

Landmark Baptist Correspondence School

EDITOR'S NOTE: This brief run-down on this school was written by its church's pastor, Elder E. G. Cook. If you desire further information concerning the school, etc., write directly to Bro. Cook.

Due to the fact that our Lord has led Philadelphia Baptist Church, P. O. Box 7006, Birmingham, Ala., 35224 to go into all the world with His Word, and to the fact that He has led five of His truly great preachers to join with us in this endeavor, this church has organized, and now operates the Landmark Baptist Correspondence Bible School. This school, is at all times, under the authority of this church. And all teaching is done by direct authority of the church.

The faculty consists of: Milburn Cockrell, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Ashland, Ky., and editor of The Baptist Examiner; E. G. Cook, pastor of Philadelphia Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala.; James Hobbs, pastor of King's Addition Baptist Church, South Shore, Ky.; Oscar Mink, pastor of Mansfield Missionary Baptist Church, Mansfield, Ohio; Don W. Morrow, pastor of Berean Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala.; Chester Skidmore, deacon and Bible teacher in Philadelphia Baptist Church; Joseph M. Wilson, pastor of Sovereign Grace Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Okla.; Herman W. Wooten, deacon and Bible teacher in Philadelphia Baptist Church.

COURSES BEING OFFERED

Bibliology, by Mink. This course should be ready for mailing soon. It deals with the Bible, its nature and its doctrines. It will bless the hearts of anyone who loves the dear old Book.

Christology, by Skidmore. A course sorely needed in our day dealing with Christ in the Old Testament and in the New as to who He is, what He is, and what He does.

ALONG THE WAY

By ELAINE GREEN

The following prayer, called "A Parent's Prayer," was written by Gary Myers, founder of Highlights For Children, a very fine children's magazine, and was published recently in the "Dear Abby" column.

"O heavenly Father, make me a better parent. Teach me to understand my children, to listen patiently to what they have to say, and to answer all their questions kindly. Keep me from interrupting them or contradicting them. Make me as courteous to them as I would have them be to me. Forbid that I should ever laugh at their mistakes, or resort to shame or ridicule when they displease me. May I never punish them for my own selfish satisfaction or to show my power.

"Let me not tempt my child to lie or steal. And guide me hour to hour that I may demonstrate by all I say and do that honesty produces happiness.

"Reduce, I pray, the meanness in me. And when I am out of sorts, help me, O Lord, to hold my tongue.

"May I ever be mindful that my children are children and I should not expect of them the judgment of adults.

"Let me not rob them of the opportunity to wait on themselves and to make decisions.

"Bless me with the bigness to grant them all their reasonable requests, and the courage to deny them privileges I know will do them harm.

"Make me fair and just and kind. And fit me, O Lord, to be loved and respected and imitated by my children. Amen."

Church History, by Cockrell. In a time when so-called Baptists are teaching that Baptists sprang from the Church of England in the 16th Century, it is high time we learn all we can about our great heritage in order that we can teach it to others.

1st & 2nd Corinthians, by Wilson. (Continued on page 8, column 3)

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

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

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"MAN'S RESPONSIBILITY AND GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY"

O. B. BAKER
Verona, Ohio

INTRODUCTION

The very word "God" is a concept far beyond our comprehension. The word "Sovereign" is a precept beyond our desires. Even though we cannot understand or explain the concept of a Being who Sovereignly controls a universe such as we know to exist around us; still we do, we must accept the fact of His existence. In every glowing bush of this great universe there seems to come a Voice saying, "Take off your shoes; for the place whereon you stand is Holy ground," and every incident and effect in our existence suggests an infinite and supreme being, whom we choose to call "God." Yet for our little finite minds to discover an infinite God, would be like measuring the vast oceans with a drinking cup. Thus, we would be setting up for for ourselves a god whose dimensions conform to our limited measurements. Our lack of understanding and appreciation for the Infinite, All-wise, All-powerful, and Holy God is the basis for all our spiritual failure. This misunderstanding leads us into all sorts of rebellion against what we cannot apprehend with our limited intellect. We gaze into the heavens and exclaim, "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His handiwork." But is not the Creator greater than His creation? And is not the God Who exhibits such glory greater than its manifestation?

In answer, we must say, "It is too high; I cannot attain unto it." But when this glorious Being manifests Himself to us in a real and personal way (experimentally), we are made to exclaim with Isaiah:

"I am undone; I'm a man of unclean lips, and I live among a

people of unclean lips" (Isa. 6:5).

Yea, we say with Job:

"I have uttered council without knowledge" (Job 42:1-6).

Man has not, nor will he ever discover God, but He (God) has revealed himself in the person of



O. B. BAKER

the Eternal Son. Yes, man lost sight of God in the "Garden," and until he has come into union with the Son, he is still left out in the darkness.

It remains, therefore, that none will ever visualize the greatness of the Eternal God until he has come into possession of life from

BEGINNING NEXT WEEK

Elder R. E. Pound's
Review and Answer to
John Thornbury's

"THE DOCTRINE OF
THE CHURCH,
A BAPTIST VIEW"

The Last Hours Of A Doomed People!

By STEVEN HAMILTON
Southgate, Mich.

(Read Lamentations 4:17-20)

Being a young minister of the Word, I am deeply concerned about the condition of our nation. Our nation was once a Christian nation, but I do not believe that we can claim to be a Christian nation any longer.

As we look into this portion of Scripture, and see the judgment that God brought upon Jerusalem because of sin, let us keep in mind that Jeremiah wrote in the first chapter of this book: "... thou wilt bring the day that thou hast called, and they shall be like unto me" (Lam. 1:21). God gave this as an example to all nations "... hear I pray you, all people and behold my sorrow" (Lam. 1:18). So then let us note:

EVERY HOPE OF RESCUE IS DISAPPOINTED

"Our eyes failed for our vain help: we have watched for a nation that could not save us" (Lam. 4:17). Israel had been prone to rely on the help of Egypt, and was often bitterly deceived. In this instance, the deluded inhabitants looked eagerly, till their eyes were weary, for the coming of a relief force from Egypt, but in vain. That treacherous kingdom, which had failed them so often before, again failed them in their extremity. Whatever aid they might expect from the neighboring kingdoms with which Judah had been in friendly alliance, it did not come.

Now may I remind you, that our nation has helped every country under the sun at one time or another, but who comes to our aid now? May I suggest to you that God has already begun to judge this country! When God will not help us, man cannot.

EVERY AVENUE OF ESCAPE IS CLOSELY GUARDED

"They hunt our steps, that we cannot go in our streets. Our persecutors are swifter than the eagles; they pursued us, they laid wait for us" (Lam. 4:18-19). The enemy was drawing his lines more firmly round the city; the investment (Continued on page 8, column 3)

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we behold His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father; full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).

"He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life" (1 John 5:12).

So, in this little paper it is our purpose to show, from the written Word of God, that there is a distance between man and his Maker which man of himself can never traverse. We have chosen the subject:

MAN'S RESPONSIBILITY AND GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

We claim no knowledge above that of the brethren; but with our limited knowledge, by His grace, we could hope to assist some of the people of God to a better understanding of this much disputed subject.

What is the relationship in this area?

For a right understanding of this difficult question, which undoubtedly haunts the thinking of each and everyone of us, there must be some knowledge of the condition of man in his present fallen state.

In his present condition, does man have a free-will? That is, is he capable of making an unassisted choice in the realm of the Spirit?

Unless, and until, these questions are given serious thought, and a Scriptural answer is found, man will always say, "Yes, I am the master of my will"; and while it is true that he had nothing to do with providing the means, which is in the death, burial, and resurrection of the only begotten Son of God, yet he will say, "the appropriation of that gift is left entirely up to me, and all that is necessary in my reception of salvation" (Continued on page 6, column 1)

SOME "IN" THINGS

By NORMAN COLLINS

Although this is not a Bible subject, it will set forth many Bible truths. Today we hear much said about different things and about being "in" them. The young people today have changed the meaning of some words. They refer to things that are popular as being the "in thing."

INSECURE

"Insecure" means "not secure, not effectually protected, unsafe and uncertain." The world is insecure. Can our world leaders give us a clear picture of what the future holds for us? No, they cannot.

The stock market is insecure. One day we hear that the averages are up and the next that they are down. We are on the verge of financial breakdown like what happened in the '30's.

There is insecurity in our government. Our governmental leaders talk of peace, but there is no guarantee that we will not be at war tomorrow. There is also growing corruption in our government.

There is insecurity in our schools. When I went to school there was no doubt in people's mind what the school was for. There was no doubt as to what was being taught. It is quite different today. Most of the subjects that are being taught our children today are totally useless. The things which should be taught, such as reading, writing, and arithmetic, are considered unimportant. Just recently a junior college in our community passed a rule that high school graduates must be able to read on (Continued on page 8, column 5)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon By Milburn Cockrell

DUTIES OF DIGNITARIES

"Thus saith the Lord: Go down shed innocent blood in this place. to the house of the king of Judah, For if ye do this thing indeed, and speak there this word, And then shall there enter in by the gates of this house kings sitting upon the throne of David, riding upon the throne of David, thou, and thy servants, and thy people that enter in by these gates: Thus saith the Lord: Execute ye judgment and righteousness, and do not the liver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor: and do no wrong, do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither

ernment depends upon a good cabinet as well as a good king. Rulers must use their power to do all the good they can, for they are the ministers of God for good. To faithfully discharge their duty is to advance and secure the prosperity of their government. The best way to preserve the dignity of the government is to do the God-given duties of it.

