

# The Baptist Examiner

**Baptist Is Our Middle Name**

*Paid Circulation In All States And In Many Foreign Countries*

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

Vol. 46, No. 20

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, June 4, 1977

WHOLE NUMBER 2123

## WHAT ABOUT THE PANAMA CANAL?

By G. RUSSELL EVANS  
Norfolk, Virginia

*"Better know nothing than half-know many things"—Nietzsche.*

We are being told by our church leaders and new President that the United States must surrender the Panama Canal. We are being conditioned. This subject doesn't seem suitable for a religious paper. But it is one of those "all matters of concern" to the churches — and it cries out for the truth. Are we living in some kind of wonderland world where reason has turned into fantasy, integrity into illusion, and promises into improprieties and deception? Can we do nothing about it?

No! Not a thing if we continue to accept the smooth talk of some of our church leaders and politicians. Perhaps we should demand the truth and seek answers to ques-

tions regarding the Panama Canal, for example: (1) What are the true facts? (2) What is the position of our government? (3) What are the churches saying and why? (4) What can we do?

The news media are giving us an almost daily diet of surrender-the-Canal. Many church publications try to stir up a guilt complex over owning the Canal. And the U.S. State Department is going full steam ahead to give it away. We should decide what we can do! We can do something!

**Question No. 1:** What are the true facts? In 1903 the Hay-Banau-Varilla Treaty was signed, granting sovereignty, rights and power over the Canal Zone in perpetuity to the U.S. for the construction and operation of a canal. In order to persuade the U.S. to choose Panama instead of Nicaragua for the

canal, the Panamanian representative proposed a treaty which in five places used the words "in perpetuity" in describing U.S. title to the Canal Zone.

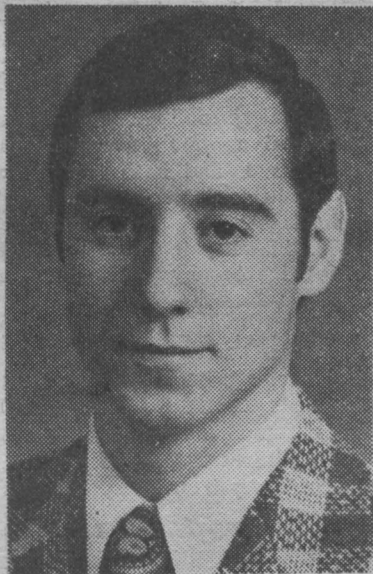
How did this treaty come about? Prior to the building of the Canal, free and neutral transit across the Isthmus of Panama was guaranteed by the 1846 Treaty of New Granada, under which the U.S. had international obligations. Under this treaty, the U.S. built the Panama Railroad. Prior to 1903, the U.S. intervened two times to preserve free and neutral transit (Continued on page 6, column 4)

## GOD CAME DOWN

TERRY TURNBEAUGH  
Clarksville, Tennessee

*"When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?" (Ps. 8:3-4).*

Many times, while being in the out-of-doors at night, these words have come to my lips. While standing there gazing into the magni-



TERRY TURNBEAUGH

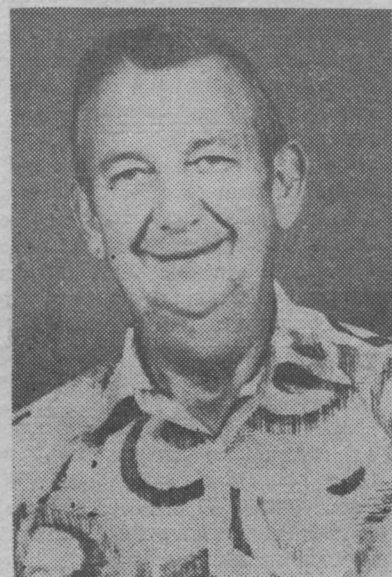
ficent heavens alone in the dark, the sweep of God's awesomeness causes my lips to utter praise and exclamations of wonder at the thought that He has considered me. Most of God's children have felt that same littleness in the shadow (Continued on page 8, column 1)

## Halliman's Report Concerns The Political Action In N.G.

By FRED T. HALLIMAN  
Missionary To New Guinea

Dear Friends:

Greetings to each of you in the name of our dear Lord. It has not been long since the last time I wrote, but during that time the Lord has blessed us in many ways.



FRED T. HALLIMAN

We try to be thankful for all His goodness, but I am sure there are many times we fail to express our thanks as we should.

Some times, weeks run into

months and I hear from scarcely anyone except my family, and then all of a sudden we get letters from many of our friends. The latter has been true for the past two or three weeks and we have rejoiced to hear from each of you.

On the political side of things here in Papua, New Guinea, there is an abundance of activity now as the country is getting ready to hold an election starting June 18. Due to so many remote areas to reach, it will take about a month to complete. I think there are 109 seats in Parliament here and there are some 1500 candidates trying for these 109 seats which means there are about 14 candidates, on an average, for each seat. Regardless of which party wins, we will have, predominantly, a Catholic government, as the leader of each major political party is Catholic and in the system of government we have here, which is the same as Australia and England, the leader of the party that wins the election automatically becomes Prime Minister.

Several of the leaders of the European Economic Community, sometimes called The European Common Market have recently been in Papua, New Guinea, securing many of the available raw materials and consumer goods that the (Continued on page 5, column 4)

## The Missionary's Message

By RAYMOND F. BENNETT  
Ithaca, New York

Much is said about the necessity of sending missionaries, and rightly so for not to send missionaries is not to honor the Lord's command. Often someone discusses missionary results, and this is also a worthy subject lest we who profess to believe in sovereign grace fall victim to the Arminian practice of counting numbers and

look at the missionary's message, or the message of missions. We will look at four aspects: The attitude towards sin, the evaluation of the sinner, the invitation, and the assurance.

### THE ATTITUDE TOWARDS SIN

The lost must be made to see that their salvation is of God or not at all (Jonah 2:9). They must be made to see sin as an affront to the thrice holy God, not simply a violation of the "Judo-Christian ethic." In other words, the lost must see and feel the need of repentance.

Repentance is indeed the gift of God (Acts 11:18) as well as faith (Rom. 10:17), and every thing we have. I submit that repentance, as well as all gifts associated with conversion, is granted via the preaching of the Word of God (1 Cor. 1:21). So the message must point out — loud and clear — that God hates sin (Prov. 6:16-17), and that the sinner has indeed sinned both after the similitude of Adam and by his very nature (Rom. 3:10-17; 5:12-14). He must see that his best is still sin (Isa. 64:6; Prov. 21:4) and that as such he is a worthy recipient of God's wrath. Seen as a worthy recipient of God's wrath, he realizes he is an unworthy recipient of God's grace.

The message must point out that (Continued on page 6, column 1)



RAYMOND F. BENNETT

bragging on "super soul winners." But what is the message of the missionary, and how, if at all, does it differ from that of the average pastor and itinerant evangelist?

First, let it be assumed that missions is the job of the Lord's church, not just a few men sent from the church. New Testament missions includes the work of the Church in her own community, of evangelizing, of baptizing, and of teaching (Matt. 28:19-20).

For our purposes we will simply

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## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon By Milburn Cockrell

### SOME CANNOTS OF ADAMIC MAN

*"Lord, make me to know mine end; and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am. Behold, thou hast made my days as a handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity" (Psa. 39:4-5).*

In our day much is being written and said about the nobility of man. But in Psalm 39 the writer speaks of the frailty of man. According to the psalmist, every man without exception is folly, falsehood, fickleness, frailty, and filthy

with sins. Even when he is young, strong, wealthy, honorable, and prosperous, he is such. While he may be merry and secure in the world, his heart is deceitful and incurably wicked. He is unstable in all his ways. Every thing about him is uncertain. His body and beauty are not substantial. His mind and memory are not durable. His plans, purposes, and promises are vanity.

The Adamic man who walks on earth has physical life, but he is void of spiritual life. In the natural realm he is active, but in the spir-

itual realm he is inactive. When it comes to spiritual matters, the natural man is without strength to perform. There are some definite things stated in the Bible that the unrenewed man cannot do. Each of these are stated by a definite "cannot," implying human inability in the spiritual realm.

### CANNOT SERVE GOD

In Joshua 24:19 it is written: *"And Joshua said unto the people, Ye CANNOT serve the Lord: for he is a holy God; he is a jealous* (Continued on page 2, column 1)

## Evangelical Determination

By ARTHUR W. PINK

*"For I determined not to know anything among you save Jesus Christ and Him crucified" (1 Cor. 2:2).*

The beloved apostle was a man of determination. Like all great men who have really accomplished anything in this world, Paul was a man of grit and backbone. Our text implies considerable reflection. Paul was a calm thinker and never reached a rash or hasty conclusion. Conditions had been carefully considered, alternatives weighed, and a definite decision arrived at. He determined to preach and live Christ, and Him crucified. He was a man with a clear-cut plan and program. A definite goal was before him. He had counted the cost, considered the obstacles which lay in his way, weighed the prejudices of the carnal mind and made his choice. To make known the Cross of Christ and the Christ of the Cross was his one great purpose.

