## Why Baptists Don't Accept Alien Immersion

By C. W. SHAFER (Now With His Lord)

We are often asked why Baptists do not accept baptism from other denominations. The answer is not hard to find if we take a look at the history of the Baptists. Baptists contend without fear of

successful contradiction:

salem, Acts 16:4.

Second: The church was com-

lievers in the faith. Matt. 28:19- Jude 3.

ing a holy walk before God.

Fourth: That every precept necessary to accomplish such a First: The church now known walk was given to the apostles. as Baptist was established by our Matt. 28:20. Such precepts are Lord with the apostles at Jeru- contained in the Word and are sufficient for all times.

missioned to preach to all the to contend for these precepts dure the fire.

world, baptize and build up be- against the assaults of the enemy.

Now that the Baptist position on Third: The church was charged the whole church question is set with the responsibility of discip- forth, let us examine the question lining its members and maintain- of baptism. If Christ built a church and commanded it to baptize, surely any other institution assuming that responsibility does so in rebellion against Him and (I Sam. 4:21). cannot be considered anything othaccept such baptism, they have no Fifth: Baptists are commanded right to expect their work to en- loss sustained in the battle, fell

MISSIONARY

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# The Baptist Examiner

### Baptist Is Our Middle Name

Paid Girculation In All States And In Many Foreign Gountries "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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#### GOOD MANNERS

RAY HIATT Hazard, Kentucky

"Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners" (I Corinthians 15:33).

"To be furious in religion is to be irreligiously religious" - William Penn.

We now descend from the rarefied atmosphere of doctrinal thought to the plain of the prac- their's was a ministry of judgment. tical and functional. It is manners that I wish to speak of and bad manners in particular. Please forgive what is no doubt a trite and mundane topic, but our daily lives in society are just that; mundane and trite. If we dwelt now in the New Jerusalem, there would be no need of such a discussion, however, we yet dwell within the society of men.

Of all the personality dysfunctions that we all suffer from, perhaps bad manners are the most hurtful. Oh, what a world of confusion and disorder is wrought among the elect of God for the simple lack of "Good Manners." What could we not do for God if we simply had the common decency to do well to each other?

blood letting. This militates peril and doom for those who have against our status as brethren, set their faces against God. Their's but it is so. We live in a world was a chiding, rebuking ministry. where folk who hold particular There is certainly occasions for points of doctrinal thought feel rebuke even today. We have need that it is necessary to slash at to reprove, rebuke and exhort, but their kinsmen. We live in an I am not convinced that bad manargumentative world where gen- ners are necessary to effect this. tility and manners have little Are there any today who feel place.

handily the parts of the Bible they wish to observe? How can it you had best be consistent and be that doctrinal rightness takes take up the literal sword against precedence over love, kindness and the literal enemies of God. Elijah patience? IS A BROTHER IN performed a difficult task and he CHRIST EVER SO WRONG ON A (Continued on page 8, column 1 POINT THAT IT BECOMES YOUR PREROGATIVE TO VILIFY HIM

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### A VAST DIFFERENCE

Between being sorry for sin and being sorry you are "caught." Between confessing your sins and

confessing some other fellow's. and seeing some other person's.

and conversion of the heart. imagination.

Between being persecuted for . In the eternity past when the The Son of God is the Alpha and of the covenant. "righteousness' sake" and being Second Person in the Godhead Omega of the Everlasting Covenpersecuted for "foolishness' sake." formally accepted the Father's ant. His person and work is the

### BACK TO THE PLACE OF TRUTH? I wonder.

The prophets of God had a particular ministry for a particular point in time. However, their ministry has been superceded by the gospel ministry. These prophets were the raucous voiced harbingers of doom and destruction. They set their faces like flint for



RAY HIATT

We can see them through the We live in a world of religious pages of the Book as they preach

so bold in the Lord that they Why is it that folk can pick so imagine the ministry of Elijah is their's? If so, dear brother, then

# AWAKE

Memorial United Methodist Church of San Francisco, Calif., was host by tearing down big men. to a convention of prostitutes at the church.

organization, shocked at this desecration of the House of God, took erhood of man by encouraging action and sent telegrams to Bishop R. Marvin Stuart of the California-Nevada Conference and to Mr. Ralph M. Houston, president of the Judicial Council of security on borrowed money. the United Methodist Church. The telegram read as follows:

"Because of repeated and numerous violations of the United Methodist discipline, the latest being tion, we demand the removal of the entire leadership at Glide Me-Francisco. We prayerfully request selves. the restoration of Christian leadership, worship services, and acquested."

This group has received no response from either Bishop Stuart of an individual, a nation, or a "I am convinced the church has written over their pews and pul-

### TUNE IN TO THE INDEPENDENT BAPTIST HOUR

EACH SUNDAY

WCMI 7:30 - 8:00 a.m.

WFTO Fulton, Miss. 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.

# METHODISTS

Several months ago, the Glide weak by weakening the strong.

The Methodist laymen of this payer.

the hosting of a prostitutes conven-

## "ICHABOD"

By J. W. PORTER Lexington, Kentucky

"And she named the child Ichabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel; because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband"

er than a Satanic inspired limita- battle, and met with a humiliating and prophet, hearing of the tragic over and broke his neck. His two sons, who had failed to heed his counsel, were both slain in battle.

The wife of Phinehas, shortly after his death, gave birth to a child. Sorrowing over the death of her husband and father-in-law, she called the child "Ichabod." The name reflected her feelings concerning the departed glory of Israel. In her melancholy mind,

### WISDOM FOR THE HOUR

(These ten statements of wisdom are attributed to Abraham Lincoln).

(1) You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.

(2) You cannot strengthen the

(3) You cannot help strong men (4) You cannot help the wage

earner by pulling down the wage (5) You cannot further the broth-

class hatred. (6) You cannot help the poor by

destroying the rich. (7) You cannot establish sound

(8) You cannot keep out of Let my Saviour dwell in me; trouble by spending more than you Fill my soul with peace and love,

(9) You cannot build character and courage by taking away a man's initiative and independence.

(10) You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what

were gone.

It is sadly true, that the glory or the Judicial Council by the time church may depart. Alas, it is this article goes to press. Cecil all too true, that the glory of many Williams, who made bragging of our churches has departed and statements, "kill the church" and "Ichabod" could be truthfully (Continued on page 8, column 5) pits. An aborted Bible, a bloodless Gospel, and a worldly membership tell the tale of their unutterable desolation.

#### CONSECRATED MEMBERSHIP

Well may we ask, what is the real glory of a church? First of all, a consecrated membership. There can be no possible substitute for genuine piety. Superior culcurrent craze for organization, is family life:

a commonly accepted counterfeit of Christ. It seems we are forgetful of the fact that an organism is necessary to an organization. Action, without life, is at most merely mechanical. It is not unusual when the life of a church begins to droop, to try and resuscitate it by starting a new organ-Israel had engaged in a great zation. We have already made a heavy demand on the alphabets tion or counterfeit. When Baptists defeat. The aged Eli, preceptor of several languages to meet the ever-increasing need for names for these new organizations.

> Instead of universal organization, we need individual consecration. It will be generally conceded, that our churches lack spiritual power. They have much influence, but little power. Paul did not have enough influence to keep out of jail, but he had the power to open the prison doors, and lead the jailer to the Saviour. In many instances the church has taken second place and consequently the glory of many of our churches has departed, and well may they sob and sing:

> "Where is the blessedness I knew When first I saw His face, Where the soul-refreshing dew, Of Jesus and His grace.

> The imperial need is not for more manpower, but more Godpower. Not for better music, but better men and women, whose souls are filled with the melody of redeeming love. The labour of unregenerate hearts can never be acceptable to God, however classical, or ecclesiastical, the hands that do the work. The consuming need is for more of Christlikeness. Oh, that we would really sing and

"More like Jesus would I be, Make me gentle as a dove; More like Jesus while I go, Pilgrim in this world below; Poor in spirit would I be,-Let my Saviour dwell in me."

Let the churches return unto morial Methodist Church in San they could and should do for them- the great Head of the churches, who will have mercy on them, and restore to them their former glory. Then shall the world take tivities at this church. Reply re- her own, and her nation's glory note of us that we have been with Jesus.

#### EVANGELISTIC FERVOR

The glory of a church is made manifest by its evangelistic fervor. When the sacred flame of evangelism dies away in darkness, the church, if not already dead, is in state of suspended animation. It may have a name to live, but in truth, be dead. The mission of the churches is the mandate of (Continued on page 6, column 4)

# GUIDEPOST FOR

A few years ago the National ture, unlimited wealth, or endless Father's Day Committee suggested activity, never atone for a lack ten guideposts to a safe and better of a vital union with Christ. The World, and a happy and peaceful

The wise father:

-encourages a respect for other nations; an understanding of other peoples.

-gives his child confidence through the safety of a happy home. -teaches his child that he is no

better than others, despite any differences.

-is quick to offer a helping hand in times of trouble.

-schools his child in good sportsmanship and fair play - win, lose or draw.

-gains respect and love of his child not by force but through companionship and wisdom.

-teaches his child the importance of good citizenship, by his own activity in community affairs.

-instills in his child a respect for law and order.

-through spiritual guidance, teaches his child that greatness and goodness go hand in hand.

Examiner Baptist A Sermon By Milburn Cockrell

### THE SON'S PART IN THE COVENANT OF GRACE

inheritance" (Heb. 9:15 ASV). O God" (Heb. 10:7).

Between "contending for the proposals, the Covenant of Grace sum and substance of it. He has faith" and striving for your own had its birth. The Father gave such a prominent place that He the Son a work to do; He sent Him is said to be the covenant itself. gated Himself to bestow certain

a death having taken place for the Son came into the world for the (Isa. 42:6; 49:8). The Son of God Between conversion of the head redemption of the transgressions expressed purpose of executing the is designated "the messenger of that were under the first covenant, Father's will. Christ said: "Lo, I the covenant" (Mal. 3:1), because Between being led by the Holy they that have been called may come (in the volume of the book He came to make known its con-Spirit and being led by your own receive the promise of the eternal it is written of me,) to do thy will, tents. The Redeemer is the media-

"And for this cause he is the promised Him a great reward when said to the Son: "I will . . . give Between seeing your own faults mediator of the new covenant, that the work was accomplished. The thee for a covenant of the people" tor, surety, testator and messenger

#### THE FATHER'S PROMISE TO THE SON

In the covenant the Father obli--Christian Digest into the world to perform it, and Isaiah reveals how the Father (Continued on page 2, column 1)

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The Baptist Paper for the Baptist People

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Entered as second class matter MAY 9, 1961, in the post office at Ashland, Kentucky, under the Act of March 3, he hath appointed heir of all (Isa. 9:6) are the many sons He affirmed in John 10:28-29: "And I Grace. For these He died and

### The Son's Part

(Continued from page one) for the performance of His covenant fulfillments. These are threefold: Promises of assistance, acceptance, and attainments.