RULE IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

Those in positions of authority (Continued on page 2, column 1)

Here the king and his officers of state are addressed together by Jeremiah, because a good gov-

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MILBURN COCKRELL --- Editor

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Duties Of Dignitaries

(Continued from page one)

are to rule in righteousness as did David and Solomon. Of King Hezekiah it is written: "And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord" (II Chron. 29:2).

The same must be true of his officers of state: "Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment" (Isa. 32:1). Those who do this are a great blessing to their subjects.

Dignitaries are to discourage vice and vicious persons. They are to remove evil from the government and its people. Solomon was a king in Israel "to do judgment and justice" (I Kings 10:9). Proverbs 20:8 reads: "A king that sitteth in the throne of judgment scattereth away all evil with his eyes." Verse 26 says: "A wise king scattereth the wicked, and bringeth the wheel over them."

A righteous administration of government magnifies its leaders, elevates its people, and qualifies that nation for God's blessings. By suppression of vice and support of virtue, they exalt their nation. Immorality has ruined many a nation. Proverbs 14:34 declares: "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."

The principle concern of a chief magistrate is the welfare and safety of his people. They must be secure in their lives, liberties, and property. Citizens must be able to live quiet and peaceable lives. For if the people are not safe, then neither is the government, for the safety of both is closely connected together.

TO TAKE TAXES

The state is to make laws for the good of its citizens. No peaceful society could exist without these. Traffic codes, zoning regulations, various ordinances, and laws against crime are within the jurisdiction of the state. This is seen in studying the United Kingdom of Israel in the Old Testament.

The state has the right to levy

taxes from its subjects. Wise King Solomon levied taxes from Israel (I Kings 4:7-28). When ask if it were lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, Jesus Christ said: "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's" (Mark 12:17). In this statement Christ recognized the right of the Roman government to collect taxes.

The Apostle Paul gave the church at Rome the same instructions: "For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour" (Rom. 13:6-7).

These taxes must be paid for the protection and benefits we receive from the government. We cannot enjoy such things as paved highways, police and fire protection, and other things without paying for them.

Human government must take great care in not demanding too much taxes from its citizens. Oppressive taxation divided the United Kingdom of Israel (I Kings 12:6-11). Samuel warned Israel that when they had a king he would take their wealth and give it to his officers of state (I Sam. 8:15). Burdensome taxation means a governmental bureaucracy and the possibility of political corruption.

Citizens of every country must realize that increased benefits from the state means a rising taxation. The government cannot give its citizens anything which it does not take from them in taxes. Whenever the state increases its wealth through an ever-growing portion of taxes, it can become a monster which no longer serves the people, but actually enslaves them. America needs to beware of excessive taxation, for one-third of every dollar earned by its citizens goes to some kind of taxes.

MILITARY DRAFT

It is a proper function of government to demand that certain of its men bear arms. A country must protect its citizens from enemies without. A country which fails to do this will not long endure, nor will its citizens remain free men.

Israel had a selective draft (Num. 1:2-3). The male of 20 years and upwards were in it. The Levites (Num. 1:49), cowards (Deut. 20:8), and other individuals were exempted (Deut. 20:5-7). Our government does very much like ancient Israel did in this matter.

A government has the authority to declare war. As long as sin exists there will be wars on earth. A government must do all within its power to prevent war and to stay out of war. But when the welfare of its people is in danger, it may find it necessary to declare war. Proverbs 20:18 says: "With good advice make war." The Bible tells us that God favored the Hebrew army in its just war with the Hagarites. Of this battle the Bible says: "The war was of God" (I Chron. 5:22).

This teaching is not just an Old Testament truth. In Luke 14:31 Jesus Christ recognized the right of a nation to make war: "Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?"

War is often essential to peace. Christ will cause wars to cease on earth in the Millennial Reign (Ps. 46:9; Isa. 2:4) by declaring war on the rebellious nations on earth. At the battle of Armageddon it is written of Christ: "In righteousness He doth judge and make war" (Rev. 19:11). The saints as the army of Heaven will assist Christ in this battle (Rev. 19:14). This is the time when Christ's servants will wage war (John 18:36).

There will be wars and rumors



Memorial Pulpit

By JOHN R. GILPIN

Our Beloved Pastor and Editor, Now in Glory



"IS THINE HEART RIGHT"

"And when he was departed thence, he lighted on Jehonadab the son of Rechab coming to meet him: and he saluted him, and said to him, Is thine heart right, as my heart is with thy heart? And Jehonadab answered, It is. If it be, give me thine hand. And he gave him his hand; and he took him up to him into the chariot" (II Kings 10:15).

If you will go back and read the chapters immediately preceding this text, you will find that Ahab and Jezebel had been king and queen for quite a long period of time. No more sinful, sin-cursed pair of individuals ever lived than Ahab and Jezebel. I doubt seriously if any country was ever plagued more sorely by two sinful creatures than was Israel plagued by Ahab and Jezebel, his queen. Time would fail me to enumerate the various types of sin in which they indulged. Chiefly, they were idolaters, and religiously they led Israel far astray.

Whenever a man gets wrong religiously, you can expect him to get wrong every other way. It doesn't make any difference as to what kind of religion a man may have, you can expect that it is going to have an influence

on his life.

Ahab and Jezebel were, as I say, idolaters, and their idolatry expressed itself not only in their religion, but in their lives as well. Time passed by and in the providence of God, He raised up a man by the name of Jehu, whom He used mightily in the extermination of the house of Ahab and Jezebel. Time would fail me to tell of the various reforms that were instituted by Jehu, how that he killed the various members of the household of Ahab and Jezebel, even having Jezebel thrown out of a window so that her body was crushed beneath the hooves of horses as his army passed by. Time would fail me to tell of the members of the family of Ahab that Jehu completely destroyed and exterminated in his zeal for God, by way of reformation.

In the course of his zeal for the Lord and in the course of his reformation that he wrought in behalf of Israel, the Word of God tells us that he met a man one day by the name of Jehonadab. He said to him, "Is thine heart right? If so, give me thine hand." The Word of God tells us that Jehonadab confessed that his heart was with

Jehu in his reforms, and that he gave him his hand. They shook hands on the basis of a united friendship in behalf of reform for Israel.

Now, beloved, I'd like for us to take that text and use it for a close analysis and a vital scrutiny of our own religious status before God. The question is, "Is thine heart right?" I am not asking if you are a church member. I am not asking how, or whether you have been baptized. I am not asking anything about how you are living. I am asking just one simple question that covers all the balance — Is thine heart right?

I

IS YOUR HEART RIGHT?

I want to give you, first of all, some reasons why it is important that one's heart be right.

I don't know anything in this world that is more important than for you to have your heart right with God.

Before the services began this morning, Brother Paul Reese and I were talking about some two or three individuals, mutual acquaintances, and the question of Brother Paul's own brother (Continued on page 3, column 1)

punishment assume to be wiser, more loving, and more merciful than God Himself.

THE STATE CAN KILL

It is God's prerogative to take life. In certain instances, He instructs individuals to put sinners to death for Him. God through Moses ordered the sons of Levi to slay 3,000 Israelites for idolatry. Og, the King of Bashan, and all his people were appointed to death by God (Num. 21:33-35). The same is true of Sihon and the Amorites. We read that Israel "utterly destroyed the men, and the women, and the little ones" (Continued on page 5, column 3)

Those who send us subscriptions are urged to be sure that they have the names and addresses correct. We are getting large numbers of return papers with incorrect addresses or unknown addresses. When we can find out the address we change it. When we are unable to do so, we must cease sending this person the paper.

Then quite often we get a list of subscriptions which have the names written so poorly that we can't read them. Please print these new subscribers' names plainly or type them. This would be a great help to us.

BRIEF NOTES

Pastor Dan Stepp of the New Testament Baptist Church, Goshen, Ind., is encouraged and thankful for the response the church has received to its tape ministry. He says that they have lists available as to the sermons that they have in their lending library. For information about these, write to Elder Dan Stepp, 22111 C. R. 38 R. 5, Goshen, Ind., 46526.

GOD TAKES LIFE

The Creator takes human life in judgment for sin. In Genesis 38 God took the lives of the two sons of Judah. God took the lives of those who died in the flood. In Leviticus 10 He took the lives of Nadab and Abihu who offered strange fire upon the altar of God. He slew the first born of man and beast on the night of the Passover in Egypt. He destroyed Pharaoh's army in the Red Sea. He caused the earth to swallow Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. In II Samuel 6 God smote Uzzah for touching the ark. In II Kings 19 God had an angel to kill 185,000 Assyrians in one night.

God killed Herod for his presumption and pride (Acts 12:23). He smote Ananias and Sapphira for lying to the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:1-11). God caused some of the members of the church at Corinth to die for their abuse of the Lord's Supper (I Cor. 11:3). Thus, we see that those who oppose capital

The name of the Emmanuel Baptist Temple of Chicago, Ill., has been changed to Sovereign Grace Missionary Baptist Church. Elder Hubert Sapp is the pastor.