Paul was a man with a Specific Determination. There are many men who possess plenty of grit and determination, yet their efforts amount to little because they lack a definite objective. They fail for want of singleness of aim. Their interests are divided. They have too many irons in the fire. Too many are mere generalizers.

Much of our modern preaching is a medley. It is a mixture of poetry, philosophy, science, politics, and the topics of the day, with a little Scripture thrown in to give it the appearance of respectability. Not so with the Apostle Paul. He determined not to know anything save Jesus



ARTHUR W. PINK

Christ and Him crucified. Everything else must be subordinated to this one great end. He might be considered "narrow." He might be criticised for not being "abreast of the times." But he cared not for that. To publish and proclaim the Death Divine was his all-absorbing passion.

Paul was a man with a Spacious Determination. The apostle's aim was a worthy one — worthy of his natural genius, his tremendous energy, his indefatigable zeal, his self-sacrifice. It was a task which would require and engage all his talents. It was a work which demanded all his time and strength. (Continued on page 6, column 3)

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## Cannots Of Adamic

(Continued from page one)

God; he will not forgive your  
transgressions nor your sins." These  
words were addressed to God's cove-  
nant people, Israel. They were not in-  
tended to deter or discourage service  
to the Lord. Rather, they were spoken  
to cause them to realize they could not  
serve God in their own strength. Here  
we see the human inability of even the  
redeemed of God to serve Him in an ac-  
ceptable manner.

If even the elect of God are un-  
able to serve God perfectly without any  
defect, then it can clearly be seen that  
the unregenerate cannot serve God. Jesus  
Christ said: "No man can serve two mas-  
ters: for either he will hate the one,  
and love the other or else he will hold  
to the one, and despise the other. Ye  
CANNOT serve God and mammon" (Matt.  
6:24). This inability is not the fault of  
God; it is in the depraved nature of man.  
The lost man can no more serve God  
than the Ethiopian can change his skin,  
or a leopard divest himself of his spotted  
robe (Jer. 13:23). Even acts of religious  
worship are rendered without heart intent  
and are unacceptable to the Holy One.  
Through the pen of Isaiah the Lord said:  
"And when ye spread forth your hands, I  
will hide mine eyes from you; yea, when  
ye make many prayers, I will not hear:  
your hands are full of blood" (Isa. 1:15).  
Proverbs 21:27 says: "The sacrifice of the  
wicked is abomination: how much more,  
when he bringeth it with a wicked mind?"

How can the unrenewed man do  
right when there is no right in Him? The  
Apostle Paul said: "For I know that in me  
(that is, in my flesh), dwelleth no good  
thing: for to will is present with me; but  
how to perform that which is good I find  
not" (Rom. 7:18). You can hold a ladder  
with your own hands and climb to the top  
of it as easily as you can make your evil  
nature attain holiness! The unsaved man  
can no more render acceptable service  
before God than

Satan or a fallen angel.

This truth discourages self-right-  
eousness and self-salvation. It de-  
stroys the hope of salvation by rites and  
ceremonies. It shuts the sinner up to  
faith in Christ as the only avenue of  
escape (Gal. 4:22-23).

### CANNOT BE CHRIST'S DISCIPLE

During the days of His flesh, Christ  
declared: "If any man come to me, and  
hate not his father, and mother, and wife,  
and children, and brethren, and sisters,  
yea, and his own life also, he CANNOT  
be my disciple" (Luke 14:26).

The unsaved man will not give up  
his family and friends to become a disci-  
ple of Christ. He loves his own flesh and  
blood and cares nothing about Jesus Christ.  
The unregenerate sinner is given over to  
the enjoyment of this life, and he cares  
nothing for a life to come. God will not  
permit divided devotion. To be a disci-  
ple one must prefer banishment from family  
to banishment from Christ. The alien sin-  
ner will never meet these conditions,  
unless God changes his nature.

The Lord from Heaven further said:  
"And whosoever doth not bear his cross,  
and come after me, CANNOT be my disci-  
ple" (Luke 14:27). Here again we see the  
sinner has no desire to bear reproaches,  
afflictions, persecutions, and death itself  
to be a Christian. The whole affair of  
discipleship is disagreeable to the flesh.  
The unrenewed man neither desires nor  
deserves the name of being a disciple of  
Jesus Christ. He prefers the service of sin  
to the service of the Saviour.

The Master continued in Luke 14:33:  
"So likewise, whosoever he be of you  
that forsaketh not all that he hath, he  
CANNOT be my disciple. To be a disci-  
ple of Christ one must forsake his friends,  
family, and farm. The problem with the  
lost sinner is that he forsakes Christ and  
clings to all else. It is humanly impos-  
sible for a lost sinner to become a disci-  
ple of Christ, apart from the working of  
sovereign grace.

### CANNOT ENTER GOD'S KINGDOM

Speaking to Nicodemus, Jesus Christ  
said: "Except a man be born again, he  
CANNOT see the kingdom of God" (John  
3:3). The meaning is very plain: No man  
can understand or enter the kingdom of  
God without regeneration. Unless the Holy  
Spirit makes the sinner alive, he cannot be  
a part of the kingdom of God. By his first  
birth he is shapen in sin. He must under-  
go a second birth and be fashioned after  
the Saviour. The natural man must be-  
come a spiritual man. He must be born  
anew from Heaven before he can under-  
stand heavenly things.

The natural man is totally unfit to  
enter God's kingdom. He is unable to do  
so being completely corrupt. No one would  
ever enter the kingdom of Christ unless  
God makes him fit. Paul told the church  
at Colosse: "Giving thanks unto the Father,  
which hath made us meet to be partakers  
of the inheritance of the saints in light:  
Who hath delivered us from the power of  
darkness, and translated us into the king-  
dom of his dear Son" (Col. 1:12-13).

God takes a man under the power of  
darkness and puts him over in the king-  
dom of Christ. This is said in Colossians  
1:12-13 to be God's action and to occur in  
the past. The past transaction points to  
the decree of God and the Spirit's work  
in regeneration. The quickened soul is  
translated from the power of darkness into  
the kingdom of light and life.

### CANNOT COME TO CHRIST

The statement of Christ in John 6:44  
is emphatic: "No man CAN come to me,  
except the Father which hath sent me draw  
him: and I will raise him up at the last  
day."

According to the modern evangelist,  
coming to Christ is the easiest thing in the  
world. It involves no more than walking the  
aisle

of a church, or signing a decision card,  
or praying the sinner's prayer. But these  
words of Christ declare coming to Christ to  
be utterly and entirely impossible to any  
man, unless drawn by the Father. The pas-  
sage does not say, "No man will come," but  
"no man can come." This speaks not only of  
unwillingness to come, but of human in-  
ability to come.

Man does have the power to go to the  
house of God. He can engage in a form of  
religious worship. He may do many things  
in the natural realm. But to come to Christ  
for eternal life is not possible, unless en-  
lightened by the Spirit. "Every man there-  
fore that hath heard, and hath learned of  
the Father, cometh unto me" (John 6:45).

This inability to come to Christ is  
not due to any physical defect

### FINANCIAL REPORT OF TBE

Balance, April 1	\$2,128.03
Receipts	4,929.80
Total	7,057.83
Expenditures	6,506.91
Balance, April 30	550.92

or mental lack. It is found in man's  
nature and the obstinacy of his will. He  
is dead in sins and impotent to every spiri-  
tual thing. While man is in a state of un-  
regency, blindness, and darkness, he sees  
no need of coming to Christ. Left to him-  
self he would perish in his own corrup-  
tion. This proves the actual dependence of a  
sinner upon the grace of Christ. This abili-  
ty must be given the sinner by the Father:  
"No man can come unto me," said Jesus  
Christ, "except it were given unto him of  
my Father" (John 6:65).

The sinner will never be brought to  
faith in Christ unless drawn by free grace.  
This is not a violent drawing, which com-  
pels man by an external force, but an effi-  
cacious motion of the Holy Spirit, which  
renders unwilling persons willing. The  
Spirit of grace brings about a radical change  
of the heart and will. God enlightens the  
mind and inclines the will. While it is  
God Who inclines the sinner and God Who  
must have all the glory, man yields without  
compulsion. But separate from this work of  
the grace of God, no man has the ability  
to come to Christ for salvation.

### CANNOT GO TO HEAVEN

"Then said Jesus again unto

## Memorial Pulpit

By JOHN R. GILPIN

Our Beloved Pastor and Editor, Now In Glory



## THE SECOND COMING

"He which testifieth these things saith,  
Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come,  
Lord Jesus" — Rev. 22:20.