#### PROMISES OF ASSISTANCE

First, the Father promised the Son that He would prepare Him a body uncontaminated to tabernacle in while on earth. "A body hast church affairs. thou prepared me" (Heb. 10:5). "And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God" (Luke 1:35).

Second, the Father promised to strengthen the Son in the days of His flesh: "Mine arm also shall strengthen him" (Psa. 89:21). Isaiah pictures the Messiah as saying: "For the Lord God will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed" (Isa. 50:7).

The First Person in the Trinity gave the Second Person the Spirit without measure during His humiliation (John 3:34). The Father sent power is given unto me in heaven the angels to protect Him (Matt. 4:6) and minister to Him (Matt. 4:11). The Father promised to always hear His cry for Divine help (Heb. 5:7; John 11:41-42). Such help was promised that it could be given all things into his hand." said of the Son: "He shall not fail nor be discouraged" (Isa. 42:4).

#### PROMISES OF ACCEPTANCE

The acceptance of Christ's covtion. First, at His baptism by pleased" (Matt. 3:17).

at Christ's transfiguration: "While Hence Christ is said in the Scrip- Father gave the Son in the Everhe yet spake, behold, a bright ture to be "ordained of God to be lasting Covenant. Christ knew all cloud overshadowed them; and be- the judge of the quick and the of these as His many brethren hold, a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him" (Matt. 17:5).

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER **JANUARY 17, 1976** PAGE TWO

Third, His resurrection from the proposed for the contract of dead was a signal proof that the Father accepted His work. The Father sent an angel to roll away MILBURN COCKRELL \_\_\_ Editor the stone from the door of His Editorial Department, located in tomb. This action signified that

#### PROMISES OF ATTAINMENTS

First, the Father promised to confer a glory upon the human nature of the Lord Jesus Christ. It was to this Christ referred in Luke 24:26 when He said: "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?" Peter mentioned "the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow" (I Peter 1:11). This explains why Christ's soul was not see corruption (Acts 2:31). This glory promised was twofold.

To Christ was granted the priv-1:13). Hebrews 1:3 declares when sins, set down on the right hand of the Majesty on high."

There was also the making of the name of Christ above every seriously if the majority of preach- to preach the kingdom of God." fit for the kingdom of God." name. Philippians 2:9 declares: which is above every name." Christ was made Prime Minister of Heaven upon the completion of His covenant engagements: "Behold my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high" (Isa. 52:13).

things: "Hath in these last days clare the decree: the Lord hath this day have I begotten thee. Ask ren" (Rom. 8:29). of me, and I shall give thee the the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession" (Ps. 2:7-8).

Third, the Father promised Him the headship of the church. "Gave to the church" (Eph. 1:22). "And he is the head of the body, the church" (Col. 1:18). Our Redeemer is the director of all

Fourth, the Father promised to make Him an everlasting priest: "The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec" (Heb. 7:21).

Fifth, there was the promise of the Millennial Kingdom. In Luke 22:29 we hear Christ say: "And I appoint you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me." In the age to come Christ "shall be king over all the earth" (Zech. 14:9) and "all dominions shall serve and obey him" (Dan. 7:27).

Sixth, the Father promised Christ power over all flesh. In John 17:2 Christ declares how the Father has given Him "power over all flesh." 28:18 He cried: "All In Matthew and in earth." In Matthew 11:27 He again said: "All things are delivered unto me of my Father." He declared in John 3:35: "The Father loveth the Son and hath

Seventh, the Father promised to commit all judgment to the Son upon the fulfillment of His misassurance unto all men, in that he in the covenant. Second, it was declared again hath raised him from the dead." dead" (Acts 10:42).

# Memorial Pulpit

By JOHN R. GILPIN

Our Beloved Pastor and Editor, Now in Glory



### HEAVENLY

Marin Warred War

low me. But he said, Lord, suffer dicate that the father wasn't yet "Lord, I am going to follow you, Jesus said unto him, Let the dead old or elderly and ailing. What the have a farewell party and bid all left in Hades, nor did His body bury their dead: but go thou and man literally said was, "Let me my family goodbye." Jesus said, preach the kingdom of God.

will follow thee; but let me first go follow you." ilege of sitting at the right hand bid them farewell, which are at Jesus said to this man, "Let the back home and telling your family of God in His human nature, an home at my house. And Jesus said dead bury the dead . . . but go goodby, and spending time with honor denied the angels (Heb. unto him, No man, having put his thou and preach the kingdom of them is sheer nonsense. There is hand to the plough, and looking God." There are plenty of unsaved something more important than Christ "had by himself purged our back, is fit for the kingdom of God" people to look after that sick, that, and that is, the preaching -Luke 9:59-62.

ers have ever understood the mespleship. That is obvious.

follow you, and I will follow you. care of dying parents is truly a look after the aged. We would cer-But let me go and bury my father." test of discipleship.

"And he said unto another, Fol- Jesus' answer, I think, would ingo and take care of my father un- "Man, your business is to get busy.

This is a very much misunder not to look after those who are you put your hand to the plough, stood passage of Scripture, I doubt dying, but your first business is and then look back, you are not

me first to go bury my father. dead, but rather, the father was but let me go back home and And another also said, Lord, I til he dies and then I'll begin to You haven't time to think about your friends. This idea of going aged father. Your first business is of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If

That was pretty much of a test. I say, beloved, these two are Wherefore God also hath highly sage that Jesus was giving. We That was about as strong a test about as strong a test for discipleeach \$3.00 exalted him, and given him a name would certainly say, at the very as the average Christian would be ship as you could ever find. We outset, that it was a test of disci- able to take. For Jesus to say that would say that one ought to be the preaching of the Word of God loyal to his parents. We would One man says, "I would like to is more important than the taking say that one certainly ought to (Continued on page 3, column 1)

benefits and blessings upon the Son heathen for thine inheritance, and Son that His coming into the world no man is able to pluck them out will appear complete, none misswould destroy the Devil and his of my Father's hand." kingdom. "For this purpose the

Second, the Son was to inherit all his soul an offering for sin, he him power over all flesh, that he holy nation," and "chosen vessels."

Son of God was manifested, that faith in Christ: "All that the Fath- which God hath given me" (Heb. he might destroy the works of the er giveth me shall come to me." 2:13). The Good Shepherd will him to be the head over all things devil" (I John 3:8). This was ac- No one can come to Christ in bring every sheep home to glory. faith unless he is a sheep: "No The loss of one sheep would reman can come unto me, except it veal a lack of ability on the part was given unto him of my Father" of the Shepherd. (John 6:65). Those who refuse to CHRIST THE COVENANT HEAD believe in Christ are goats: "But In the Covenant of Grace Christ ye believe not, because ye are not occupies several offices. He is the of my sheep" (John 10:26).

> Not all of Adam's race believe and (II Tim. 1:9). are not therefore saved by Jesus

of death, that is, the devil" (Heb. to redeem, a definite number. ened us together with Christ."

shall see his seed." The spiritual should give eternal life to as many These are the ones Christ agreed spoken unto us by his Son, whom seed of "the everlasting Father" as thou hast given him." He again to represent in the Covenant of things" (Heb. 1:2). "I will de- engaged to bring to glory (Heb. give unto them eternal life and is now interceding on high. Not 2:10). The Father purposed that they shall never perish, neither one of these will be lost. Our Resaid unto me, Thou art my Son; the Son would have "many breth- shall any man pluck them out of deemer declared: "Of them which my hand, My Father, which gave thou gavest me have I lost none" Ninth, the Father promised the them me, is greater than all; and (John 18:9). The whole number ing, on the great day when Christ All the sheep will be brought to shall say: "Lo, I, and the children

federal head of a spiritual seed. It is a well established fact that He is called in Hebrews 2:10: "The not all men believe that Jesus captain of their salvation." Our Christ is the Son of God. Acts election to salvation was in our 28:24 declares: "Some believe not" covenant head. Ephesians 1:4 and II Thessalonians 3:2 reads: says we were "chosen in him be-"All men have not faith." Christ fore the foundation of the world." knew from the beginning who they The elect did not exist then, but were that believed not: "For Jesus their representative did. Grace knew from the beginning who they was given them "in Christ" bewere that believed not" (Jno. 6:64). fore the foundation of the world

The elect died in their covenant complished by the Redeemer of Christ. Many die in their sins; head. Romans 6:6 says we "were God's elect at Calvary: "Foras- die in unbelief of God; die in the crucified with him." Colossians much then as the children are par- act of horrible sins. Thus, not all 2:20 reveals how we "are dead takers of flesh and blood, he also of Adam's race was given to the with Christ." Romans 6:4 speaks himself likewise took part of the Son to save, else all would be of the chosen ones being "buried with him." Ephesians 2:5 dis-Christ was given a special class closes how the Father "hath quick-2:14). Because of the Everlasting They are called in the Scriptures Colossians 3:1 informs us that we Covenant, we can be assured that "the seed of Abraham," "the elect are "risen with Christ." We know the God of peace shall bruise of God," "my people," "my these things are not literally so. Satan under our feet shortly (Rom. sheep," "a peculiar people," "an (Continued on page 6, column 2)

### NOTIC

All of those who live in the state of Kentucky must pay state tax when purchasing a book as of October 1, 1975. This is 5 cents on the dollar. This applies to all who live in the state of Kentucky only. Those in other states who order by mail do not have to pay state tax. Please keep this in mind as you purchase books from us.

same; that through death he might saved. destroy him that had the power 16:20).