John Gill's Bible Commentaries are soon to be reprinted by the Primitive Baptist Library. The cost of the set is not yet known, nor the exact time when they will be ready. Watch our paper for announcement. We will carry them in our book store as soon as they are ready.



THE TABERNACLE, PRIESTHOOD AND OFFERINGS

By
L. M. HALDEMAN

408 Pages

\$6.50

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

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

P. O. Box 910, Ashland, Kentucky 41101

"Is Thine Heart Right?"

(Continued from Page Two)

came around. He made mention of his brother's physical condition as to what he needed, and then said, "But he needs the Lord most of all."

I would remind you tonight that most of all, you need to have your heart right in the sight of God. I have five reasons why that is true.

In the first place, out of the heart are the issues of life.

"Keep thy heart with all diligence: for out of it are the issues of life" (Prov. 4:23).

That word "issue" really means "the vital current." Just like we might say that the heart pumps the blood through the body to the extent that the entire physical well-being is dependent upon the action of your physical heart, so, beloved friends, all the moral well-being of your life depends upon your heart. As the physical well-being depends upon the action of the physical heart, so the moral well-being of your life depends upon your heart, too. Out of the heart are the issues of life.

Then, beloved, that being so, you can see why that it is absolutely necessary that a man's heart be right with God. If all the issues or vital currents of your life come from your heart, you can see how important it is that your heart be right with God.

The second reason why it is important that a man's heart should be right with God is that a man will tend to be like his

heart. In other words, whatever his heart is, your life will tend to be like your heart.

"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee" (Prov. 23:7).

Beloved, whatever you think about in your heart, that is what you will tend to be like in life. Would you dare tell me that it isn't important that a man's heart be right? When you consider a verse like this, when you realize that God has already declared that men tend in life to be like what is inside their heart, then, beloved, you can easily and readily see how it is and why it is that it is important that a man's heart be right in God's sight. The very things that you do are but reflections on what is in your heart. The things you say, the things you think about, the things you talk about, your actions, everything in your life, every particle of your being tends to be like your heart. So I would remind you, beloved, that it is important that your heart be right, since you tend to be like what your heart is. It is very, very evident that it is most important that your heart be right in God's sight.

Another reason why it is important is that sin first begins in the heart. Do you realize that before a man ever commits a sin outwardly, he has already committed the sin in his own heart? Do you realize that a man's sin in his life is merely a reflection of the sin that is already in his heart?

IS "THAT" IN THE BIBLE?



Who told the common signs for weather forecasting?

Jesus, Matthew 16:2-3). "He (Jesus) answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, it will be foul weather today: for the sky is red and lowering . . ."

I remember when I first became pastor here, the first time that I ever went over to the Y. M. C. A. to preach (and I have preached there hundreds and hundreds of times), a man came up to me and said, "Bro. Gilpin, does a man steal because he is a thief, or is he a thief because he steals?" I said, "Brother, the answer to that question is obvious. He steals because he is a thief in his heart to start with."

That is the teaching of all the Word of God. I tell you, beloved, any sin, regardless of what the sin is, begins first in a man's heart and then takes place outwardly in his life.

Take for example the sin of adultery. Our Lord says:

"But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust

after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matt. 5:28).

He doesn't say one word about the overt act of adultery. He says that before the overt act is committed, the sin of adultery is committed already in the individual's heart in advance; and what is true of that sin, beloved, is true of every sin and any sin. Sin begins first in the heart.

In view of that fact, I repeat that it is important that a man's heart be right in the sight of God.

The fourth reason why it is important that your heart be right with God is that your heart will color your conversation. The things you talk about will depend upon the condition of your heart. What you say to the friends and the acquaintances that you have, will depend upon the condition of your heart. Some people that you meet are always wanting to talk about the Lord Jesus Christ. They do so because Jesus Christ dwells within their heart. Some people you meet are always wanting to talk business and finance. They do so because that is paramount within their heart. Some people you meet always want to talk about the filth of this world. They do so because that is the condition of their heart. Some people always want to talk in terms of gossip relative to their neighbors. They do so because their heart is in that condition.

I am saying to you tonight, my brother, my sister, a man's heart will color his conversation every time.

Jesus said: "O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matt. 12:34).

A bus driver came to me a few days ago and told me concerning an excluded member of our church. He said that from the time he got on the bus until he got off, he told one dirty, filthy, scandalous story after another. This bus driver went on to say that so far as he was concerned, that it was obnoxious to him to have to listen to that individual's conversation. Well, all I can say, beloved, is simply this, what he says and what he talks about on the outside that comes from his mouth, starts first within his heart.

It is important that a man's heart be right with God because it will color his conversation.

The fifth reason why it is important that your heart be right with God is this: unless your heart is right, your religion is all in vain. It doesn't make a bit of difference what religion you hold to; it is vain if your heart isn't right in God's sight.

Jesus said:

"This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoreth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Mat. 15:8,9).

Suppose an individual is even a preacher, or a teacher, or one who takes an active part in the fellowship and in the worship of his church. Suppose he speaks of our Lord in glowing terms with his lips while at the same time his heart is far from God. God says that that man's religion is a vain religion. It does not make any difference what his religion may be; it doesn't make any difference what he says with his lips; if his heart isn't right in the sight of God, his religion is definitely in vain.

Here then are five reasons that I have enumerated as to why it is important that a man's heart be right in God's sight.

son's heart.

If you are unsaved, I want you to see the condition of your heart this very hour. The Word of God tells us that if you are unsaved, your heart is full of sin.

"This is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that there is one event unto all; yea, also the heart of the sons of men is FULL OF EVIL, and madness is in their heart while they live, and after that they go to the dead" (Eccl. 9:3).

This verse tells us just how much evil and how much sin there is within your heart. You hear it said of an individual that he is a good-hearted man. Beloved, it is not so. His heart is full of evil, outside of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Listen again:

"Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is FULLY SET IN THEM TO DO EVIL" (Eccl. 8:11).

Brother, sister, listen, down here within your heart is locked up all kinds of evil and all kinds of sin.

The poet has expressed it like this:

"Lord, when we seek the human heart

We find a fallen world within; There is no health in any part, Sin reigns throughout, and death by sin.

Large provinces are pagan still, Where other lords dominion share;

Idols of mind, affection, will The power of darkness triumphs there.

Here, the false prophet's wild domains

Where lust, and cruelty, and hate,

With baleful passions, fire the veins,

And seal the conscience up to fate.

I know a bosom, which within Contains the world's sad counterpart:

'Tis here — the reign of death and sin,

O God! evangelize my heart!"

Some fond mother or father, some husband or wife may look upon you as a model so far as human conduct is concerned, but if you could just see what is inside your heart tonight, you would realize just how far from a model your conduct actually is. You would be ashamed to undress your heart tonight. You would be ashamed if there could be a moral X-ray made of your heart. There isn't a person here, even after you are saved, but what you would be ashamed of what is in your heart. Many times since you have been a Christian, things have passed through your mind that you knew were positively wrong, and you said, "Oh, God, why should I think such sinful thoughts?" Beloved, that is just because of the condition of your heart. Your heart is full of evil.

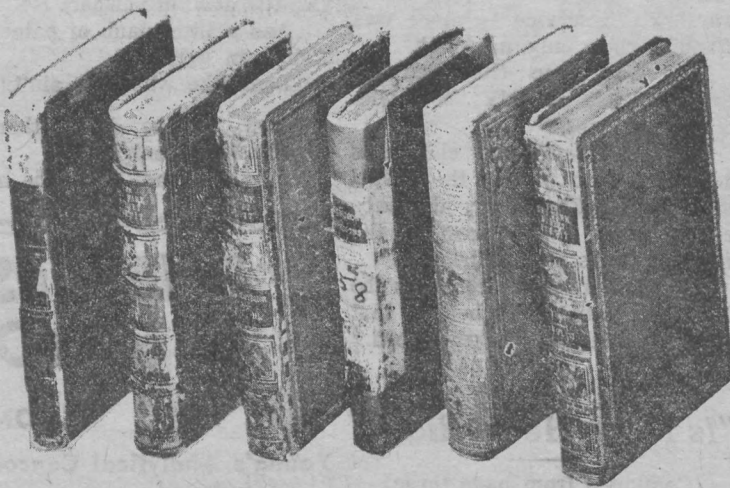
Sometime ago I was in a home where the mother had had an enlargement made of a photograph of a dead daughter. She was quite anxious, in fact, most anxious to preserve a little picture she had of her daughter. She had had it enlarged and after the enlargement had been made and I was in her home, she was showing it to me and there were a number of ugly blotches and spots, that had come out on the face. She said that she had taken it back to the photographer and that he had told her that there was a certain chemical in that paper that had oozed out and had caused the blotch on the face, and had spoiled the photograph. I thought after I had left her home, how (Continued on page 4, column 3)

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II
UNSAVED PERSON'S HEART
The Word of God tells us the condition of every unsaved per-

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
AUGUST 16, 1975
PAGE THREE

The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT TO:

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

Many Baptist churches of today have a highly mechanized program in their churches called "bus ministry." Please explain the Scriptural viewpoint relative to this type of ministry.