I don't know of anything which gives me  
more comfort and more hope than the knowl-  
edge of the second coming of the Lord Jesus  
Christ. As far as I am personally concerned,  
I consider this world in a terrible mess — so  
much so that I don't see any way out. I would  
say that religiously, industrially, economi-  
cally, socially, morally — I don't care what it  
is, you name it — if there is any way out, I  
don't know what it is. I think the only hope  
that we have is the second coming of the  
Lord Jesus Christ.

In a particular way, I have studied  
God's Word as to the second coming, and I  
would like to ask some questions concern-  
ing His coming, and answer them with the  
Word of God.

IS JESUS CHRIST ACTUALLY COMING BACK TO THIS EARTH?  
We read:

"This same Jesus, which is taken up from  
you into heaven, shall SO COME in like man-  
ner as ye have seen him go into heaven" —  
Acts 1:11.

"For the Lord himself SHALL DESCEND from  
heaven" — I Thess. 4:16.

"I WILL COME AGAIN" — John 14:3.

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink  
this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till HE  
COME" — I Cor. 11:26.

Every time that we observe the Lord's  
Supper, whether the second coming of the  
Lord Jesus Christ is mentioned or not, we  
have a silent, tacit testimony as to His com-  
ing, for as this text says, "For as often as  
ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do  
shew the

Lord's death till he come."

Here are four verses that actually state that  
Jesus is coming again. I can turn to both the  
Old Testament and the New Testament and  
give you dozens upon top of dozens of other  
Scriptures which would tell the same thing.  
In the Old Testament, two out of every  
three prophecies have to do with His second  
coming, while only about one-third of the  
prophecies of the Old Testament have to do  
with His first coming.

When you come to the New Testament,  
you will find that one out of every twenty-  
five verses refer to the second coming of  
Christ. For example, the doctrine of bap-  
tism, which means much to us as Baptists,  
is mentioned only about a dozen times in the  
New Testament. The doctrine of the second  
coming occurs on an average of one out of  
every 25 verses.

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me,  
and shall die in your sins: whither I go,  
ye CANNOT come" (John 8:21).

Heaven is a place without sin, and only  
those delivered from sin can enter there  
(Rev. 22:14). Christ was going to the  
Father's right hand in Heaven, but these  
unbelieving Jews could not accompany Him  
in their depraved state. The impenitent  
cannot spend eternity with Jesus Christ.  
It is morally impossible for a person to enter  
Heaven who dies unsanctified for it.

Many talk about Heaven who are not  
going there. By nature man is totally unfit  
to enter this celestial place. His sins and  
iniquities fit him for Hell, not Heaven. If  
the unregenerate went to Heaven in his  
fallen state, it would be Hell to him. No  
man will ever walk upon the golden streets  
who has not been prepared for Heaven by  
being born from above.

### CANNOT UNDERSTAND GOD'S WORD

To a group of unbelievers Christ uttered  
these words: "Why do ye not understand  
my speech? even because ye CANNOT hear  
my word" (John 8:43). To understand the  
message of God one must know the dialect  
of Heaven. The unregenerate man does not  
have the ability to understand spiritual  
matters. He cannot bear or tolerate them.  
He finds them offensive. The pride, vanity,  
and wickedness of his heart opposes them.  
It is his disposition to cavil and to pervert  
the truth. Left to himself, he

will always choose error instead of truth.  
Apart from the grace of regeneration, he  
ever has a natural aversion to the Bible.

In I Corinthians 2:14 the Apostle Paul wrote:  
"But the natural man (Continued on page 5, column 2)

## BRIEF NOTES

The Grace Baptist Church, 170 Deaton  
St., Hazard, Ky. is in need of a pastor.  
Any brethren interested in pastoring the  
church should call Franklin Russ at 606-476-8703,  
or write to him at General Delivery, Vicco,  
Ky. 41773.

Is there a small church in the western  
part of the U.S. which needs a pastor? Or  
are there a few people in some area of the  
west who are interested in starting a sound  
work? If so, please write the editor giving  
information about this. There is an able min-  
ister who feels led to do such work. What  
information I receive, I will relate it to this  
brother.

The Friendship Baptist Church of Detroit,  
Ala., and Pastor Doyal Thomas will conduct  
revival services June 6-10. The editor will  
be the speaker for the meeting.

The Providence Baptist Church, Route 2,  
Box 134, Kountze, Texas, and Pastor Walter  
Herin will conduct revival services June 13-20.  
The speaker for the meeting is Elder Charles  
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By I. M. HALDEAN

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## The Second Coming

(Continued from Page Two)  
So, in answer to the question, will Jesus actually come back to this earth, in the light of what God says within His book, I say yes.

### II

#### IS CHRIST COMING AT A TIME WHEN WE ARE EXPECTING HIM?

In answer to this, I say, certainly not. Instead, He is coming as though very suddenly and very unexpectedly. Listen:

"For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be"—Mt. 24:27.

I tell you, beloved, the lightning flashes always unexpectedly, and this text says that the second coming of Christ is just like the shining of the lightning.

Notice again:

"For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord SO COMETH AS A THIEF in the night"—I Thess. 5:2.

If a man is getting ready to steal something from you, he doesn't write you a letter and say that on such-and-such a night and at such-and-such an hour, he is expecting to come to your house and take something therefrom. The second coming of Christ is going to be just as a thief in the night.

Listen again:

"Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh"—Mt. 24:44.

May I ask you a question? Do you think that Jesus Christ is coming back before I finish this sermon? The Lord is sure to come in such an hour that you think not. Some of these days, at the very time that you do not expect it, the Lord Jesus is going to come.

Notice another Scripture:

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye"—I Cor. 15:52.

How long does it take you to bat an eye? How long does it take your eye to twinkle? I tell you, beloved, the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is going to be just as sudden and just as unexpected as the twinkling of an eye.

### III

#### WHAT WILL THIS EARTH BE LIKE WHEN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST COMES?

The Word of God tells us over and over again what to expect when Jesus Christ comes again. We can expect wars, famines, pestilences, and earthquakes. We read:

"For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places"—Mt. 24:7.

I am sure that most of you read the newspaper every day. Wars — do you ever hear of them? When has there been a time that you haven't heard of them? Famine — I can remember from the time when I was just a boy there has been one famine appeal after

another on behalf of some nation. Pestilences, earthquakes — all these things, I say, when Jesus Christ comes back and His coming is near, we are told to expect wars, famines, pestilences, and earthquakes.

Listen again:

"I will OVERTURN, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him"—Ezek. 21:27.

Mark it down, He is the only one whose right it is. He is the one who went to Calvary and paid the sin debt that purchased not only your salvation but the redemption of every saved man. He has brought this world back to God. Some of these days, He is going to return. While we are waiting for His return, there will be one overturn after another until He comes, whose right it is, and it will be given to Him. I don't expect anything throughout the nations of the world but one problem after another.

What is the world going to be like when He comes, or what shall we expect when He comes? We can expect world-wide distress. We can expect problems and unrest. Listen:

"And upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity"—Luke 21:25.

Surely, beloved, we have that now — distress of nations, with perplexity. Over in Washington, who knows which way to turn? I tell you, there isn't a man in Washington that could find the way out. The only man that knows anything as to the way out is the child of God. I am persuaded to believe that the majority of those individuals in Washington are not children of God, and the majority of them don't know the way out.

I am saying to you, we have distress of nations and perplexity all throughout the earth just like it says here in Luke 21:25. There is much distress of nations. There is much perplexity. Men don't know which way to turn, and are feeling their way in the dark.

I ask, what is this world going to be like when He comes? What are we to expect just before He comes? We can expect perilous times. We read:

"This know also that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good. Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God"—II Tim. 3:1-4.

What are we to expect? In the light of this Scripture, perilous times are going to come. What are we to expect? A disbelief in Christ's second coming.

Beloved, that is on today. Men just don't believe that Jesus Christ is coming back to this world. There isn't an organization today that

## IS "THAT" IN THE BIBLE?



Question:

#### HOW MANY GOLDEN CALVES WERE WORSHIPED BY THE HEBREWS?

Answer:

Three, Exodus 32:1-8, especially verse 8— "... they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto..." This was in the days of Moses. Again, in the time of King Jeroboam, First Kings 12:28-33, especially verse 28: "... the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said unto them (his people), It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt."

takes the position that Jesus is coming back.

I was talking to a fellow sometime ago who had listened to a program on the radio called "Talk Back." Somebody was talking about how science was progressing — how that we may be living on other planets within a few years. The entirety of it was a denial of the Second Coming.

Beloved, there is a general disbelief in the second coming. Listen:

"Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation"—II Pet. 3:3,4.

People today are saying, "You have been talking about Christ's return for years and He hasn't returned yet." There is a general disbelief in His second coming.