#### THE SON CAME TO SAVE THE ELECT

The Son did not engage in the sion: "For the Father judgeth no Covenant of Redemption to make man, but hath committed all judg- an atonement for all the sons of enant work by the Father is seen ment unto the Son." In Acts 17:31 Adam. The Son came to redeem three times during the incarna- Paul said: "Because he hath ap- only those the Father chose to pointed a day, in which he will grace and glory as His peculiar John in Jordan: "And lo! a voice judge the world in righteousness treasure before the foundation of from heaven, saying, This is my by that man whom he hath or- the world. He undertook and will beloved Son, in whom I am well dained; whereof he hath given save all the Father gave to Him

> The elect or sheep are those the from the beginning: "I am the Eighth, Christ was to have a good shepherd, and know my spiritual seed. The Father prom- sheep" (John 10:14). The Son died ised such to the Son in the Ever- for these: "I lay down my life for lasting Covenant. I read in Isaiah the sheep" (John 10:15). Christ 53:10: "Yet it pleased the Lord will give eternal life to all the to bruise him; he hath put him elect for whom He died. He said to grief; when thou shalt make in John 17:2: "As thou hast given



### THE TABERNACLE, PRIESTHOOD AND OFFERINGS

L. M. HALDEMAN

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> CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH P.O. Box 910, Ashland, Kentucky 41101

### "Heavenly Priorities"

(Continued from Page Two) tainly say to be civil, and to tell our loved ones goodby when we start. To preach the Word of God is nothing more than what would be ordinarily expected of us, but Jesus went further than that. He said, "These material things mean nothing. Go first and preach the Kingdom of God."

Years ago, when I was a boy in college, there was a lad who roomed near me who had a pennant on his wall that was strangely worded. It said, "I am willing to be third." I remember reading it, looking at it and pondering it for some period of time. One day, I asked this lad as to the meaning of it: He said, "My mother gave it to me when I left to first, others second, and self last. I am willing to be third."

Not many people are willing to be third. Not many are even willing to be second. Most of us want to be first in anything that we do. But, beloved, our God is to come first. This text would certainly indicate to us that there ority.

In the last few years, we have gotten accustomed to the word "priority." In fact, it looks like most every war brings about a new word. For example, in World War I, we had the word "blitzkrieg," which means lightning warfare that evolved. In World War II, we had the word "global." It never was used before, but it is a good word, for our God's love is a global love. The salvation that He gives to us in Jesus Christ is a global salvation. The commission He gave us to preach the Gospel is a global commission. Many things, so far as spiritual verities are concerned, are truly global. Then in the last few years we have had this word "priority." It is thought today that the Government has priority over everything that takes place. I am not so positive that I agree with that, but nevertheless, I want to call attention to "Heavenly priority."

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.

The firstfruits should go to the this, when Moses said: Lord. If you will go back in the firstfruits. Listen:

"And it shall be, when thou art inheritance, and possesseth it, Lord. and dwellest therein; That thou and shall put it in a basket, and the land. to place his name there.



QUESTION:

What queen's disguise was penetrated by a blind man? ANSWER:

The wife of Jeroboam, thee, and disguise thyself . . . And give the plunder of the first city Jeroboam's wife did so, and arose, to the Lord. and went to Shiloh, and came to come to college. She said, "God the house of Ahijah. But Ahijah that the Jews conquered in the could not see; for his eyes were land of Palestine and everything set by reason of his age . . . And within that land of Palestine it was so, when Ahijah heard the went to the Jews. They had it sound of her feet, as she came in coming to them. It was their land. at the door, that he said, Come in, They had had no rental on it thou wife of Jeroboam; why for 430 years, during the time feigneth thou thyself to be another? that they were in Egypt. All dur-

thy God, and worship before the anites, the Philistines, and the

offering of firstfruits. Before a without paying the Jew one sin-Jew was allowed to partake of gle penny of rent. Now God says, any fruit that he grew, an offer- "It is all yours. Get your rent ing must go to God, called the for the last 430 years. But just offering of the firstfruits. God remember, all of the first city was to come first. Before a Jew belongs to me.' was ever to take pomegranate in his hand to eat, before a Jew Heavenly priority. God gets first was ever to think in terms of a things. citrus fruit, before a Jew was ever to swallow a single grape Testament, we have a similar antly in the land of Palestine, he priority. was, first of all, to offer to God of that fruit as an offering of God, and his righteousness; of firstfruits unto the Lord.

What was true so far as these ed unto you."-Matt. 6:33. firstfruits that I have mentioned for herself, she took of that dough your material needs." and offered it as a firstfruit unto

"And thither ye shall bring your God was dealing with the Jews fices, and your tithes, and heave things."—Matt. 6:32. in the wilderness and was giving offerings of your hand, and your

come in unto the land which the of any of his flock until first an unto you." Lord thy God giveth thee for an offering had been made unto the

THE FRUIT of the earth, which find that there was such a thing I believe that He meant,

was to go to God. I speak of the city of Jericho. It was the only city that God said, "You give me -you bring into my treasuryand put at my disposal all that you take of this city of Jericho."

There was one man there by the name of Achan who decided that he could take a wedge of gold, a wedge of silver, and a goodly Babylonish garment without anybody knowing about it. I am sure you recall how his act resulted in the death of thirty-six Jews when they went the next day against the little city of Ai upon the mountain. I am sure First that you likewise recall that it Kings 14:2, 4, 6-"And Jeroboam resulted in his death. Why? Be-

All the balance of the cities ing that time these nations the Girgashites, the Hivites, the Lord thy God'-Deut. 26:1,2,10. balance of them - had been liv-Beloved, here is the law of the ing there and using that land

I tell you, beloved, that is

When we come to the New Jesus said:

"SEEK YE FIRST the kingdom and all these things shall be add-

Many is the time that I have is concerned, I might say if it heard this preached to unsaved were wine, or if it were a fruit people. Many is the time when tree or if it were a wheat field, I have heard a preacher say to or even if it were the dough that a sinner, "You seek first the kingthe woman had kneaded before dom of God and God will take she was to use any of that bread care of you. He'll look after all

Beloved, that is not so. That SHOULD BE FIRST IN the Lord. God was to come first. is a falsehood. This text was never We have another reference to spoken to unsaved people, for read in the preceding verse:

Old Testament to the time when burnt offerings, and your sacri- that ye have need of all those

This was spoken to people who to Moses the laws relative to the vows, and your freewill-offerings, had a Heavenly Father, and Jesus offering, God said there were and the FIRSTLINGS of your said to those who had a Heavenly certain things to be offered as herds and of your flocks"—Deut. Father, "You seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, No Jew was allowed to partake and all these things shall be added

What does He mean when He says, "Seek first the kingdom of So, beloved, if you will go God?" Without going into a long shalf take of the FIRST OF ALL back a long time ago, you will exegesis of preof let me say that is concerned; you put me first." thou, O Lord, hast given me. And of its booty and plunder and wealth circumstances. I tell you, bestances, we would then be seeking of J. R. Graves and also true! His righteousness.

And what does He say? "You of God first, and I'll take care of the material things. I'll look I'll take care of you so far as clothing is concerned." In the verses preceding, He talks about Jesus said, "You put first the kingdom of God and His righteousness (Continued on page 4, column 3)

> THE BAPTIST EXAMINER JANUARY 17, 1976 PAGE THREE

### REVIEW OF REFORMED BAPTIST ECCLESIOLOGY

By R. E. POUND II Route 1, Aberdeen, Mississippi 39730

On John Thornbury's Treatise "THE DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH"

7) Brother T., notice your oneness with Pedobaptists. They want Baptists to recognize a FIGURATIVE OR SECONDARY MEANING OF BAPTIZO which is opposite to its real and primary meaning, and then allow them to sprinkle as well as immerse, Baptists will not (with the exception of Reformed Bapsaid to his wife, Arise, I pray cause this man Achan did not tists) do so! They want us to admit to a human tradition which had no real existence or fact of experience in the N.T., nor is it predicted by the N.T., that is, sprinkling and pouring, and infant baptism. However, in like manner, Brother T. wants us to apply the same principles to his ideas about ekklesia. He wants us to accept a secondary or figurative meaning which is the opposite to the primary meaning of ekklesia. And then he wants us to adopt a church position and then a practice or polity, neither of which had any existence or fact of experience in the N.T. If Reformed Baptist Ecclesiology is sound and true, then also, so is the Pedobaptist philosophy of infant baptism and is such a thing as Heavenly pri- thou shalt set it before the Lord Hittites, the Perizzites, the Cana- different modes of baptism since both are without the fact of experience or the model of prediction in the N.T. What will prove one will prove them both, and what will destroy one will destroy them both!

8) Brother T., in your definition and statement of church philosophy you claim that ekklesia has a secondary or figurative meaning. WELL WE ALL GRANT THAT! NO ONE CLAIMS THAT IT DOES NOT! No Landmark Baptist claims that in each passage of the N.T. ekklesia means a local church. But what we do all claim is that even in the figurative or secondary meaning, the definition is the same only with a different relationship. When a word is used in a figurative way, it still retains its prithat grew so profusely and abund- statement relative to Heavenly mary meaning. It still retains its synonymical meaning and does not become in fact antonymical. For example, "Behold the Lamb of God . . ." Here Christ is seen as a LAMB! But does the figurative meaning of lamb change its basic meaning into opposite meanings like, say, a lion? We think not, and the world of scholarship is on our side as I will prove in due time.

Brother T., your figurative meaning is antonymical rather than synonymical, Observe the following chart:

Local, universal — synonym or antonym . . . which? Visible, invisible — synonym or antonym . . . which? Lamb, lion — synonym or antonym . . . which?

The difference between Brother T.'s figurative meaning of ekklesia and the true and Landmark meaning is that HIS MEAN-ING BECOMES ANTONYMICAL AND ASSUMES AN OPPO-"Your heavenly Father knoweth SITE AND ANTAGONIZING MEANING FROM THAT OF THE PRIMARY WORD IN ITS LITERAL AND PRIMARY MEANING! We all admit that ekklesia has figurative meanings, but the point is . . . does it become antonymical in its figurative meanings?