E. G. COOK

701 Cambridge
Birmingham, Ala.

PASTOR
Philadelphia
Baptist Church
Birmingham, Ala.



If there is any scriptural view point relative to the "bus ministry" I know nothing of it. The "bus ministry," like the graded ministry, the graded Sunday School, the Brotherhood, the W.M.U., the church banquets, the church athletic programs, and a host of other church related things has come on the scene many centuries after the Holy Spirit finished giving us the Bible. And since these things have originated since the Bible was written, it is necessary to look elsewhere for information concerning them. I'm sure Southern Baptist Church Headquarters in Nashville, Tenn., could give you a lot of information on them. And our dear Lord knows whether the "bus ministry" is well pleasing in His sight or not. I don't.

According to Acts 20:20, Paul taught the people from house to house. But the preachers of today, many of them, send a bus after the people. And whether they teach them what Paul taught is another matter. It is my honest opinion, however, that if these preachers did teach what Paul taught, about ninety-nine per cent of those bus riders would not be back next Sunday.

ROY MASON

RADIO MINISTER
BAPTIST PREACHER
Aripeka, Florida



Of course, there is no sin or wrong about Christian people trying to bring the lost under the influence of the Gospel. We know churches that have some very consecrated people running church buses on Sunday. We know of no mention of a bus ministry in the Scriptures. They had no such thing as buses in New Testament times, so as for explaining the Scriptural viewpoint relative to this type of ministry, we are unable to do this, because such a ministry did not exist in Bible times.

I can't see how there can be any Scriptural objection to visiting among lost people with the offer to come and get them and take them to church. We know some churches that are reaching multitudes of people by means of this sort of thing. Along with all the good to be said about a ministry of this kind, we often run

across some practices among those who carry on bus ministry that we cannot agree with. May we suggest a few of these?

1. We do not believe in all kinds of gadgets to get children and others to attend services. Some churches bribe people to ride their buses. Ice cream cones, candy bars, hot dogs and things of this kind.

2. Undue pressure is sometimes brought to bear on the children that ride the buses and they are manipulated into making a profession of faith. When children are inveigled into making professions of faith, and do so without knowing properly what they are really doing, this may set them off on a wrong course for life. I think all will agree that churches are loaded with unsaved church members. A bus ministry carefully carried on can prove a blessing. Where the craze is for numbers, it can bring ruin to many people.

JAMES HOBBS

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Kings Addition
Baptist Church
South Shore, Ky.



You realize, of course, that this question could be considered from many angles. There are no Scriptures that tell us directly "you shall, or shall not, have a bus ministry." When this is true, we must first try to determine the meaning of the terminology.

If we mean by a bus ministry that we will provide transportation to and from church for those individuals who are not able to get there otherwise, then by all means do so. We are commanded to go. "... Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). We are also commanded to not forsake the gathering together of the saints (see Hebrew 10:25). If we have people who cannot assemble because of transportation, I feel that we are responsible to provide a way for them.

Too many people, however, think of a bus ministry in the wrong way. They provide gimmicks and gifts to entice people to ride their bus so that they can boastfully say how many they had. I am opposed to any method that makes Christianity look cheap. Any action that makes a circus out of worship is wrong and must not be tolerated. We are not trying to have a price-war with Satan — the one with the best gifts gets them. I get disgusted every time I hear of a so-called church bragging about having the largest Sunday School or the greatest bus ministry. God is to get the glory in the church, not the Sunday School or bus ministry. There are no separate ministries in the church.

Generally, when you read of a church boasting of its bus ministry, you find a church that does not believe the great doctrines of grace. They are trying to entice people to be saved rather than leaving the power of salvation to God and His gospel. People who make a profession through this method are usually professors, but not possessors of Christ.

PAUL TIBER

PASTOR,
NEW TESTAMENT
BAPTIST CHURCH
9272 Euclid-Chardon
Road
Kirkland, Ohio



The commission which the Lord Jesus gave to his church was to go and teach all nations (Matt. 28:19). The "bus ministry" reverses the procedure. Instead of the church going into the world to preach the gospel, she is bringing the world to her. There is no teaching, or example, shown in the Scriptures to justify this practice.

We are acutely aware that the "super evangelism" of our day uses Paul's statement in I Cor. 9:22, "that I might by all means save some," to justify all kinds of worldly techniques to get people saved. What he meant, however, was that his personal life was so consecrated to his Lord that he would subject himself to become as a rich, poor, Jew, Gentile, strong or weak person, if necessary, to bring them the glorious gospel of redemption.

The extension of such defective interpretation has brought all kinds of scandalous programs into church-like groups. We read of one instance recently where a "stripper" has become part of the worship (?) service — there was standing room only, no doubt. May God keep His Churches from the use of ANY "soul winning techniques."

The New Testament church is commanded to preach the gospel to sinners with fervor, diligence and urgency — the rest is the work of God's Holy Spirit. May God grant His churches the faith and patience to believe that salvation truly is "of the Lord."

"Is Thine Heart Right"

(Continued from page three)
true of the human heart. There is sin in it; there is evil in it; it just keeps running over, and it just keeps flooding the life and spoiling all that is on the outside, because the heart itself is full of sin.

I want you to notice also that the heart is not only full of evil, but the heart is sick.

"Why should ye be stricken any more: ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint" (Isa. 1:5).

Beloved, your heart also is sick tonight if you are not saved. Let me ask you, what is the condition of your natural heart? Do you have any heart trouble?

I suppose there isn't a week goes by but what I call on somebody in the hospital or at home who is suffering from some heart condition. This past week I visited a man in the C. & O. Hospital, a friend of some who are here, who had been stricken with a heart

condition. He never knew he had it until the doctor sent him to the hospital. After I walked out of his room, I remembered the words that he had said, and I thought, how like unto his spiritual life — how like unto his heart spiritually. He probably doesn't know that his spiritual heart is in a worse condition than his physical heart. He probably doesn't realize that his heart spiritually is likewise sick in the sight of God.

Listen, man, woman, outside of Jesus Christ, your heart is sick tonight. It is so sick that your whole body is faint. You know what it is for an individual to faint, or to get knocked out, or to pass out. Our Lord says that that is the condition of a man spiritually. His heart is sick.

The Word of God also tells us that the heart is deceitful. Surely, beloved, you know the meaning of this within your own experience. I oughtn't to have to read from God's Word to prove this, but I will:

"The heart is DECEITFUL above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9).

Is your heart deceitful? Is there any deceit in your heart? Why did you spend so much time getting ready to come to the house of God? Why did you women stand before the mirror and paint your face and maybe put on some lipstick? Why did you work with your fingernails until they look like you have been canning tomatoes and you haven't had time to wash your hands before you left home? You brethren, why did you put on a necktie and why did you comb your hair? You say, "Bro. Gilpin, that just goes along with the civilities of life. That just makes us look a little more decent — a little more dignified." Beloved, the real reason why is because of the same thing that I am talking about — it is the deceit of your heart. You want to appear something that you are not.

When I was a little boy, one of the first four line poems that I ever remembered hearing in life was this:

"A little daub of powder,
And a little daub of paint;
Makes an ugly girl
Look like what she ain't."

Deceit, oh the deceit there is in your heart tonight!
As for the condition of the heart,

it is not only full of evil, it is not only sick, it is not only deceitful, but the Word of God goes further and paints the heart even blacker, for it says that it is hard and getting harder every day. "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the STONY HEART out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh" (Ezek. 11:19).

Beloved, God says that you have a heart like a rock. You have heard the expression of the individual that has a heart like a rock in the bottom of the deep blue sea. That is exactly true. That isn't just an ordinary expression. That is taken partially from the Word of God. Every individual has a heart like a rock, and the sad thing is, it grows harder and harder every day.

"Happy is the man that feareth always: but he that HARDENETH HIS HEART shall fall into mischiefs" (Prov. 28:14).

This tells us that a man can harden his heart, and he does it every day. Let me tell you, lost man, your heart is harder today than it was yesterday. Lost man, your heart is harder today than it was a year ago. There is only one thing that will change the hardness of your heart, and that is the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I tell you, as surely as God is looking down upon this congregation, your heart is hard and it is getting harder every day, and there is nothing that can change it but the glorious Gospel of the Son of God.

Notice also that your heart is blind. That is why it is that unsaved people can't understand the truth of God's Word. That is why it is that unsaved people can't see the Bible and can't understand spiritual truth. They are blind in their heart.

"Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart" (Eph. 4:18).

Beloved, do you realize that your heart is so blind that you can't see, and won't see, and don't want to see spiritual truth? I can sit down beside some individual and tell him how he can amass a fortune. He can understand that. I can tell an individual how he can take a trip from here to some

(Continued on page 5, column 2)

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PAGE FOUR

ADAM'S RIB

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AND FOR WOMEN

CLEANING HOUSE

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God..." (I Pet. 4:17).

The judgments of God are often misunderstood. Especially, when He judges His church. Usually, this is because we fail to recognize the true character of Jehovah. He is holy. His eyes are too pure to behold sin. He judges sin where ever He finds it, and He BEGINS at His own house. As women, we wash and clean our homes, getting rid of the trash, dirt, and garbage. We want our homes to be pleasant to live in so we get rid of everything that offends. Here the church is called the house of God. And Peter is saying the time is come when we should realize that judgment must begin here.