Years ago, I was in West Virginia for a conference. One man got up to preach and he said, "I have been assigned the subject of 'The Second Coming.' I don't know anything about it, you don't know anything about it, and nobody else knows anything about it."

Beloved, I heard just as much as I could stand. Yet that is what the Word of God says about the last days, that there will be men who will say, "Where is the promise of His coming?"

I ask you, what is this world going to be like at the second coming? Spiritualism is going to flourish. Listen:

"In the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils"—I Tim. 4:1.

There were lots of fathers and mothers who lost sons in World War I. Following the war, they wanted to talk to those boys who died in the war. Spiritualism remarkably flourished there for a little while and then died down.

Beloved, today, and during the last twenty years, spiritualism has been on an increase. It has been literally on a rampage. People are wanting to know about the future. There is so much distress and confusion that people don't know which way to turn. The result is, they say that they want to call up the dead. They say, "We don't know what the Word of God says. Educators are not able to help us. Business men are not able to help us. We'll call up the dead; maybe they can help us." You can be certain of one thing, there will be more spiritualism in the world before Jesus comes than has ever existed in the past.

What can we expect before Jes-

us comes? Knowledge is going to increase. We read:

"Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased"—Dan. 12:4.

Beloved, many shall run to and fro. People are traveling in automobiles all over the country. Folk think nothing at all of getting on a plane and eating breakfast here and eating lunch on the West Coast. Traveling facilities have increased, and increased greatly, and Daniel says at the time of the end, many are going to run to and fro.

Surely knowledge is increased. People are wiser than they used to be. With television, radio, and the newspaper, people are much wiser than they used to be.

I tell you, I am amazed at some of the words that people use today. I was talking with a man a while back, who used words that I was astounded at him using. He was just a country man with practically no education as far as book learning was concerned, but he reads the newspaper, listens to the radio, and looks at television. Daniel says at the end of time that knowledge shall be increased.

I ask the question, what is this world going to be like when the Lord Jesus Christ comes back again? It will be given over to carnal things. Listen:

"For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be"—Mt. 24:38,39.

There is nothing wrong with eating and drinking. There is nothing wrong with giving in marriage. What is wrong, is, people think only in terms of eating and drinking, and of marrying and giving in marriage.

We go back and read the story at the time before the flood, and the Word of God says:

"The earth was filled with violence"—Gen. 6:1.

God sent a flood that took away that Adam and Eve civilization.

Beloved, as surely as God lives, that same God has His eye upon this world at this hour. As the days come and go, you can expect the earth to be filled with violence. As it was in the days before the flood, you can expect similar moral conditions. You can expect worse and worse as the days pass.

I ask again, what is the world going to be like when Jesus comes? Beloved, you can expect riches to become more and more prevalent.

A millionaire used to be considered somebody to be looked up to, but we have millionaires galore in the United States today. Along about the time of that heathen festivity called Xmas, I read about a fellow in Texas who was sending supplies to Vietnam. He was about thirty-four years old and a billionaire. They said he started out in life without a dime.

God's Word says that riches are a sign of His coming. Listen:

"Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.

Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.

Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton, ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter"—James 5:1-5.

Beloved, this talks about the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is coming again and this you can expect.

### IV

#### HOW WILL JESUS COME?

The Word of God says:

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout"—I Thess. 4:16.

"I am the root and the off-spring of David, and the bright and morning star"—Rev. 22:16.

It will be a glorious day when Christ shall appear. For years when I have looked up into the sky, to see a cloud, I have thought maybe my Lord may be on that one, and I have perked up and watched. Some of these days, there is going to be a shout of triumph and He'll come. In answer to the question, how will He come, I say that He will come with a shout, and He will appear as the bright and morning star.

### V

#### WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN JESUS CHRIST COMES?

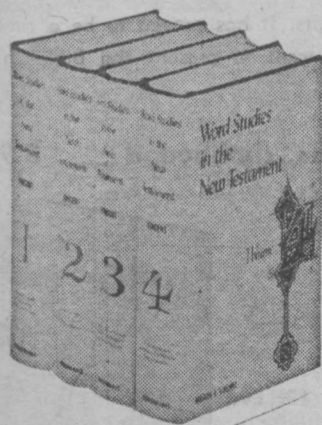
We read:

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord"—I Thess. 4:16-17.

I was driving along the road sometime ago with two preacher boys and we passed a large cemetery and we were talking about how beautifully kept it was. One of the brethren said, "Some of these mornings we won't be passing by here, but somebody else will, and from that cemetery the saints of God will rise."

Beloved, that is right. Some of these days Jesus Christ is coming and every saint will rise from the grave. If someone who is very dear and precious to you has died and gone to the grave, some of these days that body is going to rise to meet Jesus in the air. That loved one is coming out of the grave. That loved one is going up. We which are alive and remain are going to be caught up.

I can't think of anything which is more of a blessing, and which brings more peace and joy than (Continued on page 4, column 4)



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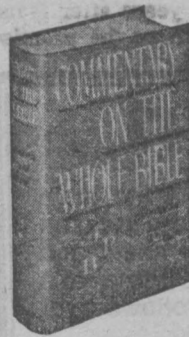
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# The Baptist Examiner Forum

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"Did God prematurely terminate the life of Moses? If so, why?"

ROY MASON

RADIO MINISTER  
BAPTIST PREACHER  
Arlpeka, Florida



The Scriptures seem to indicate that the Lord terminated the life of Moses. If you will turn to Exodus 17, you will find that Moses was violently criticized by his people when they became badly in need of water. When Moses appealed to the Lord, he was told to take the rod with which he had done some wonderful things. He was told that if he would smite the rock in Horeb that water would come forth sufficient for their needs. Despite this and other marvelous things that the Lord did through Moses, the people yapped at every little thing. Later, they were in need of water again, as we read in Numbers 20. Finally, Moses became angry, as we read in Numbers 20:9. In his anger, Moses took his rod and violently smote the rock twice. Water came forth in abundance. This caused the Lord to say to Moses "because ye believed me not to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore, ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them."

Humanly speaking, then, the life of Moses was terminated prematurely. His death did not come as a result of ordinary sickness, for the Scriptures tell us that his eyesight was perfectly good, and he was as strong as a young man. The Lord stopped his career because of his violation of His command to speak to the rock, in his anger he followed his temper, rather than the word of God, and he smote the rock twice.

So the why of the termination of the life of Moses is made very plain. It was because of his disobedience, and the dishonoring of the Lord's name.

E. G. COOK

701 Cambridge  
Birmingham, Ala.

PASTOR  
Philadelphia  
Baptist Church  
Birmingham, Ala.



Moses came into the world on schedule, and he went out on schedule. "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under Heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die" (Eccl. 3:1-2a). Before Moses was born there was an appointed time for him to die. And he met that appointment at the appointed time. You and I will meet that same appointment at the appointed time

unless the appointed time for our Lord to come for His saints should occur in our life time. In that case we who are His will not die. To say that God terminated Moses' life before that appointed time for him to die would be to imply that Moses slipped up on God's blind side and did something that God was not expecting him to do. But that would be impossible, because God has no blind side. There is just no such thing as God having to change His plan because somebody did something that He did not know they were going to do.

Moses was that fourth generation that God spoke of in Genesis 15:16. Here God is talking to Abraham about his seed coming out of the strange land and says, "But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again." We can call Levi who was one of the sons of Jacob the first generation in Egypt. He had a son named Kohath who was the second generation. Kohath had a son named Amram who was the third. And Amram had a son named Moses who was the fourth generation. And God had said

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## PHONES

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some 615 years before that in the fourth generation these people shall come out. For fear that someone may wonder how we come up with the 615 years we explain. In Genesis 21:5 we learn that Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born. In Genesis 25:26 we learn that Isaac was 60 years old when Jacob was born. That would mean that Abraham was 160 years old when Jacob was born. In Genesis 25:7 we find that Abraham lived 175 years. That means that Jacob was 15 years old when his grandfather Abraham died. In Genesis 47:9 we learn that Jacob was 130 years old when he went down into Egypt. Since he was 15 years old when Abraham died that means that Abraham had been dead 11 years when Jacob and his family moved down into Egypt. In Exodus 12:40 we learn that these people were in Egypt 430 years. If we add this 430 years to the 115 years we find that Abraham had been dead 545 years when these people came out of Egypt. As best I can tell the promise in Genesis 15:16 was made to Abraham about 20 years before Isaac was born. Since he was 100 years old at that time, and since he lived 75 years after Isaac was born that means the promise

was made to him about 95 years before his death. So if we add the 95 years to the 545 years we come up with 615 years as the time from the giving of the promise to the time of its fulfillment. But still in Exodus 2:24 we are told that "God remembered His covenant with Abraham." Is it not wonderful that God never forgets one of His promises?