9) Since you make much of the true church, will you show me from the Bible where the terms "true church" occur, or that the expression occurs which means the same as you mean? Your entire concept is false because God's Word deals with both the natural and spiritual, both the inward and outward at the same time. God deals with both the visible and the invisible at the same time. We know the truth not only by faith in God's Word, thou shall bring of the earth, which find that there was such a thing I deneve that he meant, You shall bring of thy land that as Heavenly priority in the law put my kingdom first so far as but also by experience as well. We must always define our exthe Lord thy God giveth thee, of the offering of the firstfruits of soul-winning and missionary work perience according to Biblical expressions and statements, but we also have an experience! Will you give us one clear reference, the Lord thy God shall choose by the Jews when they entered righteousness," I believe that He both by experience and then by revelation, in the N.T. of the into the land of Palestine after meant that we are to live just great "TRUE AND MYSTICAL" Body of Christ which cuts across "Now behold, I have brought they had been in Egypt for 430 exactly like Jesus Christ would all denominational and visible lines? Yes, tell us about this the first fruits of the land, which years — that first city, with all live if He were put under similar great body taught in the N.T. which had no experience nor exloved, if men and women today istence is those times nor was predicted anywhere by any writer. were to live like Jesus Christ Shall Baptist churches legislate laws of practice which neither would live under similar circum- Christ nor His apostles did give or anticipate? This is the shade

> 10) Dear Brother T., the only way you can have any univerput me first. You see to it that sal, invisible church is by your unscriptural and unbaptistic pracyou put the kingdom of God tices of pulpit affiliation and union meetings with pedobaptists. first, and put the righteousness You cannot find such in the N.T. Remember that there were heretics then also. Remember that those who turned away from after the grocery bill. I'll take the truth and Christ's church, the Apostles and the Lord comcare of putting meat on the table. manded their followers to LEAVE THEM ALONE, AVOID THEM! NOTE THEM AND HAVE NO COMPANY WITH THEM! Therefore, your universal church which exists in your these very things - food and theory and polity, but not in N.T. polity is not only unscriptural clothing and drink - and the Lord in theory but also in practice! You cannot find one N.T. preacher who preached to N.T. people and who was in open violation of the ordinances of Jesus Christ. Nor can you find one preacher in the N.T. who preached to God's elect, who was a member of an organization which had murdered and persecuted God's elect, and the union and preaching was accepted. Jesus charged such to the

(Continued on Page Five)

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CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH P.O. Box 910 - Ashland, Kentucky 41101

# The Baptist Examiner

- Marrie Marrie

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT TO:

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER - P. O. BOX 910 - ASHLAND, KY. 41104 The March Marca Brown Br

"Can we by history trace every sovereign grace Baptist from Christ until now?" The anchurch back to the first century by a succession of sovereign grace swer is, all the other church groups churches who believe as we do today?"

JAMES HOBBS

Rt. 2. Box 182 McDermott, Ohio

PASTOR K'ngs Addition Baptist Church South Shore, Ky.



How can anyone expect us to be able to answer a question like this with a simple yes or no? I know no man who has read or even knows about all writings of history that are available.

I certainly believe that it is possible to trace all true churches it plainly. back to Christ, but I do not know if there are any written materials available to do so. Some things require faith and trust in God, and this is one. Since most histories that we have today were written by either Catholics or Catholic sympathizers, we know that church history is not accurate.

I believe Jesus when He said, ". . . upon this rock will I build my church; and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18). The Bible shows plainly that two different opinions cannot be together. "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3). The true church of today would not follow the same doctrines of the church that Jesus started if they were not agreed. His church today is the same in belief as His church then; obviously they are united.

When we are with our Lord we will see the very definite linked line of His churches through history, just as we see the very definite line from Adam and Eve to Christ. There was not one link broken in the line to Christ and there will not be a broken link in church history.

E. G. COOK

701 Cambridge Birmingham, Ala.

PASTOR Philadelphia Baptist Church Birmingham, Ala.

The answer to this question is self-evident. We cannot trace every one of our Lord's true churches back to the first church at Jerusalem by history. And the fault is not the history, but rather the faulty recording of the history. I am fully, and altogether persuaded that the history is there in every case concerning true churches. But too often the church does not correctly record the line of authority by which it was authorized. When the charter members have all passed away the second generation may have trouble trying to trace their authority if the records have been poorly kept. But if that authority is there our Lord. will know about it whether it was correctly recorded or not.

On the other hand, if the proper authority is not there the church will sooner or later go astray on doctrinal teaching. And any other church she calls herself authorizing will also go astray. The Holy Spirit is the only stabilizing force in the world when it comes to maintaining true Bible teaching in the churches. And if the church is not one of the Lord's true

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churches He is just not in it. Therefore, there is just no way for that church to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. "It is "Heavenly Priorities" his steps" (Jer. 10:23). So, if the Holy Spirit does not direct the preaching and teaching in a church, there is just no way for that preaching and teaching to continue to be true to God's Word.

So, if a church is really and churches, the history of her succession back to the church at Jerusalem is there. Faulty recording of that history may make it obscure to us, but God can still see



No, we cannot trace every gated in every age since then.

records, back to the first century, our God is one Lord." that our claim that it is so is false.

Since history supplies ample evi- first place. dence that our claims are true (see lieve it.

Did you know that there is more history for church succession than there is for the existence of Jesus Christ? Yet, we are convinced of Him!

We believe on Him and His promises regarding His Church, John the Baptist reacted to Heavnot because history teaches us, but because it is revealed in His Word.

Faith apprehends truth!



No. we certainly can't. In my its origin back through the ceninvolved in the history of this John the Baptist had said: Church is true. If it is altogether of churches with no history of suc- ance."-Matt. 3:7,8. cession. Somebody will say, "How go back to the days of Christ?" of snakes to me." We know it for one powerful and Oh, what scathing denunciations ence. He said, as recorded in Matt. that have ever been written.

have had human founders and Christ started His church.

(Continued from page three) and all these things shall be added unto you.'

Beloved, I believe one reason that we have a beef shortage today is because there are too few people truly one of our Lord's true putting the kingdom of God first. I believe why prices are skyrocketing, and why inflation is rampant, and why we are having a hard time financially making ends meet is because so few of God's people are putting first the kingdom of God. God has priority over everything and He needs to be given the place of priority. If you do, He says, "I'll provide for you according to all these material needs -food and clothing and drink."

> wherein we can see that He is to have priority:

"And Jesus answered him, The FIRST of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord."-Mark 12:29.

There were a lot of command-Scriptural church back to the first ments in the Old Testament. We century, but there is ample his- are familiar with the Ten Comtorical evidence that Baptist mandments, and there were others churches have existed and propa- as well. Concerning these commandments, as important as they Our detractors take great joy in were, and as far reaching in their challenging our assertion that we impact as they are, there is one have church succession. They in that is even more. What is it? sist that since it is not possible "The first of all the commandto trace a church, by historical ments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord

Beloved, God is to be given

You say, "Brother Gilpin, isn't Orchard, Christenson, Carroll), it important to live in the light of and since our Lord said that it those Ten Commandments - prowould be so (Matt. 16:18)—we be- fanity, adultery, murder, and honoring one's parents?" Yes, that is all important, but there is somefirst place.

I would have you notice how enly priority. John was an unusual character. The strangest figure that ever stalked across the pages of human history was John the Baptist. There are so many things about him that I scarcely understood, yet I thank God to be linked to him, and I rejoice when I think about the self-sacrificial attitude and the self-denial that he took so far as life was concerned.

I see him, one day, standing out there in the Jordan River baptizing, and the Word of God tells us how his crowd went away book "The Church That Jesus from him. Little by little, he had Built" I give an instance in which lost his crowd, until now, as he one Church here in America traced was baptizing there in the Jordan River, he had practically nobody turies to the time of Christ. I coming to him. Previously, great am not sure that the historical data droves of people had come, and

"O generation of vipers . . . correct, that would leave thousands Bring forth fruits meet for repent-

In other words, John the Bapdo you know that Baptist churches tist said, "You look like a bunch

certain reason. The Son of God he had given his crowd as they who started Baptists promised that had gathered there to hear him they would never go out of exist-preach. He baptized multitudes and now his crowd is gone. He 16:18: "I will build my church doesn't have anybody now like he ones who have been perpetuated (Continued on page 5, column 2)

### **New Guinea Photo Story**

Greetings to each of you once again as we come to you this week with three more pictures of some of our work here in Papua New Guinea.

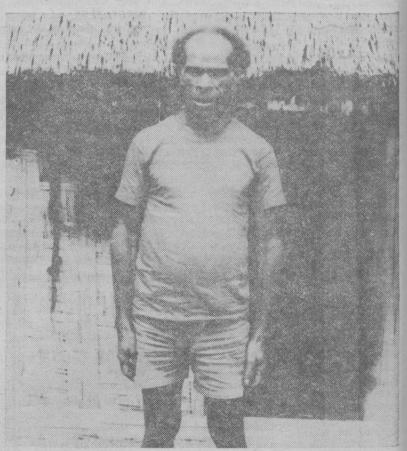
A few weeks back we made a patrol into an area which was the first time that I had been in this particular area for almost twelve years. Nearly twelve years ago I passed through this same area on my first attempt to reach the Strickland River area. It was not the Lord's will that I reach the Strickland at that time and, one day's walk beyond where these piccame into existence centuries after tures were made, I was turned back. Had I proceeded on in that early patrol I would have been in serious trouble with the government as this was a highly restricted area — I am thankful that I serve a God that "knows the end from the beginning."



As is quite obvious in this picture a baptizing is taking place. About two years ago while I was in America, the native Let's notice another instance folk of one of the churches here started a small mission work in this area. The work has been extremely hard from the very beginning in that we have been opposed by the Brethren Mission, because they lay claim to this being their area. Of course, we pay no attention to these claims and go preach wherever a door is opened to us. The baptismal pool is a little cove of a large river. Ten feet away the river is a rushing torrent of water, so swift that no one could survive in it for long.



This picture shows the newly formed church at the place thing more important and that is, where the baptizing took place. All the people except the chil-"The first of all the command- dren and the women at the far left formed the church, twentyments is . . . The Lord our God two in all. I was recently back at this church and another is one Lord." He is to be given seven people were baptized into this body and one joined, moving from another church.



This picture portrays the pastor of this church standing in front of the church building. This man is a faithful servant of God and works hard at the task assigned him by his Lord. and the gates of Hades shall not used to have. The folk standing into the bush with no means of income, but they manage to prevail against it." I had rather around said, "The man that you into the bush with no means of income, but they manage to pay their pastor \$3.00 a month for his faithful service. At to have all of the historical records of the Jordan has gone to preach present he does not live on the field and walks ten miles each ing. That man Jesus is preaching way every week to minister to these people. They are soon to "But," says some one, "how do now, and that is why you have lost build him a house and plant a garden for him so he can move you know that Baptists are the your crowd. Everybody has gone on the field where he can be in their midst all the time.