This is no new thing. Our Lord has always been jealous for the purity of His people. The sins of the church are peculiar only to them. That which is simply a sin to the ungodly is the breaking of a known and received law for the Christian. We have the light of the Word, the strength of the Holy Spirit, and the recourse of prayer. Therefore, our responsibility to sin is greater. To see a boy steal an apple from a blind man's cart is terrible. But to see a well-dressed woman with money in her purse do the same thing is an abomination.

God is ruler of the whole world but especially of His church. He takes up residence in His church. His presence is there in a special way; therefore, it is right that He take special notice of the sin within the church. He will not be

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dishonored to His face by those of His own house. The Scriptures are full of examples of God's judgment in His own house. "Slay utterly old and young, both maids and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; AND BEGIN AT MY SANCTUARY. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house" (Ezek. 9:6). Levi's sons were killed instantly at the very altar of God because of sin. Ananias and Sapphira also lost their lives because of sin. "You only have I known of all the families of the earth, THEREFORE I will punish you for all your iniquities" (Amos 3:2).

It is required of pastors that they rule their own house well, having their children under subjection. Can the Lord of the church do less?

Let us not despair under the judgment, chastening, house-cleaning of the Lord. Our heavenly Father is gracious and wise. He knows what He is doing and why. "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end" (Jer. 29:11). Sometimes it looks like the Lord's church suffers while Babylon, that old harlot, sits as a queen. Let us not interpret God's actions by the bits and pieces of today or tomorrow. "And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all" (Rev. 18:21).

Yes, judgment MUST begin at the house of God. God's own purity, holiness, yea, His very love demands it. While chastening is not pleasant at the time, yet, it does yield its peaceable fruit. Paul tells us if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. May it please the Lord to give us grace to house-clean our own lives, so, when we gather together at His church, it will be for blessing and worship and service — and not judgment.

"Is Thine Heart Right"

(Continued from page four) distant city, and he can understand that. I can give directions so far as any trip that you want to make, and you can understand that. I can talk to you about farming and about your job on the railroad, and you can understand that, but, beloved, when it comes to spiritual truth, you simply can't understand that. Why? Because your heart is blind.

I was talking to a man a short time ago who is a railroader, who is well versed in his craft from the standpoint of all the rules that pertain to his organization. I am satisfied that that individual knows the majority of the rules that pertain to him, by heart. I have tried to talk to him about Jesus Christ and have tried to present the claims of the Son of God and tried to tell him that Jesus Christ died for his sins. I remember his expression as he held up his hands and said, "Brother Gilpin, I just can't see it." Why couldn't he? He was blind in his heart.

III

HEART CAN BE CHANGED

The Word of God tells us how your heart can be changed.

Would you like to have your heart changed? Is there somebody here who will say, "Brother Gilpin, I would like to have my heart changed. I'd like to be able to shake hands with you like Jehonadab shook hands with Jehu and said, 'My heart is with you'."

Beloved, God's Word tells us how your heart can be changed.

"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).

Beloved, if your heart is ever right, God has to take the initiative. God has to open your heart.

Listen again:

"And put no difference between us and them, PURIFYING THEIR HEARTS BY FAITH" (Acts. 15:9).

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt BELIEVE IN THINE HEART that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. 10:9,10).

I ask you again, is your heart right in God's sight? You will never see Glory if your heart isn't right in God's sight. You will never walk along those streets paved with gold if your heart isn't right. You may attend many banquets here in this world, but you will never sit down with

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Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the Kingdom of God, and you will never feast with the Lord if your heart isn't right with God.

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God" (Matt. 5:8).

Who is going to see Him? The man, the woman, the boy and the girl whose heart is right in the sight of God.

CONCLUSION

As I bring this simple message to a close, let me remind you of that great text when Solomon said: "My son, GIVE ME THINE HEART, and let thine eyes observe my ways" (Prov. 23:26).

Oh, might it please God to take your old sinful, rebellious, full-of-evil, deceitful, blind heart and make it over, make you over, and make you a new creature in Christ Jesus. May God's blessings be upon you and may the Spirit of God take hold of you and save your soul.

In just a few moments we will go out from the house of God. Some of you have been very definitely impressed by what I have said, but you will go out and converse about your work and the affairs of life and the Devil thereby will steal away from your heart the Word that I have sown by the Holy Spirit. Might it please God that ere the Devil snatches away from you that which is in your heart — might it please God that it may take root and grow, and that God might open your heart and save your soul this very night.

May God bless you!



Duties Of Dignitaries

(Continued from page two)

(Deut. 2:32-34). God ordered the extermination of the Amalekites by Israel in the days of King Saul. God ordered Joshua to slay all the people in Jericho. God ordered the destruction of all the nations in Canaan. God ordered Samuel the prophet to slay Agag, King of the Amalekites.

God put in the hands of man the highest principle of government when he delegated the power

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PAGE FIVE

to take life. In Genesis 9:6 God said: "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man." This law was given to the whole human race for all time. It has never been revised or repealed. It is to be in force for "perpetual generations."

In Israel the death penalty was enforced. The law required it. "He that smiteth a man, that he die, shall be surely put to death" (Ex. 21:12). "And he that killeth any man shall surely be put to death" (Lev. 24:17). "And if he smite him with an instrument of iron, so that he die, he is a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death" (Num. 35:16).

Jesus Christ declared His belief in capital punishment when He said: "For all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword" (Matt. 26:52).

The Apostle Paul was not opposed to capital punishment. He told Festus: "For if I be an offender, or have committed any thing worthy of death, I refuse not to die: but if there be none of these things whereof these accuse me, no man may deliver me unto them. I appeal unto Caesar" (Acts 25:11).

God's law requires that a murderer be put to death for his crime. He must give his life for the life he has taken. A murderer who is put to death can kill no more. Nobody wants to die. The threat of execution has stopped many potential murderers from committing the act.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IS JUST

Capital punishment is not "cruel and unusual punishment" as the Supreme Court declares; it is nothing but justice to rapists, kidnapers, and murderers. It is not an outlet for beastiality in man; it is the way to control the beastly nature of evil man. No capital punishment means a license for anarchy, rape, and murder. To abolish it is to give the criminal more justice than anyone else. To enforce it is not barbaric but Christian.

Mercy to the murderer is cruelty to the community. Henry VIII once pardoned a murderer. The pardoned murderer then murdered again. When a second plea of mercy was made to the king on behalf of this murderer, Henry answered, "No, he killed the first man, but I killed the second, and I will kill no more. He must be executed." Our government may be guilty in the same way.

Public opinion regarding capital punishment has changed drastically in the last 30 years. The movie industry and the liberal theologians have done their part in the drive to eliminate capital punishment. Modern sociologists have just about convinced people the death penalty is cruel and barbaric. They say it is society who is the blame for the misdeeds of lawbreakers. The plain truth is

that it is the individual that has failed, not society.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

From 1950 to 1970, less than 10 per cent of those convicted of first-degree murder were executed. On June 29, 1972, the Supreme Court of the United States handed down a ruling which nullified all existing state and federal laws authorizing capital punishment. Since then the death penalty has been all but abolished in America.

Statistics prove that crime has increased in this country as executions decreased. In 1959 there were 8,580 murders committed, while 49 of these criminals were executed. In 1969 there were 14,830, and to my knowledge not one was executed. In 1973 there were 19,510, and again, to my knowledge, not one was put to death. Such figures cause one to wonder if serious crime does not pay — at least in this world!

The enemies of capital punishment have much to say about the need of pity for the poor criminal. They never say anything about the need of pity for the poor victim or his family. Speak not to me about the right of a murderer, but rather speak to me about the right of his victim to live. It seems strange to talk about the murderer's right to live, while denying the victim's right!

NOT TO KILL

As soon as one begins to defend capital punishment, there are pinks, pacifists, protestors, and religious infidels who quote the Sixth Commandment: "Thou shalt not kill" (Ex. 20:13). The proper translation of this from the Hebrew is: "Thou shalt do no murder."

In Deuteronomy 7:2 we read concerning the Canaanitish nations: "Thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them." This statement, as well as the one in Exodus 20:13, was written by Moses and by Divine inspiration. Do they contradict each other?

The Sixth Commandment concerns the conduct of the individual. The other concerns the conduct of a nation. Killing as an individual is prohibited, but killing by a nation is permitted. All murder is killing, but all killing is not murder.

The state does have the right to sentence and execute capital punishment on capital offenses. An executioner is not guilty of murder when he turns on the electric chair or the gas chamber. Neither is a local policeman guilty of murder when he kills a man in self-defense or in defense of the life of others.

Listen to God's Word on this: "And the revenger of blood find him without the borders of the city of his refuge, and the revenger of blood kill the slayer; he shall not be guilty of blood" (Num. 35:27). Exodus 22:2 says: "If a thief be found breaking up, and be smitten that he die, there shall no blood be shed for him."

