advanced age an heir. Ten years passed, and thinking God needed help in fulfilling His promise, Sarah gave Abraham her Egyptian maidservant, Hagar, to bear him a son. They got a child all right, but they didn't get the heir God had promised. They got an Ishmael instead of an Isaac.

When Abraham was 100 years old, and Sarah was 90, the miracle child Isaac was born. He was "the seed of promise" — God always keeps His word. Now as soon as Isaac was born the trouble started in Abraham's household. From the first, Ishmael was jealous of the legitimate son, Isaac. In Genesis 22:2, God said to Abraham, "Take now thy son thine ONLY son Isaac, whom thou lovest." The promise of the Messiah was (Continued on page 7, column 3)

Names Of God

(Continued from page one)

The covenant would be with Isaac for an everlasting covenant and with his seed after him. The fulfillment of these promises: "And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able to perform." (Rom. 4:19-21). "Through faith also Sarah herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised." (Heb. 11:11).

God Almighty (El Shaddai), the strong breasted One, was able to make Abraham and Sarah, whose bodies were dead, to be fruitful and multiply, that the promise God made to them might be fulfilled.

The Lord referred to Himself as El Shaddai when He renewed the covenant with Jacob. "And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: Thy name shall not be called anymore Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and He called his name Israel. And God said unto him, I am God Almighty (El Shaddai):

be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins; and the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land." (Gen. 35:10-12) The covenant was renewed in the person of El Shaddai, the strong-breasted One, who was to make Jacob fruitful. Jacob, in turn, when he was to bless Joseph said, "Even by the God of thy father, who shall help thee: and by the Almighty (El Shaddai), who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breasts, and the womb." (Gen. 49:25). We have here the picture of the strong-breasted one who nourishes His people.

Naomi, Ruth's mother-in-law, referred to El Shaddai in reference to her affliction; proving that affliction to God's people is a help from God and not a hindrance. "And she said unto them, Call me not Naomi, call me Mara: for the Almighty (El Shaddai) hath dealt very bitterly with me. I went out full, and the Lord hath brought me home again empty: why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the Lord hath testified against me, and the Almighty (El Shaddai) hath afflicted me?" (Ruth 1:20, 21).

The Lord as El Shaddai, chastens His people when they go to the world for help instead of coming to the Almighty. The Lord is faithful to His people, He cannot deny Himself. He is faithful even when His people are unfaithful to Him. The chastening of Naomi brought Ruth into the blessing and the covenant relationship with God's people. Through her marriage to Boaz came a child who was in the lineage of Christ. From this union came the Saviour of the world.

El Shaddai nourishes and strengthens the New Testament believer. El Shaddai requires us to be separated unto the Lord and from the world. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty (El Shaddai)." (II Cor. 6:17, 18).

El Shaddai also destroys those who are wicked. "For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty (El Shaddai)." (Rev. 16:14).

For those of us who are saved, who have been nourished and strengthened by the Almighty God, will spend eternity basking in the glory of El Shaddai. "And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty (El Shaddai) and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof." (Rev. 21:22, 23).

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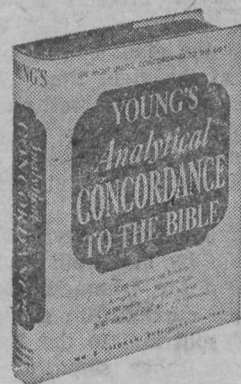
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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

APRIL 12, 1975

PAGE SIX

Jews And Arabs

(Continued from page 6)
through Isaac, not Ishmael. So God didn't even count Ishmael when it came to spiritual things.

Now here's the crux of the whole matter. God promised the land of Palestine to Abraham and his seed through Isaac, not Ishmael. Remember that God is sovereign and He can give the land to whomever He pleases. The big question today is — who owns the land, Isaac or Ishmael? Listen to the Scripture:

"In Isaac shall thy seed be called"—Gen. 21:12.

"Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and THOU SHALT CALL HIS NAME ISAAC: AND I WILL ESTABLISH MY COVENANT WITH HIM FOR AN EVER-LASTING COVENANT, and with his seed after him"—Gen. 17:19.