(Continued on page five)

WRITTEN BY A WOMAN AND FOR WOMEN

ASKING AND RECEIVING

"And she said, Truth, Lord; yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master's table"

The Apostle James says: "We have not because we ask not." Christ. Being a Gentile, it was crease." nervy of her to even get close to Him. She was making a nuisance the Apostle Paul. But this woman expected mar- man Paul. I read that book of I velous things from the Lord. Her Corinthians, which is so full of daughter was grievously possessed meaning to the Christian, and of a devil. She continued crying would tell the child of God that out for mercy from Jesus.

The Lord Jesus stops long enough to say that He is only sent to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. On hearing this, the grief-stricken mother bows in worship and said, "Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master's table." Yes, she had great thoughts of her Lord. She knew He set such a bountiful table that what she asked would be only a crumb. Surely the children would fare no less should He be pleased to throw her this crumb. Her high esteem of Christ -her great thoughts of Him were rewarded. Jesus answered and said, "O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt."

What is your problem, today? Is it as big as this woman's? If not, then you will be asking Jesus work shall be. I am Alpha and for even a smaller crumb. Let Omega, the beginning and the us take all our problems to Him. end, the FIRST and the last." There is nothing too big for Him Rev. 22:12,13. to solve and nothing too small for this woman, expect great things priority. and receive great things.

## The Gospel Of John

BY. A. W. PINK



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This is perhaps the best of Bro. Pink's writings. You will find these books almost inexhaustible Should you like to mention this dear brother by name to our in setting forth the meaning of the Lord as you pray for him, his name is Alo. Gospel of John. As was Pink's custom, he has put much time and study into the preparation of this set.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

### "Heavenly Priorities"

(Continued from page four) to Him. How about it, Rabbi John?" John said:

"I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him. A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven. He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly. He must IN-CREASE, but I must DECREASE" -John 3:27-30.

I want to tell you, John the Baptist had a proper perspective so far as Heavenly priority was concerned. The Lord Jesus Christ was to come first. He said, "It Perhaps this is true more often doesn't make any difference if all then we think. Perhaps our God my crowd goes away and if all my is too small. We are small people crowd turns to Jesus. I am not and we have small thoughts of our worthy to pick up His shoes and God. Not so the woman in our bring them into the house. He text. She had great thoughts of must increase, but I must de-

We have another example of Jesus let alone actually speak to Heavenly priority in the case of If ever there of herself and the disciples im- was a man who lived in the light plored the Lord to send her away. of what he taught, it was this he ought to live for the Lord Jesus Christ, and I am thrilled and amazed as I read it. I hear Paul say:

"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do ALL TO THE GLORY of God" -I Cor. 10:31

When you munch even a sandwich, or if you pick up even a piece of candy and put it in your mouth, or if you take a glass of water and use it to quench your thirst, it ought to always be with the thought in mind - I'm doing this for the glory of God. That is Heavenly priority.

I turn to the Book of Revelation and I heard the Lord Jesus Christ say

"And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his

Beloved, in that closing chap-Him to be interested in. If we ter, the Lord Jesus Christ said, want to receive we must ask. May "I'll still remind you that I am it please our Lord to give us an first. I'll be the last also, but I understanding of the wealth of am first." Beloved, Jesus Christ His abundance, that we may, like is to come first. That is Heavenly

NOT EVERY MAN HAS PUT GOD FIRST.

Even in the Bible, men didn't put God first always. Adam oh, what a failure he was in puthis body. See him and Eve as of Jacob"—Gen. 35:5. they peep around from behind the bushes of that tree to see if

There have been a number of Baptists down through the years Oh, it was a long stormy journey that have done exactly like Adam. for him to get there. He was put There has been many a Baptist by his brothers into the pit, and who has failed to put God first, sold by his brothers to the Ishwho, just like Adam, has had maelites. He was then resold to God call and say, "Where art the house of Potiphar, in the land

done this and put God first, and God has blessed them.

FIRST?

Take Enoch, for example. We

"Enoch walked with God and was not, for God took him." Gen. 5:24.

Look at Enoch. Oh, what a man he was! He had a family to rear, just like you. He had a sinful you. He had all the recreation and pleasures of life to appeal and beckon to him, just like you. He had everything to contend with God. Oh, what an example he is to us - a man who recognized Heavenly priority.

There was another man who it really paid big dividends. That was Jacob. For thirty years, he didn't walk with God. For thirty years, he lived out there in the land of Padan-aram, trading and trafficking with his father-in-law, and skinning and scheming and cheating his father-in-law, and lying to his brother Esau. Finalhe had to put God first. The nations were rising up roundabout to slay him. What is he going to do? The Word of God says that he said, "I have no place to go," and he didn't. He couldn't go back to his father-in-law. That last stormy meeting they had at Mizpah surely wouldn't allow him to go back, because they stood on each side of the altar and said, "The Lord watch between me and thee, while we are absent one from another." The Lord was the only one who could watch between those two rascals. Neither one of them trusted the He couldn't go back to Laban, his father-in-law

He couldn't go to Esau. He had lied to Esau and said, "You go along and I and the little ones and the flocks will follow along behind you." Just as soon as Esau was over the hill, Jacob turned roundabout face and went in the opposite direction. He didn't want to live with Esau. He had lied to him. He couldn't go to Esau for help.

What could he do? Where could he go? He, himself, said, "I have no place to go." Then God said, "Yes, there is a place where you can go. You can go back to Bethel. That is the place where you first met me. That is the place where you ought to have been going these thirty years. You go back to Bethel. Then we read:

ting God first! Look at him as he terror of God was upon the cities "And they journeyed: and the hides in the Garden of Eden. See that were round about them, and him with those aprons covering they did not pursue after the sons

I ask you, did it pay Jacob to give God priority? Even the fear God is still there. He wasn't put- of God fell upon these people to ting God first. He was hiding the extent that they didn't pursue after Jacob.

I see Joseph down in Egypt. thou?" But there are some indi- of Egypt. He was lied upon by viduals in the Bible who have Mrs. Potiphar who had designing

(Continued From Page Three) DOES IT PAY TO PUT HIM Pharisees, but He did not tell His disciples to hold meetings, Bible conferences and other things like that with them.

A Review Of Baptist Ecclesiology

And your practice is so novel that you will LOOK IN VAIN FOR IT IN ANY COUNTRY BEFORE THE 1800's except in a few isolated cases like John Bunyan and Robert Hall's. It came out of the great revivals of the early 1800's which also produced the Campbellites and many other unscriptural churches and your Pedobaptist friends went around like dogs, barking world in which to live, just like and foaming at the mouth. That is really N.T. Christianity and Holy Spirit movement isn't it? I think not! I think it was nothing but demonism. B. W. Stone, who was a Pedobaptist preacher at the time, didn't even believe in the full deity of Jesus Christ, that you and I have to contend and Alexander Campbell didn't even believe in the Trinity of with, but Enoch walked with Divine Persons. They started the so-called Church of Christ. Why is it, Brother T., that the Baptists were kept from all these foolish things while your pedobaptists went about like animals?

11) Since your so-called TRUE, MYSTICAL, INVISIBLE walked with God and found that CHURCH is the more important of the two churches which you believe in, then your ecclesiology should be Scriptural both in theory and in practice. Therefore, give us one clear example or statement of fact or predicted command wherein baptized believers are to join in equal manner with those who are unbaptized and walking not according to the order, traditions and customs of N.T. Christians.

12) Brother T., there were heresies in the N.T. age. There ly, he got in such a place that were those who walked not according to the commandments and doctrines of Christ then as well as now. I believe that I can find a heresy and distortion in that early age which equals everyone I can find among our Pedobaptist friends. But the point is, I CANNOT FIND ANY UNION MEETINGS WITH THE N.T. CHURCHES AND CHRISTIANS WITH THE FOLLOWING:

1) The Ebionites and Nazarenes;

- 2) Hermogenes, Phygellus, Demas, and Diotrephes, who were not heretics but WALKED NOT ACCORDING TO N.T. ORDER.
- 3) Hymenaeus;
- 4) The Gnostics:
- 5) Simon Magus, who was not a corrupter, but an opposer of Christianity; and Dositeus;
- 6) Menander:
- 7) The Nicolaitanes,
- 8) and Cerinthus . . .

These different persons all had followings, but can you imagine for a few moments the type of thing which would be necessary if Reformed Baptist Ecclesiology is right? Let us use my imagination for a few moments and place our age and its Reformed Baptist polity back in the N.T. times and writings.

Today I received my July-August edition of The Sword and Trowel, and it has its customary articles by both Pedobaptists and some Reformed Baptists. There are Bible conferences announced and the schedules given, on pages 14 and 15. So let's play a bit here.

Subjects are: total depravity,

atonement saving faith assurance revival the Second Coming Attributes of God Personal Evangelism.

The speakers range from Reformed Baptists to Reformed everything. The meeting is to be at the Union Church in New (Continued on Page Six)

part and mine.

I would have you to notice Daniel. It is very, very rare that Testament who, one day, was cutfairs from one regime of govern-

God, I say, demanded something. No Jew was to eat pork.

eyes for him. Look at Joseph for from Palestine. Why not go on two long years in prison, in the and eat the pork, and drink-the dungeon. Does it pay to try to wine, and have a good time? put God first? Does it pay to ob- Nobody would know anything serve Heavenly priorities? I see about it back home. Yes, but God Joseph come out of that pit to would know about it, and Dan-emerge as the first ruler in all iel said, "I can't do it." I see him the land. I tell you, beloved, it emerge as the leading man in pays big for God to have first three regimes, and down to the place, and there should be Heav- age of 90 years, in all the land of enly priorities considered on your Babylon. Beloved, it pays to put God first.