So Moses was the man that God had chosen to lead these people out of Egypt, and to lead them to the land of Canaan, but not into it. There are those who seem to think the land of Canaan is a type of Heaven. But I hope I don't have to help run the heathen people out of Heaven when I get there.

PAUL TIBER

PASTOR,  
NEW TESTAMENT  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
2722 Euclid-Chardon  
Road  
Kirkland, Ohio



Untimely death? There really is no such thing, although it may appear to be so.

Moses lived to be 120 years old — hardly a premature death (Deut. 34:7). Does not the Scripture teach that we all have our lives and being in Him? Does not the Scripture further teach that His Omnipotent Hand keeps even the hairs of our heads from perishing?

It should be obvious to all who know our God to be sovereign, that the death of His saints is not untimely, but rather precisely according to His eternal decree.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints" (Psa. 116:15).

JAMES HOBBS

Rt. 2, Box 182  
McDermott, Ohio

PASTOR  
Kings Addition  
Baptist Church  
South Shore, Ky.



In Numbers 27:12-14 we read: "And the Lord said unto Moses, Get thee up into this Mount Abarim, and see the land which I have given unto the children of Israel. And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered. For ye rebelled against my commandment in the desert of Zin, in the strife of the congregation, to sanctify me at the water before their eyes: that is the water of Meribah in Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin. The account is recorded in Numbers 20:7-12 which tells us that Moses was told to speak to the rock but he, in anger, smote the rock instead.

The Bible very clearly tells us that there is a sin unto death. "... There is a sin unto death ..." (I John 5:16). I believe that Moses committed it and was not allowed to enter the promised land as a result. This does not mean that God did not know about it. He is sovereign and knows all things. I in my limited understanding cannot understand all things, but I can know that even in our responsibility God is in control. How that works I don't know, but it does.

Why did God not allow Moses to enter the promised land? Be-

cause he rebelled against God and was disobedient to Him. The rock (which was a type of Christ) did not need to be struck but once to picture our Lord suffering for us. Moses broke that picture by striking it the second time. We should learn from this lesson. Even if we may be justifiably angry with God's people, we are still responsible to be obedient to Him. It is a dangerous thing to disobey God.

## The Second Coming

(Continued from page three)

to know that God isn't going to be defeated. What is going to happen when He comes? There is going to be a resurrection of the dead.

Oh, what a glorious day! God's children are going to be caught up with Him. The world at large is going to say, "What happened to these people? Where did they go?" I am satisfied that Jesus is coming again, and when He does, He will take all Christians away.

You say, "I don't believe that Jesus will ever come back." Listen, beloved, all God is doing with the unsaved now is just biding His time. God is just letting this world go on, heading for destruction.

I say that if a Christian man is in an automobile when the Lord comes, He will be caught up. I was in a car sometime ago and the man had a sign on his dashboard: "This car is driven by a Christian who is ready to leave this world at any moment. If you are not saved, I would advise you to get out."

I think that there will be pilots who are Christians when the Lord comes who will be caught away. People will say, "Here is the wreckage of the plane, but where is the pilot?" Some of these days, Jesus is coming and the dead will be caught up out of the ground first, and then we which are alive will be caught up with Him. What a glorious day for the saints of God!

VI

WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO THOSE THAT ARE UNSAVED?

There is only one thing that can happen to the man who is unsaved. During the Tribulation Period, there will be multiplied thousands who are going to be saved, but there will not be one saved then who has ever heard the Word of God before. I think that God is very specific in telling us that when Jesus Christ comes, those who have heard the Word of God will be left behind and will never be saved. Listen:

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his

mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because THEY RECEIVED NOT the love of the truth, that they might be saved"—II Thess. 2:8-10.

Notice that it says, "They received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved."

I don't believe that there is a person that is unsaved when Jesus comes that will ever see Heaven. During the Tribulation period that follows, there will be some thousands who will be saved. I think the greatest evangelistic era in the history of the world will be during the Tribulation period. But do you know who is going to be saved? Not the people like you who have heard the Word of God, but people who have never heard the Word of God preached before.

What is going to happen to the unsaved — those that are left behind when God has caught away the saved? Listen:

"When the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power"—II Thess. 1:7-9.

Notice that it says that those who obeyed not the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be punished with everlasting destruction.

Unsaved man or woman, I say to you, if Jesus Christ were to come in this hour, there is no hope that you will be saved.

VII

## WHEN WILL JESUS COME?

Jesus will not come until all of His elect are saved. Listen:

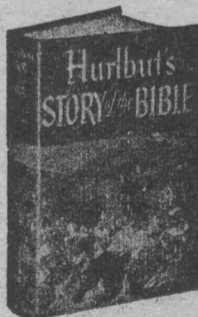
"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" — II Pet. 3:9.

Beloved, Jesus says that none of His saints shall perish, but that all shall come to repentance. Every one for whom He died will be saved and spend the ceaseless ages of the future in Heaven.

## CONCLUSION

As I have brought you this message from the standpoint of questions, I have asked, is He going to come suddenly and unexpectedly? I have asked, what is this earth going to be like when He comes? I have asked, how will He come? I have asked, what will happen when He comes? I have (Continued on page 5, column 4)

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PAGE FOUR



The editor urges our readers to contribute articles to this column. Articles "FOR CHRISTIAN BOYS" should be written by Christian men and boys, and "FOR CHRISTIAN GIRLS" by Christian women and girls. Such articles must be at least one page, typed and doubled spaced, yet it must not exceed two such pages. Each article should be accompanied by your name and address as well as the name of the Baptist church where you are a member.

### "THE COLONEL'S WORD WILL STAND"

AUTHOR UNKNOWN  
Submitted By Judy Rule

During my military service in India, I had in my regiment a little bugler who was too weak and delicate for the life he had to lead. Willie Holt, a saint of fourteen years of age, was born in the regiment. His father had been killed in action, and then his mother died. The regiment was bivouacking some miles from camp for rifle practice. I had a rough lot of recruits. Acts of insubordination had been brought to my notice and I had pledged to make an example of the very next offense by having the culprit flogged.

One night targets were thrown down and otherwise mutilated by an occupant of the tent where Willie Holt was camped.

In vain I appealed to them to produce the man, and at last I said: "If any one of you who slept in number four tent last night will come forward and take his punishment like a man, the rest will get off free; but if not, there remains no alternative but to punish you all, each in turn to receive ten strokes."

After a period of dead silence, Willie Holt came forward saying, "I am ready, sir."

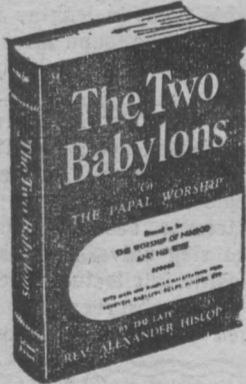
For a moment I was speechless. We all knew that this lad was guiltless. Sick at heart, I gave the order, and Willie was led away for punishment. Bravely he stood with bared back as one, two, three

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strokes descended. At the fourth a giant moan escaped his white lips; but before the fifth fell, Jim Sykes, the black sheep of the regiment, seized the whip, and with choking utterances he shouted: "Stop it, Colonel, stop it, and tie me up instead! He never did it, but I did."

Willie lifted his eyes to the man's face and smiled. "No, Jim," he whispered, "you are safe now, the Colonel's word will stand." Then he fainted.

The next day as the boy lay dying in the hospital tent, I saw Jim Sykes at his side muttering, "Why did you do it, lad? Why did you do it?"

"Because I wanted to take it for you, Jim. I thought it might help you to understand why Christ died for you," Willie's weak voice answered.

"Christ died for me?" Jim answered.

"Yes, He died for you because He loved you. I love you, Jim, but I only suffered for one sin. Christ took the punishment for all the sins you have ever committed. He has died for you so that you can go free."

"Your Saviour says, 'He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment; but is passed from death unto life.' Won't you receive Him?"

The lad's voice failed him, but his hand rested gently on Jim's bowed head. After a little while Willie's spirit passed from earth to Heaven.

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isa. 53:6).

## Cannots Of Adamic

(Continued from Page Two)  
receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

The natural man is the rationalist without the Spirit. He is a man under the power of a corrupt nature, and one not illuminated by the Spirit of God. The expression "receive not" denotes man's incapacity and unwillingness to receive God's truth. Man's evil inclinations and wicked principles renders him unable and unwilling to enter into the mind of God. Separated from the Holy Spirit, he can have no spiritual knowledge. The things of the Spirit are absurd, contrary, and distasteful to him.

### CANNOT OBEY OR PLEASE GOD

In Romans 8:7-8 there is presented an awful picture of human depravity: "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh CANNOT please God." Here is the threefold incapacity of the Adamic man. He cannot understand, obey, or please God. This is the condition of all human flesh out of Christ.