"As for Ishmael . . . I have blessed him . . . twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. BUT MY COVENANT WILL I ESTABLISH WITH ISAAC"—Gen. 17:20-21.

So God makes it clear which seed is to inherit the land. God promised the land of Canaan to Abraham and his seed through Isaac, not Ishmael. God said, "As for Ishmael I will make of him a great nation, but my covenant will I establish with Isaac." So God makes it crystal clear that the land of Palestine belongs to Israel and not to the Arabs.

The Jews and Arabs could live together in peace and harmony if they would only accept God's terms. God has specifically said, "In Isaac shall thy seed be called." Gen. 21:12. The promise of the land is to Isaac and the seed of Jacob.

Oh, I realize that we have a lot of Jew haters today who say that the Jews are murderers and hijackers and that they have stolen the land from the Arabs. But, beloved, there is not one word of truth to these accusations. Let me say this to all of you. Anyone who tells you that the Jews have stolen the land of Palestine from the Arabs doesn't know the facts. First, God gave

(Continued on page 8, column 3)

Abortions

(Continued from Page Two)
crowd favor the elimination of capital punishment, and favor abortion on demand at the same time? How can doctors who are under oath to preserve life deliberately take the life of an unborn child?

THE HARM OF ABORTION

Abortion is legalized murder. Exodus 20:13 says: "Thou shalt do no murder." This forbids us doing anything hurtful or injurious to health, ease, and life of another person. It certainly does forbid the brutal murder of unborn children. Anyone who asks for an abortion, or performs the act, does not believe this Scripture. They have no business belonging to any Christian church or Christian society in the world. They belong in the camp with the bloody Communists and the inquisitors of the thirteenth century.

What would have happened to the nine justices of the Supreme Court if their mothers had been aborted in a safe hospital? Where would our country be if the mother of George Washington had demanded an abortion? Where would the world be today if Mary had aborted Jesus Christ three months after conception?

EASY MORALS

Easy abortion encourages easy morals. If a woman gets into trouble today, she knows the solution is just around the corner. If present trends continue, women will come to look on abortion as being physically and mentally no

more serious than having a tooth out. School girls will look upon sexual intercourse as the normal behavior after finishing their homework. An age of fornication and adultery, such as the world has never seen, is soon to take the world by storm.

IRRESPONSIBILITY IN MEN

Abortion has the effects of increasing irresponsibility in men. Many of the male sex favor abortion to shed their responsibilities. Marriage and supporting a family takes hard work, and this is something more than a few men are afraid of. Many men (I like to have said mice) do not want to be responsible to a woman, or a child, or the state, or, least of all, to God. Nevertheless, God has made man a responsible creature. Man and woman are responsible to plan their families and avoid promiscuity, rather than shift the penalty to the innocent if they fail in this task. In most cases, abortion is due to premarital sex or adultery which comes from irresponsibility. Too often abortion is for the purpose of covering up sin!

LIBERAL DOCTORS

One of the tenets of the Declaration of Geneva, drawn up by the World Medical Association, says: "I will maintain the utmost respect for human life from the time of conception: even under threat . . ." Abortion has made this a meaningless oath. It has made the doctors of medicine damnable murderers like Herod and Pharaoh. How can any man believe this oath and murder an unborn child?

If doctors are going to be subjected to abortion on demand, soon conservative-minded individuals who are Christians will gradually disappear from the medical profession. Christian nurses who find abortion repugnant will quit nursing. This is to eventually leave the medical profession in the hands of godless men and women who are too liberal to be trusted. Who wants to go to a doctor who murders unborn babies? Who wants to put his life in the hands of one who has no respect for life?

ABORTION NOT SO GOOD

Doctors confess that abortion is a blind procedure. You can't see what you are doing. You can perforate the uterus without knowing it and then have to go back and repair the damage you have done. If the suction curette gets outside the uterus, intestines can be sucked out. Abortions are no method of contraception.