I remember a woman in the Old a man ever succeeds in being ting some wood and was getting transferred in governmental af- ready to take the last handful of meal she had in the barrel and ment to another. But Daniel was the last little bit of oil she had transferred three times. He was in the cruse — in other words, (Continued on page 6, column 1)

> THE BAPTIST EXAMINER JANUARY 17, 1976 PAGE FIVE

### NEW GUINEA PHOTO STORY

Over the years some churches have felt sorry for some the biggest man in all the land the last shortening and the last of these brethren such as Alo and have offered to supplement of Babylon. Three different times meal that she has — to make some their salary or support them completely. Beloved, please do and down to old age, he was still bread for her son. She said, "It not feel sorry for them to this extent, for I have taught these the biggest man in all the land is the last. We'll eat and die." We highly recommend this churches to be self-supporting churches and for churches back of Babylon. Why? Back yonder The man of God said, "No, you commentary. It is written in such there or elsewhere to start supporting these pastors would as a boy, when the king set wine bake the bread for me. I am God's only undo what I have already taught them. All of these before him, he said, "I will not man." This woman wasn't a Jew. looking for the best on John's preachers are happy in their work for the Lord and count drink it." Did it pay? God took but a Syrian, and somehow God Gospel, we suggest that you get whatever they get as from the Lord. What a blessing it is to be care of him. privileged to work with a group of preachers like these that

are so happy in their calling and work! This will conclude our pictures for a while. We have other Daniel refused to eat pork and P. O. Box 910, Ashland, Ky. 41101 film exposed but due to circumstances have not been able to drink wine. Daniel said, "I can't get prints made. In due time we expect to have some more. do it." He is five hundred miles

(Continued from page 5) gave her faith to do that very thing. She made bread for this man of God, with the result that he ate, she and her son ate, and flour there, there was oil there, and throughout all the period of wasted not away.

first place in our life.

#### A TEST FOR US TODAY.

little test and see. You say, "Bro. about Daniel and Joseph, and Jacob, and Enoch. Talk about those individuals who lived way back there." But, beloved, let's come down to the pew where you are, and let's see whether it is just this fine.

In the matter of recreation, let's get right down where you live. They can be understood only as like recreation of various types enant head. - I'm not particularizing, but does God come first or does recreation come first?

"Oh, Brother Gilpin, if you had just quit before you said that. It has been a good sermon — you have ruined the whole thing now, making this personal application."

Let's look at it again, in your church attendance. If something else comes up in the world, which gets priority? Does the experience of the world, or does your church attendance? I contend that every Baptist who is a member of this church ought to be in attendance Sunday morning, Sunday night, Wednesday night, and any first? I tell you, Heavenly prior- righteous (Rom. 5:19). ities ought to mean something said to you thus far.

"Heavenly Priorities" giving God first place, even in neither was guile found in his our offerings? My brother, my mouth" (I Peter 2:22). sister, I plead with you to remember the experiences that I have referred to, and to leave this place, if you are saved, with this thought in mind - "Heavshe went back to the barrel of enly priorities mean something to flour the next day. There was me they have never meant be-

To that one who is lost, may I the famine, the meal didn't fail say, God pity you. Heaven has in the barrel and the cruse of oil no place in your life. God has never yet been at all seriously I tell you, beloved, it is won- considered by you. I feel for you. derful when we get to the place My heart bleeds for those of you that we are living in the light who are lost. I pray for you. I of Heavenly priority, giving God ask God to save you. I can't save you. The church can't save you. You can't save yourself. I pray God to save you, that you might become a member of this body, Do you try to give God first and then that all of us together place in your life? Let's take a might consider Heavenly priorities as the biggest thing of our Gilpin, this is wonderful. Talk lives, and that we might live in the light thereof.

May God bless you!

### The Son's Part

(Continued from page two)

#### CHRIST THE MEDIATOR

Another office Christ fills in the covenant is that of mediator. In Hebrews 8:6 He is said to be "the mediator of a better covenant." Christ is well qualified for this position as He is the Middle Person in the Trinity. By His incarnation He became a suitable mediator between God and man. man and the other Divine. This causes Him to be concerned with God's glory and man's salvation.

#### MEDIATOR HAD TO BE A MAN

To redeem the chosen people, Christ had to become a man. He special services that come up un- had to become a man capable of less you have a reason that would obeying the law man had broken. be approved by a good conscience A perfect obedience was essential before God. Does God come first to the sinner's justification before with you? Do you make it a God. Christ was made under the point to be in God's house, or do law (Gal. 4:4) "so by the obeyou allow other things to come dience of one" many were made

The mediator had to be a man to us in the light of what I have to suffer death, for God could not hath made him to be sin for us, by him do believe in God." die. He had to be a kinsman to who knew no sin; that we might Look at it from the standpoint be able to sympathize with the be made the righteousness of God of your offerings. I shouldn't say elect in their trials and tempta- in him (H Cor. 5:19-21). The elect anything about offerings for God tion (Heb. 4:15). The go-between are righteous in the sight of God is so good to us as a church. No had to be a sinless man so He in their covenant head and surety church anywhere, I am satisfied, offered Himself without spot to (Rom. 8:1-4; 10:4). vary Baptist Church, and I thank was the only sinless man who ever God because of it. But, beloved, lived since the fall of Adam. Peter when you think about it, are we said of Him: "Who did no sin,

#### MEDIATOR HAD TO BE GOD

ator to be an innocent man, He must be God to be the mediator between God and man. The One who was made flesh was God and with the Father in eternity past (John 1:1-3). The divinity of Christ added value and virtue to His sufferings and death. The mediator must be God to be the object of trust, worship, honor, and

The Covenant of Grace viewed the elect as fallen creatures. Christ as their mediator made reconciliation and satisfaction for their sins. "And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled in the body of his flesh through death" (Col.

He as our mediator intercedes for us upon the basis of His satisfaction. John tells us: "If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (I John 2:1). The people of God are reconciled to God by His sufferings and death, and we are kept saved through His You and I, regardless of our age, we realize our position in our cov- interceding life. This seems to be the meaning of Romans 5:9-10: "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life."

#### CHRIST THE SURETY

The suretyship of Christ is an-He possesses two natures, one hu- other branch of His mediatorial office. Hebrews 7:22 reads: "By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better covenant." Christ put Himself in our place and stead (Prov. 22:26). He engaged to perform everything for us that should be required of Him. He took the

### OF THE COVENANT

pentance, faith, baptism, and obe- walls. dience to God's law. If such

form is the ground and condition of the Covenant of Grace. The covenant was conditioned upon dience of One shall many be made righteous" (Rom. 5:19). He fulfilled all righteousness for His harvest, but, alas, the labourers people (Matt. 3:15). The coven- are few. A church without evan-

as its redeemer is but the confession that Christ's finished covenant work is the ground of salvation. By faith we personally embrace the covenant and rest in its conditions fulfilled for us by our

Repentance and faith are not

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER JANUARY 17, 1976 PAGE SIX

### A Review of Baptist Ecclesiology

(Continued From Page Five) It was not enough for the medi- Jersey. Now, here is my point - can't you see Paul, from Antioch announcing a GREAT BIBLE CONFERENCE FROM THE UNION MISSIONARY CHURCH AT ANTIOCH . . . the following subjects will be:

Total Depravity by Hermogenes The Atonement by Phygellus, Saving Faith by Demas, Assurance by Diotrephes, Revivals by Hymenaeus, The Second Coming by Simon Magus, The Attributes of God by Dositeus, Personal Evangelism by Menander,

Church Polity by Cerinthus. Yes, I can just see Paul setting this Bible Conference up with these first century heretics who lived DURING THE VERY DAYS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT WRITERS AND APOS-TLES! The point is this . . . in the N.T. days there were heretics and those who destroyed the faith and order of the N.T. BUT THE CHRISTIANS AND MINISTERS DID NOT JOIN IN WITH THEM, BUT LEFT THEM ALONE, HAD NO COMPANY WITH THEM AND CONSIDERED THEM AS TURNED OVER TO THE WORLD AND SATAN! Show us your N.T. model for such a polity which you REFORMED BAPTISTS PRACTICE!

13) If in the N.T. we find your great, true, mystical, invisible, universal church which is above the local and visible church, then it would seem also that we can also find the great features in just as clear terms as we find those characteristics which we know with truth and assurance, belong to the LOCAL AND VISIBLE CHURCHES. But, always, the spiritual attributes For if, when we were enemies, are attributed to members of local churches and there is no spiritual attribute pointed out in the N.T. which is beyond those in local churches. The spiritual and the visible are joined together in the N.T. and this is done in such a manner that those who are not walking according to God's will, in a visible manner, WILL NOT SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD, BUT WILL HEAR CHRIST SAY . . . "Depart from me, I never knew you."

Well, I must close now to continue with the conclusion to chapters one and two next week if the Lord so wills.

Until then, I remain yours in the Old Landmarks.

R. E. POUND II

(Continued Next Week)

whole debt of His people upon Him- the conditions of entrance into the hearts that are fired with love for self and became responsible for it. covenant. Instead, they are the lost. Beside the casket that Isaiah 53:6 declares: "And the gifts and blessings of grace prom- contained all that was mortal of Lord hath laid on him the iniquity ised to the covenant people. That Raphael, was his last and unfinof us all." In II Corinthians 5:19 is why Acts 15:31 tells us Christ ished work, the Transfiguration. Paul tells us: "To wit, that God as the administrator of the coven- Will Christ find the work of the was in Christ, reconciling the world ant "gives repentance." That is churches unfinished when He unto himself, not imputing their why I Peter 1:21 says concerning comes again? trespasses unto them . . . For he Christ our covenant head: "Who

## "Ichabod"

(Continued from page one) has the financial record of Cal- God (I Peter 1:18-19). Jesus Christ THE GROUND AND CONDITION world and preach the gospel to preached Gospel, and to them, and No covenant theologian can deny is not moved by the deathless de- sources, must the world look for the Covenant of Grace contains sire to bring others to the Lamb the Gospel. The church that has some conditions. Arminians would of God for sinners slain, may see committed its Christ-commanded make these conditions to be re- a hand, writing "Ichabod" on its task to other hands, has already

> things were the conditions of en- few, and others no converts during much of our modern evangelism is trance into the Everlasting Coven- the entire year. Can it be, that ence which can never be (I Cor. those who have no yearning to im-Arminians seem not to realize quest for Christ is the day-dream that which Christ agreed to per- of the Christian, and he knows his dream shall come true, when Christ shall come. "Lift up your heads, oh ye gates, and be lifted up ye everlasting doors and the King of Glory shall come in."

Surely the fields are white unto ant people are "made the right. gelistic fire is but a lighthouse eousness of God in him" (II Cor, upon a bleak and barren shore, but without a light. In the last The soul's acceptance of Christ analysis, Christ can never be a reality to us, until we feel that He is a necessity to others. If we feel that the world can get along without Christ, there is no reason why we should not try to get along without Him.