The mind of the flesh is opposed to God. The fleshly disposition is not an enemy, but enmity itself toward God. It rebels against His authority, thwarts His designs, opposes His interests, spits in His face, and spurns His bowels. There

is nothing to prevent man from obeying the law of God but his own depraved mind. Not only is the carnal mind not subject to the law of God, but its depravity is such as to render subjection impossible.

Man acts according to his inclinations or dispositions. The will is controlled by the mind, and the carnal mind is defiled by sin. Thus the depraved mind is opposed to the things of God. It is entirely incapable of choosing what is good. The fleshly man walks according to the course of this evil world system and is under the power of Satan. There is no salvation by what Arminians call man's free will. The will of man is free only to sin. Hence, we see the necessity of efficacious grace in regeneration.

A man in an unconverted state cannot please God. A person must be born of the Spirit before he can even begin to serve God. The mind of the flesh would serve God its own way as Cain did, but God cannot accept this. All of such performances even in the way of religious worship spring from selfish motives. The unregenerate man is in a state forever displeasing to God. His works may please men, but not God (Luke 16:15).

### CANNOT CONFESS CHRIST

An improved translation of I Corinthians 12:3 reads: "No one CAN say that Jesus is Lord except in the Holy Spirit." The meaning is no man can call Christ Lord, with a believing subjection to Him and a dependency upon Him, unless the Holy Spirit has wrought faith in his heart. No person can truly own Him as Lord, as David and Thomas did, but he who has been given faith by the Spirit of faith. To confess Him as Lord even unto death is to possess a true spiritual apprehension of His person and work.

This confession comes from the heart, not the head: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. 10:9-10).

### CONCLUSION

Sinner friend, you cannot serve God. You cannot be Christ's disciple. You cannot enter the kingdom of God. You cannot come to Christ. You cannot spend eternity with Jesus. You cannot understand God's Word. You cannot please God. You cannot confess Christ. Left to yourself, you will perish in your sins.

Perhaps you are ready to say, "Don't preach such a message of despair to me. You make my situation sound hopeless. You are saying that I am heading toward Hell with no way of escape."

As a minister of the gospel I must bring you to see that you cannot save yourself. You are Hell-deserving, Hell-bent, and Hell-bound. You are totally dependent on Heaven's charity. The sinner must drive from him all hopes in himself and in his performance before he will ever look up to Christ, the only Saviour of sinners.

The disciples asked Jesus: "Who can be saved? But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With

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men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible" (Matt. 19:26).

Salvation is impossible with man. It is impossible because he cannot blot out his own sins. He cannot atone for his own guilt. He cannot change his own Heart. He cannot purchase salvation with his own works.

But what is impossible with men is possible with God. Man's extremity is God's opportunity. Jesus said: "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God" (Luke 18:27). Nothing is too hard for the Lord. Sinner, your cry must ever be: "Lord, save me or I perish." Be assured that the One who died for sinners will save every sinner whose only hope of salvation is Jesus Christ.



## The Second Coming

(Continued from page 4)

asked the question, what will happen to those who are left when He comes? I have asked the question, when will Jesus come?

Sinner friend, are you ready for His coming? Jesus says:

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls" —Mt. 11:28,29.

God's Word also says:

"The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe" —John 1:7.

Sinner friend, may you repent of your sins, believe the gospel that He died for you, trust Him and be saved.

May God bless you!



## Halliman's Report

(Continued from page one)

country has to offer, all at duty free entry into the EEC Market.

Another thing that one of the leaders of this group of nations said was quite striking to me, and that was that the European Economic Community had made available seven and one-half million dollars to build a radio station at Rome to serve their needs. Beloved, this is amazing in the light of Revelation 13:5. Concerning the Beast which will have his headquarters at Rome and rule these 10 nations, the first part of Rev. 13:5 reads: "And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things . . ." I do not say that this proposed seven and a half million dollar radio station is the fulfillment of this passage of Scripture, but in the light of many other things that are coming to pass before our very eyes, it very well could be. The Beast will need some means of world wide communication where his commands can be given immediately loud and clear as if he were right on the spot, and such a piece of equipment at his disposal as is proposed to be built at Rome, would put him in immediate contact with the entire world.

Beloved, I believe the man who is to become the Beast of Revelation 13 has already been living on this earth for several years, unidentified at present of course, but I believe it will not be very long until he will come into his own. I never expect to know who he is in this body, for I am looking for the Blessed Hope to come and take me out before the Beast puts in his appearance as such here upon this earth.

### More About The New Mission Station

On January 4 and again on February 11 of this year I wrote articles to TBE in which, among other things, I made mention of the possibility of starting a new Mission Station over in the Huli tribe. In both of these articles, I asked for advice from as many

of you back there as cared to write. This, I thought, would be a good way to try to determine the will of the Lord in the matter. As I write this I feel that the Lord has spoken to me through you, at least, for the time being.

To set up a new station in such a remote area as this would be a tremendous task and would require an enormous amount both of energy and finances. I feel that I have the energy for such an undertaking but the finances I do not have. Therefore, inasmuch as there has been only two churches that have responded to this plea, and to date three individuals, I feel led of the Lord to not try such an undertaking, at least for now.

I do not feel in any way that this is limiting the Lord nor doubting Him to supply the needs. I simply wrote and asked for advice on the matter and prayed about the work. In the light of the response that I would get from you folk back there, it seems quite clear to me that the Lord has given His answer through you. I do not propose to understand everything the Lord does, but I always accept what appears to be His revealed will in any matter.

In one of those letters that I wrote, I mentioned the fact that such an undertaking would require extra finances above what is already being sent. Both churches that wrote to me and two of the individuals mentioned the fact that they had increased their offerings quite substantially to back up their belief that I should go ahead with the project. In view of the fact that I do not feel led to go ahead with this as of now, I have already written to both churches and the two individuals and told them if they wished to rescind their action regarding the extra offerings I would not feel bad at all. This also goes for any of you that may have raised your offerings for this extra work. It is not that I would not use the extra offerings in this present work nor that I am trying to dictate to churches and individuals how to spend their money, but I just wanted all of you to know that this was not a gimmick to try to get extra support. Do as you feel led of the Lord.

### Many Saved In Revival Meetings

The Lord continues to bless the work here in that folk are being saved and the saved added to His churches and growing in grace. The revival meetings are a great source of blessing to the churches here. The type of preaching that we have now has changed considerably in the last few years, and especially, the last three. Gospel messages are always brought for the benefit of the lost, but these are seasoned with strong doctrinal preaching now. Our preachers have grown tremendously in the Word and the knowledge of how to use it effectively. We have many good preachers, but two are outstanding and these two are in almost constant demand for revival meetings and other special services. The opposition continues to run high from the various other denominations that surround us. The main issue is the age-old question of baptismal authority. Since the early church days, Baptists have shed more blood over this one thing, than any other one issue and it will ever be so until our Lord comes back and takes us out.

The various denominations over here that oppose us have repeatedly told us if we would just stop re-baptizing (their term, not mine) the people that come to us from their groups, their opposition would stop. They continually refer me to Ephesians 4:5: "One Lord, one faith, one baptism." My answer is always the same, i.e., "I believe this passage of Scripture exactly as it reads, and while you may have been saved and immersed in (Continued on page 7, column 5)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JUNE 4, 1977

PAGE FIVE

## Missionary's Message

(Continued from page one)

God hates wrong doctrine (Rev. 2:6). Not only are the acts and nature of lost man sin, but his doctrine is sin as well. All doctrine contrary to the truth of Scripture is sin. Oh, that this writer could take back wrong doctrine he has taught in years past. Although I did it in ignorance, it is yet the object of God's hatred.

Also, the message must point out that God hates the workers of iniquity (Psa. 5:5). What a shock this verse is to those who so strongly advocate God's universal love towards all of mankind. "The foolish shall not stand in Thy sight: Thou hatest all workers of iniquity."

It must be duly pointed out here that "iniquity" is the Hebrew word "avon," meaning stubborn perversity. In other words, the sinner that still continues in sin with the knowledge of sin and Our Lord's attitude towards sin, is an object of God's special hatred (c.f. Rom. 1:20,21-32).

It must be further pointed out here that the word "hate" is "sane" in Hebrew and "miso" in the Greek. Both are strong words, meaning active ill will. Modern theologians (?) have a tendency to make this word relative when it comes on strong in condemnation, and we must avoid this error. God does not love sin a little less than He loves righteousness — He hates sin!

### THE EVALUATION OF THE SINNER

The message of missions must make the sinner to recognize his personal guilt unto repentance. He must come to make application of Isaiah 1:4 and 6:5 to himself. "Ah, sinful nation, laden with iniquity," — "Woe is me! I am a man of unclean lips; and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips." He must be shut up to the indictment of Romans 1:32, "Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."