(Continued on page 6, column 1)

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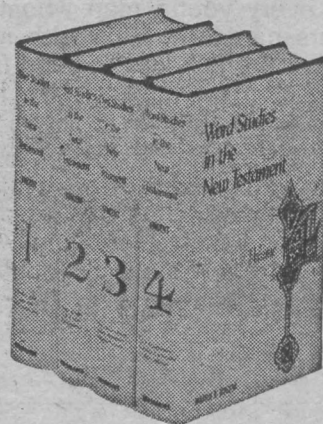
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Duties Of Dignitaries

(Continued from page 5)
PERSONAL RETALIATION
FORBIDDEN

A citizen must never take the law into his own hands by engaging in personal vengeance and retaliation for wrong done. Romans 12:19 says: "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." We must leave the redress of a grievance to the properly constituted authorities. If they fail us, remember God has promised: "I will repay."

When the soldiers came to take Christ, Peter took the law into his own hands and with a sword cut off the ear of the servant of the high priest (John 18:10). Christ rebuked him for this: "Put up thy sword into the sheath" (John 18:11). Peter was resisting the governmental authority of his country. He was drawing a sword against the order of a magistrate, which was a crime. Christ wanted Peter to see that if he opposed his own civil government by force, he must expect to be met by force (Matt. 26:52).

Have you ever said, "I'll get even with that person if it's the last thing I ever do!" Such a strong statement of personal revenge is wrong. The strong emotions of pride, anger, and hatred because of wrong done to us is not of God. "For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God" (Jas. 1:20). To react too harshly is to perpetuate the wrong by adding sin to sin. We must leave these matters to the magistrate. If we avenge ourselves, we become lawbreakers, and are not any different from the one who wronged us.

Man's Responsibility

(Continued from page one)

vation is that I co-operate with the Holy Spirit when He graciously offers me deliverance from sin and Hell."

But is not this a misunderstanding of the Truth as it is in Christ?

The Bible is very clear in this matter. It paints a very different picture, in that man is shown to be in rebellion against God. He is in a fallen and depraved state of mind and heart, and his actions, including his will, can do nothing but follow the dictates of his character. See Ephesians 2:2-3.

SOME SERIOUS QUESTIONS

Where, then, is to be found the

meeting place of God's sovereignty and man's responsibility?

We might begin by asking, IS A SINNER A FREE MORAL AGENT? Yes, if by "Free-Moral Agent," we mean that one is free to choose in the matter of morals. And yet, this choice is determined by Motives: The stronger motive being the determining factor. Blind choice is really no choice at all.

IS MAN A FREE SPIRITUAL AGENT? No, because he is bound by his fallen nature, and that nature is a slave to sin, by virtue of its parentage. See Romans 5:12.

We ask, therefore, where does human responsibility enter the picture? It seems evident to our mind that since man is dead in sin, and thereby a foreigner to the knowledge of God's redemptive purpose, he can and will do nothing more or less than what his fallen nature desires — that is to continue to exercise his will in the realm of the flesh.

A dead alien sinner can no more will to be born into the family of God than an unborn soul can desire to be born into the family of men. We have just as much right to say that one will to be brought into the realm of the flesh as we do in claiming that one wills to be brought into the realm of the Spirit. While the first is a physical impossibility, the latter is a Spiritual impossibility.

While it is undeniably true, that man as a whole, is responsible to God, we must define that responsibility in terms of Scriptural revelation.

Of course, we are aware that this has always been a subject of great concern, and much speculation. We, therefore, approach it with only one purpose in mind — what do the Scriptures reveal on the subject? We are certain of one thing: the answer will never be settled by mortal minds.

"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Romans 8:7).

We might pause for a closer look at this very revealing passage of Scripture, and see if we can find a beginning point to a better understanding of our subject.

THE CARNAL MIND

First, we notice "The carnal mind," the Greek has "phonemates sarkos," which literally says, "mind belonging to flesh (the flesh mind)." "Is enmity against God," Greek, "echthra eis theon," literally, "hostile toward (unto) God." And, as a result, it is, "not subject to the law of God," Greek, "to gar nomos tou theou

ouch lupotassetai," that is, "For to the law, belonging to God, not submissive (is)," or "it is not submissive to God's law." And, as if this were not enough to convince one of the terrible distance between the mind, which is under control of the fallen fleshly nature, and the principles of God's law, the writer went on to say, "Neither indeed can be." Now, this statement is just about as strong as the Greek text can say it, but, we will take a look at the Greek, "Oude gar dunatai," literally, "for lack of ability," or "for indeed is not able."

Now, let us take the whole verse literally, "The mind belonging to flesh is hostile toward God, for it is not submissive to God's law, for indeed is not able" (Rom. 8:7).

FLESHLY DISPOSITION

So, it is literally "impossible" for one, who does not possess a mind belonging to the Spirit, to be submissive or controlled by God's laws. In other words, he has no disposition toward the principles of the Spirit. Therefore, we must say, that, until one has been entrusted with a principle (of law) belonging to God, that one will be under the natural principle of the flesh. In this condition, he will continue in his downward plunge into corruption. He is hostile toward God; will not respond to God's law: for, in fact, he is unable to do so, even if he were ever so willing.

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

"Even when we were dead in sins, hath He quickened us together with Christ" (Eph. 2:5).

"So, then, it is not of him that willeth (exercises his will), nor of him that runneth (exercises his energies), but of God that showeth mercy" (Rom. 9:16).

"And as many as were ordained to eternal life believed" (Acts 13:48).

The word for "ordained" as used in this passage is "Tetagenoi," that is, "having been disposed" or "having been brought into a disposition toward eternal life." Note: The verb is Perfect Passive.

IMPOSSIBLE

Of course, that which is impossible with men, poses no problem with our God. Even though we are dead in sin, and paralyzed by depravity, and as such, we cannot desire deliverance or feel any need of it, our God is able to make us Spiritually alive (quickened) and awaken our conscience. Yes, when He places the Life of Christ Jesus in our hearts, this principle of Spiritual conscience gives rise to a sense of Spiritual need, and a capacity to exercise in the realm of the Spirit.

OPENED HEART

"A certain woman heard us, whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken by Paul" (Acts 16:1).

So, then, except the Lord God opens the heart of a dead sinner, to the hearing of the Word (Rom. 10:17), that one can never understand or apprehend spiritual truth.

In John 6:28-29, we have the Jews asking a question of our Lord:

"What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?"

Our Lord answered with these words:

"This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent" (John 6:29).

Too many of the would-be preachers and/or teachers, read these words and say, "All you have to do is believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and in so doing, you are doing the works of God." Literally, "This is the work belonging to God" and the work belonging to God is "That ye believe on Him." Ephesian 2:8 is very specific in declaring that "faith" is a "gift" of God, and that salvation is by "grace" through "faith."

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both being a gift of God. So, then, it is God's work to produce faith in the heart of the individual so as to bring that individual to an experimental knowledge of the new birth.

"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?" . . . "So then, faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God (Christ)" (Rom. 10:14-15,17).

We would do well to remind ourselves of what one of God's great expounders of grace had to say: A. W. Pink said:

"The gospel is too Spiritual for man's carnal mind; too humbling for his pride; too exacting for his rebellious will; too lofty for the darkened understanding; too holy for his earth-bound desires."

It is our conclusion, that no man with an unchanged heart and mind will ever seek after or lay hold on God's salvation.

TOTAL DEPRAVITY

Total spiritual depravity is the lot of all Adam's posterity, and except the Holy Spirit gives power of spiritual discernment there will never be a disposition toward God.

Water does not run up hill of its own accord. Even so, the natural mind does not aspire upward to God, unless and/or until the Spirit directs it thus.

"Except the Father draw him" (John 6:44). The word "draw" is a very interesting word — the Greek is "elkuse" and comes from "elkuo" which means "to drag as by force."

Of course, this is very offensive to the so-called dignity of self-righteous man. We, therefore, hear much of the works preaching, which says, "God gently draws with the preaching of the gospel, or by reading the Bible or a tract, but you may accept or reject according to your will."

You see, man is ever trying to get around the fact that "Salvation is of the Lord." The word is "drag" as you would take a dead dog by the hind legs and drag it off the highway.

The ultimate destiny of everything is determined and brought to pass according to the eternal purpose of a sovereign God. Of men He makes one "unto honor"; while another He makes "to dishonor."

"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 show his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much long suffering 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. 9:20-23).

There is no act of responsibility discharged by the creature in the reception of eternal life, neither is there an act of responsibility refused by the creature in the reception of eternal damnation. Man is accountable to God, not spiritually, but morally. Spiritually, he is dead; morally, he is alive.

So, unless or until man is given a spiritual disposition, his actions will be directed solely in the realm of morals.

OUR ONLY HOPE

Man's only hope is outside his own will or effort. The gentle and persuasive drawing of the gospel message is not the extent of the drawing power of God. But the effectual and irresistible "dragging" power of God is our hope. In John 21:11, we see the net full of fishes, almost to the point of breaking. It was not gently and persuasively drawn to shore, but forcibly dragged. We have the same word used here.

We often speak of "irresistible grace." What we mean is that even the dragging power of God

is an unspeakable "grace" to us. A "grace" of which we will never know the full meaning or extent until we are brought face to face with our glorified Lord.