Oh, that all our churches might return unto their love for the lost, that they may be revived, and The glory of the church is gone

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that evangelism should emanate from, and return to, the churches, and an evangelism should emanate from, and return to, Christ and any other should not be countenanced. The churches the Master. "Go ye into all the are the divine custodians of a every creature." The church that not to other and independent lost its glory.

Many of our churches report but It is unquestionably true that not only spurious, but exceedingly ant, then the person who does any church is unconcerned about harmful. It discounts Deity, and things could plead these as the souls of the lost. Can a church cheapens Christ. The cause of Christianity has been commercialized in the house of its professed ists seem to know neither God nor part Him to others? Universal con- the spirit of evangelism and with grammar, though well skilled in the art of securing cash for themselves. With an endless repertoire of occurrences, that never occurred, and with vulgar illustrations that aptly illustrate their own coarse and vulgar minds, they "drag their weary length along."

> A church does well to become even convalescent in a decade after a visit from one of these puerile peripatetics. It is high time the churches should take charge of their own work, ere their glory is gone, and their work end-All honor to the many and unselfish evangelists who are wearing their lives away that others may have life, and have it more abundantly.

#### FAITHFULNESS IS NEEDED

teach transgressors the way! The when its places popularity above ungodly are a trust that God has faithfulness. To fill the pews and committed to His churches. This the church coffers, appear to be trust can only be administered in (Continued on page 7, column 4)

## Send TBE FREE! TO A YOUNG PREACHER

with the "strong meat" of the Word - which we know they the ground for the benefits which continue as a church and negaare not getting in most seminaries, Bible colleges and Bible he received. This would permit tive the very purpose of its existinstitutes. In order to reach them, we are willing to send TBE sinful flesh to boast in God's presence? Will Christ continue with friends. Some so-called evangelto them for one year free of charge.

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

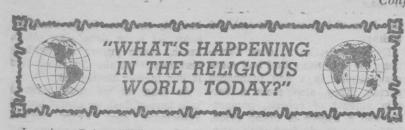
Does this sacrifice pay off? It certainly does! We have Christ's obedience: "By the obebefore sent TBE to young men who - as a result of help received from the paper - are now standing firm as a rock for the faith. And, think of the good their preaching will do In years to come!

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in Nairobi, Kenya, that Christen- for raising children. dom must help destroy the captrace of imperialism and colonialism." This speech was applauded Orthodox delegates who were pres- benefit of the Third World.

Lenin who said that capitalism had rubies? . . . She openeth her to be totally annihilated. It is a well established fact that the Com- tongue is the law of kindness" munists have taken over the World (Prov. 31:10, 26). Council of Churches in the same manner that they have taken over the United Nations.

democratic governments. Now class. only one out of four people live in freedom. Most of the nations recently halted a policy which had turning to Communism have been allowed children to be excused durthe biggest guzzlers of U.S. for-

There is a growing hard-core within the Women's Lib Movement that we must keep our eyes upon. Some of them like Germaine Greer, Gloria Steinem, Betty Freidan and others hold extreme left-wing political views. Their constant use of such words as "oppression," "liberation," "exploitation," and "sexism" indicate that they have something in common with Marxist revolutionaries.

that the women libbers adopted the clenched fist as their symbol. In- to help local liquor stores and bars He was released on a \$1,000 bond. formed people know that this is compete with those in Maryland,

Lib seek far more than just equal until 2 a. m. pay for equal work. It is freedom from Biblical morality that they ing age was part of a measure Thanksgiving dinner with him.

Jamaican Prime Minister Mich- really seek. They are advocating ael Manley told the fifth assembly the destruction of the family and of the World Council of Churches a totalitarian state-run dormitory

At the International Women's italism and create a new economic Conference held last summer in order. Manley said organized Mexico City, the theme was not church must support liberation equal opportunities for women. struggles and eliminate "every Instead, it was the promulgation of an international welfare state, Evangelist Kathryn Kuhlman was Bible is underway in Poland. whereby the "declining capitalist" by the nearly 800 Protestant and economies would be soaked for the

Manley spoke the old doctrine of an? for her price is far above rity would delegate much of her denomination Polish Ecumenical mouth with wisdom; and her

PITTSBURG, Calif. (EP)-More than 20 children of the 100-member Freedom and democracy are United Pentecostal Church here rapidly losing ground around the are being kept out of school by world. In 1950 half of the world's parents because they were forced population lived in nations with to watch television and movies in

> The area public school districts schedule soon. ing periods when audio-visual materials are used, thus prompting

The Rev. Jack Edwards, pastor of the congregation, said "worldly members of the Unification Church by their peers" because of their movies are sinful.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (EP) -Washington's City Council has der surveillance by the two men. passed a package of bills which would lower the drinking age from lowers of the Rev. Sun Myung County of a teacher like Mrs. The soul of music shed, 21 to 18, allow liquor stores to Moon are called - David M. Byer, remain open until midnight six 24, of Tampa, Fla., was charged nights a week, and reduce the liq- with possession of a dangerous

the symbol of the Black revolu- where the legal drinking age for 21, of Anchorage, Alaska, was not principal began monitoring her hard liquor is 18 and where liquor charged. According to police re-

marry and enter into contracts Turner could lead them to Wendy without the consent of parents. Helander of New York City, a Councilman Jerry Moore, a Baptist "Moonie" who has been missing minister, was the lone opponent of from one of the sect's churches this measure.

Councilman John Wilson, sponsor of the bills, hailed the passage what the two men wanted from of the 18-year-olds measure. "Most him. He told police that he forci-18-year-olds," he said, "are inde- bly removed his daughter, Shelley, pendent and on their own so they from the Unification Church last should be given all the opportuni- year and she was subsequently ties of an adult . . . they are adult "deprogrammed" from the beliefs for all practical purposes."

ing a collapse caused by "physical and distribution of 50,000 copies of exhaustion and a heart flare up," a new Polish translation of the released from a Los Angeles hos-

"Who can find a virtuous wom- personality and faith-healing celeb- translation, sponsored by the eight-

### Subscribe For The Baptist Examiner

return to her normal speaking prayer and Bible readings.

For most of her 10-day hospital experience the preacher was in a coronary intensive care unit where she received intravenous feeding.

were questioned by police here after a Warwick resident - the father of a former sect membercomplained that his home was un-

One of the "Moonies"-as fol-It is not without significance uor tax from \$2 to \$1.50 a gallon. weapon (a shaft used in martial The liquor legislation is intended arts) and a noxious liquid, Mace.

> parked in a car near the residence odist church. A bill lowering the legal drink- of Albert Turner, hoping to have

allowing 18-year-olds the right to They also said they hoped Mr. Eld. Fred T. Hallimon since Nov. 23.

Mr. Turner said he did not know of the sect.

LOS ANGELES (EP) - Follow- NEW YORK (EP) - Printing

The currently influential Polish translation, the Gdanska Bible, An associate said that the TV was issued in 1632. The new Council, is meant for both study and worship services.

TALLAHASSEE (EP)—Teachers in Okaloosa County have filed a \$650,000 damage suit against the school superintendent and four of the five school board members. The teachers contend they are being forced to disobey the law bework to aides and that she would cause of a board policy requiring

> A district judge has issued a temporary injunction stopping the devotionals, 12 years after the U. S. Supreme Court ruled required prayers and Bible readings are unconstitutional.

The teachers say they have been WARWICK, R. I. (EP) - Two "shunned, avoided, and ostracized quently. His address is: stand against the policy.

Their complaint also says that Supt. Max Bruner, Jr., said of the chief instigator of the suit, "If there was any way that I could Kemp, I would do so."

math teacher, said that when she tried to circumvent the board's policy by allowing students to meditate or pray silently, instead of classes. Mrs. Kemp, 21, also The militant element of Women's stores are allowed to remain open ports, the two men said they were teaches Bible classes at a Meth-

> ROME (EP - As 10,000 Italian women marched through the city demanding legalized abortion in Italy, a permissive abortion bill cleared a major hurdle in the legislature with the defeat of an amendment that would have restricted its provisions.

The Soviet authorities have confiscated the furniture of the faprison in the far reaches of Siberia. His trial is being paid for by the preacher and hearers from the forced sale of his furniture. The house they had contaminated. It is Vins family now sleep on the

Vins, Georgi Petrovici, lukutsk, lakutsk Soviet Republic, Soviet Union.

### "Ichabod"

(Continued from page 6) the dominating desire of many frequently "can he draw

One of the most common devices his mission and ministry. for catching the crowd is the picture show. There are many who would rightly prefer attending a picture show on Sunday night, in a place made for the business, than in the house of God. That the churches of the living God should be disgraced and God's habitation defiled by the picture show, is a painful evidence of departed glory. We may well apply the lament of

tricks to entrap the unwary.

### Missionary To New Guinea



FRED T. HALLIMAN

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

Write Brother Halliman fre-

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

"The harp that once through

Now hangs as mute as Tara's walls Champee Kemp, a sixth-grade As though that soul were dead."

> Unfortunatley, the church that makes a business of "drawing," rarely succeeds in holding. When once a church resorts to sensationalism, it must be prepared to go the limit of this sort of thing. Like the drunkard, or dope fiend, the sensation mongers will demand an ever increasing amount. That which amuses today, will be tame tomorrow. If the picture show is now necessary to fill the pews, it will not be long till recourse to the low vaudeville will be needed. Surely, where the picture show has been substituted for the Gospel, the glory of the church has departed, and the glory of the picture show appeared.

Imagine, if you can, Christ conmous underground Baptist leader, ducting a picture performance in Georgi Vins. Elder Vins is now one of His churches. We may far serving a five-year sentence in more easily imagine Him with a whip of small cords scourging better to please God than men. We may as well learn, once for The prison address of Brother all, that the Gospel is not popuwith unregenerate Uch., p/ya, IDA 40/7 "D," Tabaga, Christ's kingdom is not of this world, and does not appeal to worldly-minded men and women. Christ rendered himself so unpopular, that He was crucified. "Woe unto me when all men speak well of me," is as true today as in the long gone centuries.