In the saltingout procedure, the doctor injects 150 to 200 cc (about a half a pint) of saline solution into the uterus through the abdomen. The solution kills the baby in the womb. Then the mother must go through labor and, finally, 24 to 36 hours later, exhausted, she delivers a dead baby.

I can see how such procedures can prevent the mother from a self-inflicted miscarriage and save her life, but I am unable to see how it does anything for the un-

Eld. Fred T. Halliman Missionary To New Guinea



FRED T. HALLIMAN

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Elder Fred T. Halliman
Sovereign Grace Baptist Mission
P.O. Box 19, Koroba, via Mendi
Papua New Guinea.

born babe who dies in the process. Abortion, in most cases, just permits the mother to get rid of her child without killing herself at the same time. The Supreme Court and the doctor cannot keep the mother from crucifying herself with guilt feelings after the murder is performed.

CONCLUSION

I, for one, believe the mother who permits her unborn child to be slaughtered is no better than the Israelites who offered their children in burnt sacrifice in the Old Testament (II Kings 16:2-3; 17:17, 31; Jer. 32:35; Ezek. 16:20-21). These people had no respect for life, especially the life of their own flesh and blood.

Thank God that many Christian doctors oppose abortion and refuse to perform them in spite of the decision of the Supreme Court. Thank God for those in the medical profession who are crying out against this slaughter of the unborn.

Every Christian in America should join with the National Right to Life Committee in their attempt to push for a constitutional amendment in Congress to guarantee the right of a fetus, thereby nullifying the Supreme Court's decision.

Yes, we'll agree that this is some sandwich. I don't imagine that you or I will ever see one that big. Although lots of Baptist preachers have large "tummies," I doubt if there is anyone with a stomach big enough to hold a sandwich like this. At the same time, though some of us brethren have exceeding big mouths, I doubt if anyone's mouth is big enough to handle this super sandwich.

We do spend lots of time and money on foods, and on caring for our bodies. However, there is mighty little that we spend relative to the soul. While our bodies are well fed, most of us are suffering from spiritual malnutrition.

All this is just to remind you of the fact that God wants us to use plenty of milk and plenty of meat that you might grow in the knowledge and admonition of the Lord.

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby."—I Peter 2:2.

"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."—Hebrews 5:12-14.



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PAGE SEVEN

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Envy — Rottenness

(Continued from page one)
God did not accept his sacrifice, and so he killed his brother. (Gen. 4:1-8). As we have already seen earlier in this message, envy slays. Again, we have the example of Sarai becoming jealous of Hagar because she conceived while being obedient to her mistress, and the result was that Sarai "dealt hardly" with her (Genesis 16:4-6). As we were told, envy is cruel. In Genesis 30:1, we are told that Rachel envied her sister, Leah, and demanded the impossible. Surely, envy is confusion as James told us. We are told that Joseph's brothers were jealous of him and sold him into slavery, as recorded in Genesis the 37th chapter. Miriam and Aaron were jealous of Moses and the Lord was angry. (See Numbers 12:1-9).

My friends, envy is the work of the flesh. "Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The Spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he gives more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:5-7).

The Bible tells us clearly what we are to do. We are to lay envy aside. "Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby: if so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious" (I Peter 2:1-3). We are admonished to walk honestly. "Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof" (Romans 13:13-14). We are to walk in love. "Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up" (I Cor. 13:4). I Timothy 6, verses 3 through 6, tell us clearly to withdraw ourselves from envy.

In order to keep from falling into the fleshly sin of enviousness, we must keep ourselves spiritually up. The only way that we can keep close to the Lord, is to spend much time in prayer and Bible study.

Jews And Arabs

(Continued from page seven)

title to that land to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and reaffirmed that title again and again with their descendants, the nation of Israel. Secondly, the Jews have paid money for every bit of land which they reclaimed from the Arabs prior to the Arab-Israeli war of 1967. This is a fulfillment of Jeremiah 32:37-44 where we are told that the Jews would have to buy back the land and pay for it when they went back home.

That is exactly what the Jews have done. The Jews have bought the land from the Arabs and brought a standard of living to Palestine. They have brought sanitation and health facilities and things that the land of Palestine has never enjoyed before. God said this would happen when Israel returned home.