MANKIND FOUND GUILTY

All men outside this persuasive drawing power of God are already judged and found guilty. (John 3:18). Then in verse 36 we read:

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth NOT on the Son shall NOT SEE LIFE, but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

We might translate — "He (who is) being persuaded toward the Son is entrusted with eternal life. On the other hand, the one being not persuaded toward the Son, shall not see life (much less being entrusted with)." Of course, if we are to retain the word "believeth," the verse would read: "He who is believing on the Son possesses eternal life: on the other hand, he who is not believing on the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God is abiding on him."

This brings us back to Romans 8:7:

"The mind belonging to flesh (flesh mind) is hostile toward (at war with) God, for it is not submissive to God's law; for indeed is not able."

So, as the persuaded one is already in possession of eternal life; the unpersuaded one is already in possession of God's wrath, and neither had any part or lot in the entire matter.

Now, for more proof of our statements, let us view some other passages of Scripture.

THE DEVIL'S CROWD

In answer to some of the devil's crowd, the Lord Jesus said:

"Ye believe not because ye are not of my sheep" (John 10:26).

"He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God" (John 8:47).

On the one hand, some were the possession of God, and as such, it is said they are out of God: they hear the DOCTRINES of God, remata tou theou. On the other hand, the opposite is said of those who were not the people belonging to God. Goats do not become sheep, neither do the devil's crowd become God's children.

THE GIVEN ONES

This leads us to another statement of our Lord:

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

This statement of our Lord needs a fuller explanation than what we read in the King James translation. Note: Students of Greek should consult the Greek text here.

So, to expand for a full meaning, we would translate something like this:

"The whole company, which the Father gives to me, it will arrive to be with me, and the one individual belonging to this company of the given ones, in the process of associating with me, I will, no never, send away from me to the outside" (or I will not divorce or excommunicate from my house). Note: This later statement has to do with co-reigning with Him.

The individual Israelite, who remained a true follower in the Mosaic economy, was never excommunicated or became as a heathen to the body of the faithful. So, it is with the true followers in the economy of the Grace Covenant — none will be turned outside of the New Jerusalem (the home of the Bride).

And this leads to another:

"I have manifested Thy name unto the men which Thou gavest Me out of the world: Thine they were, and Thou gavest them Me; and they have kept Thy Word" (John 17:6).

GOD'S FOREKNOWLEDGE (FORE-LOVE)

Yes, it seems so very clear. (Continued on page 7, column 3)

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"WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD TODAY?"

RAPIDUR, April 1 — Patras and Igney, two Adivasis of village Jabla of Raigarh district killed last month end another Adivasi and presented his chopped off head to "Pahar Devta," God of the Mountain.

"Two Adivasi killers claimed themselves to be 'Odsa' (messenger of God). They said that they had a dream that the god of the mountain wanted human sacrifice to assure good crops. They killed Uranva with an axe in the forest and offered his head to the god of the mountain. They also threw his blood into the fields" (World Evangelism, July, 1975).

It is difficult for the modern American church-goer to believe that things like this still happen in our world. But this is today's news in India, not a fiction of some past dark age. Does it not remind us again of the need of preaching the gospel of grace to the regions beyond?

The well-known atheist, Madalyn Murray O'Hair, is not circulating a petition to NASA to stop the astronauts from praying or reading the Bible in outer space. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and Mrs. O'Hair herself sustain this statement.

Mrs. O'Hair also gives assurance that neither she nor any of her staff have anything to do with a petition (RM 2493) now before the FCC.

Conservative Christians must stop printing and giving out such false information. It only tends to make us look bad in the eyes of the world. Of all people, we must always tell the truth.

U. S. District Court Judge Joe Eaton has ordered the Dade Christian School to admit two black students in Miami, Fla. The judge rejected the contention that admitting black students to South Florida's largest Protestant day school would violate a fundamental religious belief of the sponsoring New Testament Baptist Church.

Judge Eaton ruled that segregation at the school evolved as "a policy" voted on by the congregation affiliated with the Bible Baptist Fellowship, based in Springfield, Mo., "and simply does not constitute that type of fundamental religious tenet which is protected by the free exercise of religion clause of the U. S. Constitution."

The Internal Revenue Service has said that church-related primary and secondary schools that refuse to admit students of any

racial or ethnic group will lose their federal tax exemption, even where racially exclusive policies are required by religious belief.

The governor of New Hampshire, M. Thomson, Jr., has signed a bill authorizing school districts to allow voluntary prayers and recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in public elementary schools.

Alaska has become the first state, and one of the few places on earth, to permit marijuana in the home for personal use. This is so because the Alaskan Supreme Court recently handed down a 54-page decision on this matter.

Kereku, the Red dictator of Dahomey, declared in "Daho-Express" of December 2, 1974, that his country's guide is "the invincible ideologic weapon of Marxism-Leninism." He has already sentenced to death the priest Alphonse Quenum, together with other Christians. Missionaries have been forbidden to visit villages.

The government of Iraq has Communist members. It has also a strong link with the Soviets, who supply them with weapons to enable them to destroy people who believe in God. The Kurds are a national minority in Iraq. The inhabitants of two Kurdish villages, Zorja and Dakan, were burned alive. They were Christians. . . . We possess the names of 28 men killed by the Communists in prison.

Toma Jejo, a Christian, was tortured to death. His corpse shows the marks left by an electric iron, his hands were cut off, and his eyes were gored. Yousif Jejo was beaten until he went insane.

—Jesus to the Communist World

The Russian Baptist, Ivan Muzika of Uman, Lermontov str. 19, district Cherkassk, has ten children. The Communists convened a kangaroo court in his factory in the presence of the district attorney, who asked that the children be taken away from Muzika because he teaches them Christianity. A teacher witnessed against them. "These children are no good because they don't dance." The Communist, Ripetskii, stated that "Baptists should be treated like spies and should be sentenced to death."

The court decided to deprive Muzika of his children. He now waits every day for the van of the Secret Police to come and take them to a Communist boarding house, where the red dragon will try to destroy their faith.

—Jesus to the Communist World

Man's Responsibility

(Continued from page 6)
as we study the Word, that even before the silence of Eternity was broken (Job. 38:7), some were bequeathed to the Son by the Father. They were the personal possession of the Father, and the object of His love, before time began, and we can be certain that neither they nor we had anything to do in the matter. See Ephesians 1:4ff.

SCRIPTURAL CONCLUSIONS

As we have already seen from many passages of the Divine Word, man is totally incapable of Spiritual communion with God. If so, he has no responsibility in that direction. But man is capable of moral perception, in that he is a rational creature. Whereas, the brute cannot reason, they are not responsible, but man differentiates from the brute in that he is capable of knowing what is right and what is wrong. Again, let us remember that his reasoning is restricted to matters pertaining to morals. And, yet, some individuals, for no reason of their own, will spend eternity separated from God.

Is God being unjust by allowing this to happen? Let the Holy Spirit answer this for us:

DIVINE REPROBATION

"For He saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that showeth mercy. . . . Therefore hath He mercy on whom He will have mercy, and whom He will He hardeneth. Thou wilt say then

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unto me, Why doth He yet find fault? For who hath resisted His will? 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?" (Rom. 9:15-20).

Does this sound like the popular notion that "God loves everybody"? No, for God would not "harden" one He loved. So, it is not only the prerogative of the Lord God to give eternal life to whom He will, but also to withhold whom He will.

Divine Reprobation is a Scriptural fact, whether men believe it or not. Of course, those whose minds are controlled by the flesh will never bow to this great truth. "God would be unjust," they say. But the Spirit says in Romans 9:14, "me genoito (genoito has to do with life or birth). So, we are told that we should not allow such things or thinking to take birth, or be permanently dwelling in our mind.

WHAT IS THE ANSWER?

Again, we propose the question: In what respect are the unsaved responsible to God?

In Romans 1:20, we have a picture of the unregenerate man, as he stands responsible to God. He has knowledge of God in a moral sense, and is thereby responsible in that realm.

If the picture of Romans 1:20-32 is a spiritual knowledge and responsibility, we would have a contradiction of all other passages which say that man is dead in sins, alienated from God, etc. So, we must allow the context to interpret the meaning. Since man is a creature of reason, he is capable of knowing that God exists. It is the unreasoning creature that does not know this.

EXAMPLE OF HEATHEN

We know that the heathen world has a professed belief in the existence of God. It is also capable of reasoning that judgment and justice belong to such a Being. They even believe in a goodness and judgment, else they would not try to appease their gods.

Why do the heathen hold to all their superstitious notions about the anger of the gods? Even to the extreme sacrifice of their babies to the crocodiles or to the wild animals.

Simply because they have some knowledge or kind of consciousness of a supreme being or beings to whom they feel a responsibility. Yes, a manifestation of their conscious responsibility is that their conscience either "accuses or excuses" their acts, this then constitutes a moral recognition, and moral responsibility.

As for their spiritual consciousness, however, we have seen from the many Scriptures afore mentioned that there are none of Adam's posterity who possess the least degree of perception.

ROMANS CHAPTER 1 & 2

As we have already pointed out, Romans, chapter one and two is a picture of the unregenerate, as he is in bondage to his corrupted and depraved nature. (Note: This passage may primarily picture the people before the flood.) We are Scripturally correct when we say that the whole human race (in Adam) is not only dead in sins and in bondage to that nature, but they do not possess Life, in the truest sense of the word. They possess an everlasting existence, but not an eternal life.