The self-righteous sinner must be brought to understand the truth of James 4:17, "To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, it is sin." He must see, as was pointed out earlier, that his good works are sin, apart from our Lord's intervention. Isaiah 64:6, "Our righteousnesses (plural noun, i.e.: GOOD works) are as filthy rags." Proverbs 21:4, "The plowing of the wicked is sin."

The reformed sinner must be made to realize he was born with sin (Psa. 51:5) and is "by nature" the child of wrath (Eph. 2:3).

The lost must see himself guilty of all indictments of Romans 3:10-18, and hence, justly worthy of death and condemnation (Ezek. 18:4,20; Rom. 3:23; 6:23).

### THE INVITATION

Some would tend to leave the sinner at this point, but I think this an incomplete "evangel," indeed the simple gospel is yet to be presented to the sinner. If God has been pleased to reveal the facts so far proclaimed to the sinner, all he now realizes is that he is lost. Praise God, there is a positive side to our message.

A word of caution is sorely needed here, as many have so abused the invitation that it has become a gimmick — a means of glorifying man, praising the evangelist, and adding members to our reports. God forbid! Scriptural invitations were given to convicted people. This order is important.

Let me point out three New Testament invitations, or instructions to inquiring sinners. First, Our Lord's invitation in Matthew 11:28. After a soundly convicting indictment, our Lord offers an invitation to those who "labor and

are heavy laden." I submit that these are those who labor under conviction of sin, realizing they are indeed a "sinful nation, laden with iniquity." Second, Peter's invitation in Acts 2:38. The same principle applies. After a message which God was pleased to bless with Holy Spirit conviction, the hearers' hearts were pricked and they came asking "What shall we do?" It was then the invitation was given. Then lastly, look at Paul's invitation in Acts 16:31. Again, the sinner was soundly convicted by the events immediately preceding and he came to God's servant asking, "What must I do to be saved?"

Under these circumstances we see two important elements of the invitation, avoiding what this missionary regards as equal and opposite errors in modern evangelical circles. One, an invitation of sorts must be given, at least, instructions to inquiring sinners. Don't leave him hanging in despair, believing himself lost, without giving him the gospel as recorded in I Corinthians 15:3-4. Second, the invitation is not an altar call where people are urged, emotionally, to walk the aisle, wave at an evangelist, make a decision for Christ, or some other ritual.

The sinner under conviction should be pointed to Christ, the author and finisher of his salvation. He must be dealt with according to the Scriptural principle of, "By grace are ye saved, through (not by) faith, and that (faith) not of yourselves, it is the gift of God. Not of works lest any man should boast. For ye are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus, unto good works which He hath before ordained that ye should walk in them." He should not be urged to do something, follow some ritual, or any other act on his part on which he may attempt to pass His salvation.

### ASSURANCE

Closely related then, is assurance given to the inquiring sinner upon his profession of faith. Many are deceived into believing they are saved, despite lack of scriptural evidence, because the "worker" assured them they were saved on the basis of their decision, and encouraged them to write the date in the fly leaf of their Bible for assurance when in doubt.

I once served a little church on the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation near Buffalo, N. Y. There were a great number of folk who demonstrated little to no evidence of conversion, rarely if ever attended worship services, objected to doctrinal preaching, wanting only what they termed "salvation messages," yet they claimed to be saved and to love the Lord on the basis of their "decision for Christ," made some years before in the Sunday School of that very church. One outstanding example was a man I knew a number of years, yet rarely saw him sober. But every time I would attempt to deal with this man about his soul's need, he would assure me of his salvation on the basis of his decision, made in that very Sunday School.

There is indeed a scriptural assurance for the saint, whereby he can know that he is saved (I John 5:13). This confidence is two-fold and God-given, never to be given by the missionary or evangelist.

First, the assurance of faith (Rom. 8:16; II Tim. 1:12). Faith is the gift of God (Eph. 2:8; Rom. 10:17) and grasps hold of the statements of the Word. You believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that He was sent to earth for the specific purpose of saving you — personally (John 5:24; 10:11; Luke 19:10). You believe your salvation to be based on His work, not on your faith or decision.

Second, the assurance of evidence (II Cor. 13:5; Gal. 6:4; II Pet. 1:10). We look for the fruits of salvation in our lives. Do you really love the Lord "more than these?" Do you recognize a

growth in grace and Christian maturity (II Pet. 1:5-8)? Do you see a change in your life, its actions, desires, and motives (II Cor. 5:17)? Do you remember a time in your life when you knew you were lost, and the Lord revealed to you that you were the special object of His grace and mercy (I Pet. 1:13)? Do you realize a freedom from the power of sin, not just the penalty of sin (I John 3:9)?

We can not — we must not — give men assurance based on our statement, a date written in the flyleaf of their Bible, or the embracing of a doctrinal position. One is not saved because he believes Baptist doctrines. One is not saved because he decided to get saved. One is saved because our Lord and Saviour did a work of grace in his heart, motivated by God's own sovereign will — and for that reason alone.



## ... Determination

(Continued from page one)

No wonder he asked, "Who is sufficient for these things?" No wonder he desired the help of the saints' prayers. The riches of Christ which he proclaimed were unsearchable. The love of Christ which he preached passeth knowledge. The gospel of Christ which he ministered was unfathomable in content and inexhaustible in scope.

If I may be allowed to accommodate our text to the present occasion, I wish to use the present tense and say, "I am determined not to know anything among you save Jesus Christ and Him crucified." I know of no statement in all God's Word which so clearly expresses my own purpose and aim. I began each of my three previous pastorates by preaching from this text, and I have decided to do so again. Briefly, let me give you four reasons why the Crucified Christ shall be the central subject of my ministry among you.

### THIS IS THE THEME WHICH HONORS GOD THE MOST

The man who determines to know nothing among his people save Jesus Christ and Him crucified must necessarily magnify God's grace, depend upon God's Spirit, and expound God's Word. He aims not at oratory, but in glorifying his Saviour. All preaching which has not Christ for its center and circumference, ends in exalting the messenger. But he who says, "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ," must honor God. Said our Saviour, "Herein is my Father glorified that ye bear much fruit," and the only type of preaching which will produce spiritual and eternal fruit, is that which is illuminated in the light of Calvary.

### THIS IS THE THEME WHICH GOD HONORS THE MOST

Corinth was a city of heathen idolatry and wickedness. It was a stronghold of Satan. As Paul viewed its godless crowds he determined to preach and live Christ among them. With what result? The blessing of God rested upon his labors; sinners were reached; souls were born again. A church was established. The desert rejoiced and the wilderness blossomed as the rose. So it has been ever since. Wherein lay the power of Luther and Knox, Whitfield and Wesley, Spurgeon and Moody? It was not in the men themselves, but in their message. They heralded the Cross, they preached the Atonement, they magnified the Blood!

### THIS IS THE THEME WHICH IS NEEDED THE MOST

There are unsaved people here — dead in sin, indifferent to their soul's eternal interests, on the road that leadeth to destruction. How are they to be reached? What can quicken them into newness of life? There is only one

answer — the Christ of Calvary.

There are backsliders here. Those who have left their first love, who are out of fellowship with God and living minus the joy of His Salvation. What is to restore them? What is the divine prescription for such cases? The story of Redeeming Love. The same means which first brought them to Christ, will bring them back again into communion with Him. There are useless church members here: those who are indifferent to their obligations and blind to their responsibilities. What shall awaken them? Nothing but the love of Christ apprehended in the soul will constrain His people to deny themselves, take up the cross, and follow Him.

There are probably members here with differences between them. What shall reconcile them? The nearer we all get to the Cross, the nearer shall we all get to one another. Here then is the remedy for every evil, the cure for every spiritual malady. The preaching of Christ Crucified is the world's greatest need today.

### THIS IS THE THEME WHICH IS WANTED THE MOST

This is certainly true of believers. Christ alone will satisfy their hearts. The Bread of Life is what their souls are hungering for, and only He can meet their deepest longings. The language of the saints is, "Thou, O Christ, art all I want, more than all in Thee I find." And this is equally true of unbelievers. Visit the large churches in our cities, and you will find, every time, that the man who draws and holds the biggest crowds, is the one who constantly lifts up Christ. The desire of those Greeks of old well expresses the inarticulate cry of the world today — "Sir, we would see Jesus." Other themes may interest and entertain, but Christ and Him crucified alone opens blind eyes, cleanses lepers, raises the dead, and satisfies the spiritual.

"I have heard the voice of Jesus, Tell me not of aught beside: I have seen the face of Jesus, All my soul is satisfied."

(NEWS AND TRUTHS, pp. 6-7, March 22, 1916).



## The Panama Canal

(Continued from page one)

across the Isthmus, both times at the request of Columbia. But in 1903, Columbia landed troops in Panama (which at this time was a part of Columbia) to quell the Panamanian revolution; and asked the Panama Railroad for transportation to the site of the revolution. The railroad refused to violate its neutrality.