The Jews have offered to work with the Arabs. And the Arab nations could, by one simple and harmless act, bring a lasting and honorable peace: simply recognize Israel's right to exist as a nation and be willing to sit down at a peace table and work out boundary problems. Israel has been asking them to do this for 26 years, but the ancient Arab hatreds still persist. Now all of this was prophesied in God's Word: Notice:

"And he (Ishmael) will be a wild man; his hand will be against

Why You Should Support The Baptist Examiner

By JOSEPH M. WILSON, SR.
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

Surely, The Baptist Examiner is the greatest religious paper in print. No other paper even comes close to it. Who among us can add up the blessings we have received from this great paper? I know that it has meant more to me than I can ever tell. It has taught me much truth. It has helped to a richer and fuller understanding of truths that I already believed. It has warmed my heart and blessed my soul more times than I can tell. It has blessed and enriched and enlarged my ministry in many ways. It has introduced me to a host of friends that are very dear to me.

I was so saddened at the passing of our dear brother Gilpin. What a true soldier he was! What a blessing and help he was to me personally and to my ministry! I miss him very much. But in my sadness, I could not but rejoice at the blessings that were his on that homegoing day. I thought to myself for the next few days after hearing the sad news: "Oh, what a reunion must be going on in Heaven now." No more sickness. No more persecutions. No more battle. No more slander. No more problems. The songs. The saints gone on before. The Saviour, oh yes, the Saviour! As I think of what our brother has experienced these few weeks, I could almost envy his getting there ahead of me.

Oh, how my heart trembled for The Baptist Examiner when I heard that sad news! It had been so tied up with Bro. Gilpin in so many ways, I feared exceedingly for its continuance. And then, how my heart leaped for joy when I learned the good news that Calvary Baptist Church was going to make every effort to continue the paper. And surely, John Jr. has done a good job in carrying the paper on. Thank God for all this!

every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren" — Gen. 16:12.

So the strife continues between the Arabs and the Jews. It started in Abraham's tent 4,000 years ago with Isaac and Ishmael and has been transmitted to their posterity down through the centuries. In Ezekiel 35:5 it is referred to as "a perpetual hatred."

Beloved, there's only one way that this quarrel between the Arabs and Jews can be settled, and that's by the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us pray that that day will soon come.

I am pastor of Sovereign Grace Baptist Church of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. It is a new church and a small church. But I have for a good while sought to support The Baptist Examiner in every way I could. For several years, every church I pastored has supported TBE. The people in the church here are great lovers of The Baptist Examiner. So, it is with great joy that we begin a regular monthly offering to Calvary Baptist Church for the support of The Baptist Examiner. We want to do this. We are thankful for the privilege of doing this.

And now, I would urge every pastor who loves the truths of God's Word — truths that are expounded and presented in The Baptist Examiner — I urge each pastor to begin now to lead his church to begin regular support of this great paper. If your church already supports the paper, seek an increase in this support. I am sure that TBE can assuredly use, and use to the glory of God, any support others can give at this time. I use the example of our church here in an effort to exhort others to "go and do likewise."

Also, at this time, it was the great privilege of our church to begin regular monthly support of the New Guinea Mission work. This work has long been on my heart and I long prayed for it and supported it in many ways. I love Fred Halliman as I love few men. I do count it a joy of my ministry to have had a part in supporting this great mission work.

Brothers and Sisters, I ask you if there is another mission work in all the world as worthy and deserving of the support of sound Baptist people as these two works? I really suspect the soundness of those who could answer differently. I praise God for these two mission works. I am glad that the church I pastor is beginning the regular support thereof. I only hope that this will encourage others to give to these two great works for God. God bless you all!

Appreciated Letter

Dear Brethren:

I have read your paper off and on for a number of years and always enjoyed it, especially, because it exalts the Sovereignty of God, and places man in his proper place — a sinner undeserving of God's goodness which He so graciously gives us through the merits of Christ's redemptive work.

Yours in Christ,
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