"THEY SHALL NOT SEE LIFE" . . . WHAT KIND OF LIFE?

It becomes very interesting, as we look further into the kind of life man has in Adam, as we contrast with Life which one has in Christ. A. T. Robertson, who was one of the very best authorities in the Greek language, had the following to say as he deals with I Corinthians 2:14:

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

He says, "Psuchikos is a qualitative adjective from psuche (breath of life) i.e., soul or animal life. The psuchikos man is the unregenerate man, while the pneumatikos man is the renewed man, born again of the Spirit of God."

So, we see that there is an existence of life principle in the unregenerate which is more akin to animal life than to God life. Those who have been given a new life in Christ possess a quality of life belonging to and of God. While the Greek adjective, psuchikos, describes a consciousness of the natural surroundings, the word pneumatikos relates to God-consciousness. Therefore, we are compelled to say that the unregenerate man is incapable of rendering an intelligent judgment of things pertaining to God.

DRASTIC DIFFERENCE

There is a vast difference in the thinking and acting of one who is not possessed with spiritual discernment to that of the one who has received the new birth. The unregenerate being void of Spiritual life is therefore alienated from the life which belongs to God. See Ephesians 4:18.

The only way for such an one to be put in vital relationship to real meaningful life is to be "delivered from the power (ezousias—authority) of darkness, and translated unto the realm of His dear Son." (Colossians 1:13).

WHERE DOES HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY AND GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY FIND AGREEMENT?

Again, we would do well to listen to the words of the Lord Jesus: "But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you, 'My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me'" (John 10:26-27).

Here we have a clear and undeniable statement of our Lord which should answer the question to any honest mind. In so many words, the Lord said to those reprobated, You don't have faith, because you have not been entrusted with My life-principle. You are,

Eld. Fred T. Halliman Missionary To New Guinea



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therefore, not persuaded toward Me. And the main reason you are not believing is that you are not a part of the sheep which are Mine. (The sheep which were given to Him before the foundation of the world.) Those given-ones are in His knowledge, "He knows them" and they "hear His voice." See Romans 10:17. And they, like dead Lazarus, (John 11:43-44), follow Him.

LIFE-GIVING WORDS

He, and He alone, has the "Words of Life," see John 6:63-68.

"For as the Father hath (possesses) life in Himself; so hath He given to the Son to have (possess) life in Himself" (John 5:26). This is referring to the ability to impart or bestow life.

But in His next words, He speaks of RESPONSIBILITY:

"Marvel not at this; for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life (literally, life-resurrection); and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation (literally, a judgment-resurrection)" (John 5:28-29).

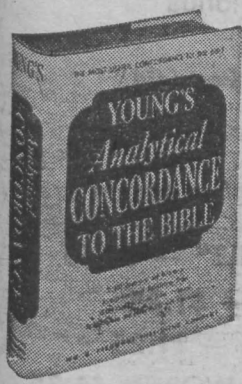
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Does the Bible teach that one will be saved by doing good? On the other hand, does the Bible teach that one will go to Hell for doing evil? A thousand times no! But it does teach that they will be judged, in the resurrections, "according to their works." See Revelation 20:13.

Our passage in Revelation speaks of a judgment of works for the unsaved, and their sentence in the Lake of Fire will be according to those works. Their "deeds of evil" are recorded in the "books." This judgment has nothing to do with whether or not they are to be cast into the "lake," but it will determine the degree of their punishment in this place. Their judgment of eternal damnation is already settled. John 3:18, 36 and 8:43-47. The lost man's future judgment, therefore, will have to do with a moral responsibility rather than Spiritual.

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The Last Hours

(Continued from page one)
ment was complete, and slowly but surely he was gaining mastery over the city. Impatient with the little progress made and enraged with the stubborn resistance of the besieged, the Chaldeans missed no opportunity to do damage. Every wanderer in the streets was a mark for their arrows; and those who attempted to escape from the festering city were at once seized.

THERE IS A DEEPENING CONVICTION THAT THE END IS NEAR

"Our end is near, our days are fulfilled, for our end is come" (Lam. 4:18). The sight of the towers erected by the besiegers advancing in height filled the citizens with terror. Weakened with famine and disease, distracted with divisions among themselves, and alarmed with the steady encroachment of the enemy, they felt that further resistance was useless; they waited in sullen helplessness for the end, and the end soon came.

THE LAST VESTIGE OF HOPE IS DESTROYED IN THE CAPTURE OF THEIR KING

"The anointed of the Lord was taken in their pits" (Lam. 4:20). As feeble as Zedekiah was, he was still their king, "The anointed of the Lord." Now that the state was falling, he was the very breath of life to the fugitives, who would have no rallying-point without him; whereas, if he escaped, they might with him have found a refuge among some of the neighboring nations, and as long as they had a king of David's line, all hope of prolonging their national existence would not seem lost.

But the seizure of Zedekiah in his desperate attempt to escape, and the cruelty of his infuriated captors in putting out both his eyes, quenched the last lingering hope of the doomed people. Their king was a sightless, helpless prisoner, and all was over. The national life was extinguished. We cannot but admire the bravery of the people in their defense of king and country; but it was too late. The fiat of destruction had gone forth, and it now was fulfilled in every detail.

Brethren, let us see from this that every nation that rebels against God is defenseless. When God threatens His punishment through His Word, let's not take it lightly. Let us pray for our country that it will turn back to the Lord before it is too late. The prophet wrote in Lam. 3:40: "Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord." This should be the prayer of every Christian in our country, because if there is no repentance, God will judge. "For these things I weep, mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water, because the comforter that should relieve my soul is far from me: my children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed" (Lam. 1:6).

Landmark Baptists

(Continued from page one)
This course will make you thankful for the Baptist Churches and what they stand for.

Covenants of The Bible, by Cockrell. The more you learn about God's covenants with His people the richer your Christian life will be.

Ecclesiology, by Cook. Due to the shameful and derogatory teaching as to the origin and the founder of Baptists, this course should be a great help to true Baptists.

Evangelism and Missions, by Cockrell. Due to the shameful

and derogatory manner in which these two things are taught and practiced among Baptists, you should make this course a must.

Evolution, by Cook. This is not an effort to prove by the Bible that evolution is false. All who believe the Bible already know it is false. Rather, it is made up of hard, cold facts, which prove to any honest person, that evolution could not have possibly done the job.

Genesis, by Morrow. This course should be ready for mailing soon. In this one, we learn the beginnings of all things. It will make you hate evolution.

Homiletics, by Wilson. This course will help a poor preacher to be a good one, and it will help a good preacher to be a better one.

Hymnology, by Hobbs. This course should soon be ready for mailing. It is designed to help us do a better job of singing our Lord's praises along with the history of many of our most loved hymns.

Life of Paul, by Hobbs. No one can master this course and ever go wrong on missions through ignorance.

Practical Theology, by Morrow. This one has proven to be our most popular course due to both a good teacher and to one of the best textbooks in print other than the Book of books.

Prophecy, by Cook. The prophetic Scriptures is the only light we have on the future. In light of the fact that our Lord's return is at our very door, why not learn all we can about what lies ahead?

Romans, by Wilson. This may be our hardest course, but anyone who will master it will love and appreciate the Book of Romans forever. It is not for the lazy, indolent person.

The Sovereignty of God, by Wooten. If you hate a God who is supreme, you had better leave this course alone. You just might learn to love Him.

Typology, by Wooten. This course is designed to help us appreciate the types found in the Old Testament that were written for our admonition. If you cannot see types in the Old Testament, you just don't see very much.

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from California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska to West Germany, and from Miami to Maine. We also publish Scripture Notes, a teaching arm of the church, and mail out many tracts as another teaching arm of the church. The courses, the church paper, and the tracts are FREE to anybody anywhere in the world who would like to study them. May it all be to our Lord's glory.

Some "In" Things

(Continued from page one)
a sixth grade level.

There is insecurity in our churches. In my daily activities I talk to many people. When we get on the subject of Christianity, I ask them if they know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. The answer is quite interesting to say the least. One will say he is a member of one church. Another will say that he was baptized at some time in the past. Very few ever give a positive answer.

I ask them about their church as to what kind it is. Most of them answer quite well. Then I ask them what are the doctrines of their church. Most of them answer that they have none. Others say that they do not know what their church believes. This could rightly be called an insecure generation.

INSUFFICIENT

"Insufficient" means "wanting in strength, power, capacity, or skill." If you write a check and you do not have enough money in the bank, it will come back marked insufficient funds. If you are trusting in your own righteousness to save you, you have insufficient righteousness. Isaiah 64:6 says that our righteousnesses are as filthy rags.

If you are trusting in your works, your baptism, your daddy's religion, or any other thing besides Jesus Christ, you have an insufficient savior.

IN CHRIST

The most important place to be is in Christ. "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (II Cor. 5:17).

Redemption is in Christ (Rom. 3:24). God only loves those in Christ (Rom. 8:38). We are sanctified in Christ Jesus (I Cor. 1:2). Our faith is in Christ (Gal. 3:26), and everything we have spiritually is in Christ.

Are you in Christ? If not, you are lost. Hell will be your eternal home. Repent! Turn to Christ now.

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