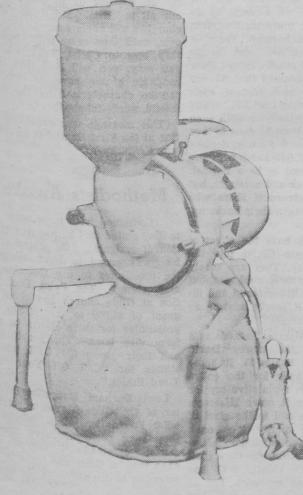
Alas, how many of our preachchurches. In seeking a minister, ers, with the very best intentions, Pulpit Committees ask far more have crucified their usefulness by a striving to please the people rathcrowd?" than "can he preach the er than God. Better the preacher Gospel?" Feeling that the church be crucified with Christ, in body will be disappointed unless he fills and spirit, than be crowned by the pews, the preacher often re- the admiring multitude, for supsorts to catchy methods and cheap pressing the truth, as it is in Christ Jesus, "Ichabod" rightly describes

#### A GIVING CHURCH

The glory of a church is turned to shame when it ceases to be a giving church. The world may not know our creed, but it understands our collection. The world, (Continued on page 8, column 5)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER JANUARY 17, 1976 PAGE SEVEN

### LEE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR MILL



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#### Good Manners

(Continued from page one) did it amazingly well. However, his task is not ours. Paul enjoins thusly, "And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, pa- they learned a certain amount of urchins but children of the King. tient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth" (II Timothy 2:24-25). We find a good bit of doctrine expounded, but there is a dearth of meekness.

I never read Macbeth without people. This sanguinary fray deto God that we would trace our manners to the cross and learn humble Jesus. Baptist people not amenable and never shall be. should display good manners and

it is Satan's deception.

It troubles me when I see liketracts from everything we under- manners. Dear brother or sister friends, we should know better if your religious convictions without us from any such defense. anyone should. We trace our a display of ill manners you are churches back to Jerusalem. Would deceived. IT IS NOT CHRIST THAT YOU ARE PROMOTING, BUT YOURSELF. Search the something more of the meek and Book. Churlishness and Christ are

It is a disagreeable truth that common decency if anyone should. the heathen often display better What glory do we bring to Christ manners than the children of God. when we act like a group of ban- What a tragedy it is when intel-

Italian melodrama? Let me say Apostle tells us that when he be-feelings. it clearly and I'll restate it later: came a man he put away childish Do not mistake it, dear Chris- much, much prayer and with a STANDING FOR THE TRUTH IS things. What a glory it would be tian; the only thing that bad man-certainty that the Spirit of God NO EXCUSE FOR BAD MAN- to Christ and what an ornament ners display is a bad mannered is our mentor throughout. it would be to our churches if person. They also show a cer- As long as we must contend I have known folk who were Baptists would likewise put away tain amount of conceit, pompos- with human flesh we cannot expect very personable and likeable until childish things. We are not street ity and a degree of cheap pride. agreement upon every refined

the change was no nuance either. as a guise to cover evil. There bers," but let me speak for a own hearts to treat each other with Instead of civility there came caus- has been more evil perpetrated moment on "numbers." Numeri- respect, love and consideration. Let ticity. Instead of pleasantness of in the name of, and under the guise cally, Independent Baptists are a us have done with anything that manner there comes a scathing of, religion than anything else. A minority. There just aren't that would detract from the glory of word. Do not tell me it doesn't wise philosopher once said, "What many of us. It troubles me when our Saviour. happen, it does, and when it does men do in the name of evil is I see fragmentation in our ranks, very minute. BUT GOD PROTECT particularly, when the cause is with the churches of Jesus Christ US FROM WHAT MEN DO IN nothing more than a simple lack wherever they be and whatever ting and in-fighting among Baptist able brethren use their defense THE NAME OF GOOD." Bad of good manners. We have a suf- they be. Be they ever so steeped of the faith as an excuse for bad manners and argumentative beha- ficient number of enemies without in iniquity and be they ever so viour are displayed in order to de- making enemies of each other. take for Christ. For God's sake, in Christ, if you cannot express fend the GOOD. May God protect I extend the hand of fellowship I love them. I love them because

of quoting from the writings of an various points. We might have author that I will identify later.

taken the way myself, although I ology, administrative procedure, take upon me to teach it to others. etc., It is probable many will think to fellowship with the churches this; and it is very possible that of Jesus Christ. A man doesn't I have. But I trust, whereinso- have to agree with me on all points ever I have mistaken, my mind is of thought in order to be my friend. open to conviction. I sincerely desire to be better informed. say to God and man, "What I know not, teach thou me.'

"Are you persuaded you more clearly than me? It is not unlikely that you may. Then treat me as you would desire to be treated yourself upon a change of circumstances. Point me out a better way than I have yet known. Show me it is so, by plain proof of Scripture. And if I linger in the path I have been accustomed to tread, and am therefore unwilling to leave it, labour with me a little; take me by the hand, and lead me as I am able to bear. But be not displeased if I entreat you not to beat me down in order to quicken my pace: I can go but feebly and slowly at best; then, I should not be able to go at all. May I not request of you, further, not to give me hard names, in order to bring me into the right way? Suppose I were ever so much in the wrong, I doubt this would not set me right. Rather, it would make me run so much the farther from you and so get more and more out of the way.

"Nay, perhaps, if you are angry, so shall I be, too; and then there will be small bones of finding the truth. If once anger arises, that smoke will so dim the eyes that shall be able to see nothing clearly. For God's sake, if it be possible to avoid it, let us not provoke one another to wrath. Let us not kindle in each other this fire of hell; much less blow it up into a flame. If we could discern truth by that dreadful light, would it not be loss rather than gain? For, how far is love, even with many wrong opinions, to be pre-

This quotation is taken from the scarcely necessary to say that He may be weak and untaught, but thing of good manners and de- on him? of my study as a constant remind- ranks of heresy. They are surely

Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_ Subs He uses it to describe the dissolution of the elements and the qual-Your Name ity of love among the saints. Our love is to be "fervent." It should be fervent enough to burn away

> THE BAPTIST EXAMINER JANUARY 17, 1976 PAGE EIGHT

I would like to take the liberty We might agree or disagree on reason could there be? diverse understandings concerning "But some may say, I have mis- doctrine, mission work methodhowever, I stand prepared

> The family of God is an amalgam of differing elements; yet, these elements are synthesized into an effective, coordinated whole by God. Just because we differ we need not be difficult. We can concontentious. We can vindicate our doctrinal position without being vindictive. We must be intransigent for Christ but not at the expense of demeaning each other.

> codex of doctrinal thought and inveigh those who do not follow their personal deliniation point by point. The Codexes of men are NOT petroglyphs written by the hand of God. God wrote the Bible but men codify and categorize Bodies of Divinity and Confessions of Faith. Even though Bodies of Divinity might have putative acceptance, they are not the final point of reference. We are not to venerate the writings of men, or the particular doctrinal systems of men. Our's is a concentric relationship with Christ; we do not revolve around the thoughts of men, be they ever so spiritual and wise.

If there was ever a time in our enemies of all we attempt to do for Christ. The more we fragment the weaker we become. There is God, He has ordained that we are to strengthen and sustain each other. If Baptists MUST, really MUST, break fellowship with each ferred before truth itself without other, let it at least be done in love and compassion. I, for one, deplore the breaking of fellowship with any Baptist, if indeed he be a Baptist. Wesley was not a Baptist. Be it how shall he learn if those who

those who are ill-tempered and ill-I fully realize that my manners mannered shall surely answer as

The noun "Miserere" stands as a synonym for the mercy David will use this message as a touch- writings it stands for the entire Psalm, for it is a plaintive cry for God, to have mercy upon each other. The divine enjoinder "blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy" (Matt. 5:7) has surely not been repealed. Let us be careful in our manners lest tice. God cause us to receive in proagree, then please let us not ha- Ill., 60642. rangue each other in a proud and

ditti assassins in a poorly directed ligent adults act like children. The the dross of bad manners and bad haughty manner. If we must rebuke, let it be done after much,

I am not overly fond of the var- point of thought. However, we doctrine. Then they changed and Religion has always been used ious ministries that dote on "num- should ratify a concordat in our

> My prayers and concern are strayed from the path of truth, yet to any Baptist who will receive if. Christ loves them. What greater

## "Ichabod"

(Continued from page seven) right or wrong, will judge a church by its practical worth to a sinful and dying world. It can clearly demonstrate its value by its sacrifices. The church that lives for itself, will sooner or later die of selfishness. The church that does not give out, should not take in. A spiritual sponge is worth nothing to God, or man. God tells us to prove Him, not by our songs tend for the faith without being or sermons, or prayers, but by our pocketbook.

"Bring ye, all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of It is a pitable state when breth- Hosts, if I will not open you the ren arbitrarily institute their own windows of Heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there will not be room enough to receive it."

> Here the tithe is clearly made the one condition of a great blessing. Many excuses are made for not giving to Him, who gave all to us, but the real excuse is ordinary covetousness. It is not the stringency of the times, but the "stringency" of the people. The church that gives, is the church that lives, and the one that withholds, is already negotiating for an inglorious grave.

There are many graces, but none more gracious than the grace of giving. Every sacrifice will seem easy and blessed, if we keep before our eyes the sacrfiice made history that Baptist people needed for our redemption. After all, we to be one in spirit it is now. These are all proportionate givers, that fragmenting dichotomies that are is, we give in proportion to our executed under the pretext of religion. He who gave His life "standing for the truth" are the for us, expects us to consecrate our all to Him. Many of our churches will never come into their own, until they come with the all strength in numbers, and though they own to Christ. Seek where our strength in reality comes from you may, you will find that the condition of the covetous church can be characterized by the one fateful word-Ichabod!

(This message was preached in 1921 at the First Baptist in Lexington, Kentucky.)

### Methodists Awake

(Continued from page one) The manners have the effect of to die" stated that he has no intention of resigning. He stated that he "was proud to have allowed the prostitutes to use the church auditorium." The Point Foundation at Glide church has given a grant of \$5,000 to this group of prostitutes for their efforts to reform vice laws. The prostitutes call their group COYOTE which stands for "Call Off Your Old Tired Ethics."

Lewis Durham, Executive Director of the Glide Memorial Methodist Foundation, has admitted they have performed five homosexual "ceremonies" (marriages) each year at Glide and there is no intention of discontinuing the prac-

Bible-believing Methodists who portion as we have given. If anger would desire more information of indeed arise, let it be ephemeral this controversial matter should and repented of quickly before fur- write to: United Methodists for ther harm is done. If we cannot Methodism, Box 42773, Chicago,

-Baptist Beacon

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