The U.S. had no part in the revolution and acted properly and with restraint in this international situation. The new Panamanian gov-

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ernment recognized the importance of a canal and offered inducements to guarantee the success of a treaty in the U.S. Congress. These inducements were "sovereignty and perpetuity" which were vital parts of the 1903 treaty. Six earlier Isthmian treaties had failed in the U.S. Congress mainly because the canal would have been under the sovereignty of another nation.

Critics of the 1903 treaty ignore the fact that we had a treaty with Nicaragua for a canal at the same time, and had already begun construction. The Panamanian inducements of "sovereignty and perpetuity" won the case for the canal to be built in Panama. From the beginning there was never any question about title, ownership or sovereignty — or for how long.

So, we built the Canal in good faith after ten years of man-killing, brilliant engineering in a land of disease, instability and revolution — a pest hole of the world. It has brought incalculable benefits to Panama which, without it, would have remained just another small country.

We bought the Canal Zone and paid for it twice — once to the government of Panama and once to each civilian land owner, making it our most expensive territorial purchase. In 1904, the enthusiasm of the Panamanian people was overwhelming. Today, the employment and other income from the Canal give Panama the highest per capita income in Central America; and its citizens are still enthusiastic.

The "Chicago Tribune" correspondent Ronald Yates recently proved this point in lengthy interviews in which he found most Panamanians happy with U.S. control and ready to fight on the U.S. side to keep it so. They feel strongly that their jobs depend on efficient operation of the Canal by the U.S. The people in Panama who have caused trouble are the Communists, the rich university students and parasitic intellectuals, according to many observers. Plus, of (continued on page 7, column 3)

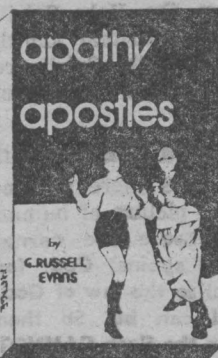
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## "WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD TODAY?"

Communist revolutionaries in San Francisco used a taxpayer-supported public school on December 4 to hold their rally "celebrating the October revolutions: China—1949 and Russia—1917." The rally was held in the Portrero Hill Junior High School.

Inside the pamphlet announcing the meeting it read: "We are building a young Communist League to (wipe out) . . . this rotten capitalist system." The propaganda tract further said that "the Revolutionary Communist Party and the Committee to Celebrate the Two October Revolutions" are holding a little rally where you can learn how to "take up Communism and unite to fight exploitation and oppression."

The newly-released translation of the New Testament in Modern Hebrew was displayed at the International Book Fair in Jerusalem by the Israel Agency of the United Bible Societies. James Payne, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the United Bible Societies, was present for a special service of dedication on April 16 when the first copies were presented to representatives of different Hebrew-speaking Christian communities throughout Israel.

The publication of the New Testament in Modern Hebrew is the culmination of efforts that began in early 1969. The standard Hebrew text for many years has been Franz Delitzsch's translation, first published in 1877 by the British and Foreign Bible Society.

(Jerusalem Post 5-3-77)

A bizarre "Lenten prayer in dance" performed in the sanctuary of St. Joachim's Catholic Church in Costa Mesa, Calif., on April 2 by a young priest, Rod Stephens, shocked the parishioners who came to pray. Stephens was accompanied in his "prayer in dance" by an unidentified young female. Most parishioners left.

**NEW YORK (EP)** — The Salvation Army was the fastest growing U.S. religious body in 1975, according to the new Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches.

For 1975, the Salvation Army reported a 5 per cent increase in membership, to reach a total of 384,317. U.S. population grew an estimated 0.8 per cent during that year.

The 1977 Yearbook which is published by Abingdon Press for the National Council of Churches, places U.S. church membership at 131,012,953; based on reports from 223 religious bodies. Although that figure is down by more than 850,000 from the total reported for the previous year, the decline is attributed to a change in the method of reporting by the National Prim-

itive Baptist Convention, Inc. Without that change, the total would show a gain of more than 500,000.

In addition to the Salvation Army, other rapidly growing religious groups include the Church of God of Prophecy (up 4.9 per cent to 65,801); Church of God of Cleveland, Tennessee (up 4.4 per cent to 343,249); Jehovah's Witnesses (up 4 per cent to 560,897); Baptist General Conference (up 3.8 per cent to 115,340); Seventh-day Adventists (up 3.3 per cent to 495,699); and Church of God of Anderson, Indiana (up 3 per cent to 166,259).

A membership of nearly 49 million was reported for the Roman Catholic Church, the nation's largest religious group. That figure constituted an increase of 0.4 per cent. The Southern Baptist Convention, largest U.S. Protestant body, has nearly 13 million members and reported a growth rate of 1.8 per cent.

**NOTTINGHAM, Eng. (EP)**—All 41 dissident Soviet Baptists now in prison for their religious activities are likely to be released by the end of this year, a Baptist leader told the annual Assembly here of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland. They would include Pastor Georgi Vins.

**SALT LAKE CITY (EP)**—Mormon Church leaders speaking at the annual Spring conference of the church stressed the need for increasing personal prayer and preparation for the return of Jesus Christ to earth. "Many ancient prophecies regarding events prior to the coming of Christ are being fulfilled or have been fulfilled," said LeGrand Richards of the Council of 12 Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints (Mormon).

"The scriptures have declared," he said, "the greatest event of all time will be the return of the Saviour in the latter days of power and glory. Obviously there has to be some preparation for that coming . . ."

**SAN JOSE, Calif. (EP)** — A conference on "The Christian in the Public School," aimed at presenting ways for teachers to introduce a Biblical perspective on subjects taught in the public schools, will be held here May 20 and 21 by Student Action for Christ, Inc., (SAC) and the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the National Educators Fellowship.

Dan I. Rodden, president and founder of SAC, which was established in West Frankfort, Ill., in 1972, said that "the conference will inform educators of their opportunities and legal rights to teach from the theistic world view."

According to Mr. Rodden, "all

education is religious. Unfortunately, most courses today are taught from the naturalistic world view—a belief that God does not exist, or at best, that men live in a closed system in which God cannot intervene. Teachers are indoctrinating students when they present only naturalism and exclude theism."

**CHICAGO (EP)** — A 10-year dream of a Romanian Baptist pastor here is about to come true.

When Alexa Popovici, pastor of the Romanian Baptist Church here, was president of the Baptist Theological Seminary in Bucharest, Romania, he was asked to write a history of Anabaptists in Romania.

Now after 10 years of research, his new book, "The History of the Anabaptists in Romania" (1527-1968), has been published in the Romanian language, and will be distributed to Romanian communities throughout Europe.

**ALBANY, N.Y. (EP)** — The New York State Board of Equalization and Assessment has announced

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that persons ordained by mail from the Universal Life Church are not eligible for religious property tax exemption.

While the opinion is not binding, it is expected to give assessors direction in ruling on the hundreds of applications from across the state for property tax exemption based on membership in the Universal Life Church.

The Church was founded in 1962 by Kirby Hensley, a one-time Baptist preacher, who calls himself "bishop" of the unit based in Modesto, Calif. The Church claims to have ordained more than two million "ministers" by mail and issued some 10,000 honorary doctor of divinity degrees at a charge of \$20 each.

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (EP)** — Chances of ultimate adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment dropped sharply here when the Florida Senate rejected ERA by a vote of 21 to 19.

### The Panama Canal

(Continued from Page Six)

course, the Communist-controlled dictatorship government.

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled unanimously that the title to the Canal Zone is proper and that the territory belongs to the United States. So did the U. S. Court of Appeals in 1971. The Canal Zone is a U.S. territorial possession. It is not held under a "lease" or franchise. It is unequivocally American soil, just as are the many U.S. states carved out of the Louisiana, the Gadsden and the Alaska Purchases. The annuity paid to the Panamanian government is not a "rental" but is the augmented annual obligation of the Panama Railroad assumed by the U.S. in the 1903 treaty which ceded the Canal Zone.

Panama's dictator, General Omar Torrijos, seized power in 1968 and threw out the legally elected president, Arnulfo Arias. Torrijos is a Communist and al-

lows only the Communist Party to operate in Panama. He has close ties with Fidel Castro. For the past nine years, Panama has been controlled by a Moscow-Havana-Panama axis for one main objective: Communist control of the Canal, long a goal of Communism.

The Canal is vital for the U.S. economy and national defense. Closing the Canal would be like losing a large segment of the U.S. Navy. Control by the Communists would amount to abandonment of the Monroe Doctrine.

Opponents of the 1903 treaty argue colonialism. However, colonialism means exploiting the natural resources of a country, such as tin, rubber, etc., which is harvested by an oppressed people for sale abroad. Panama is not oppressed, but enjoys a high per capita income solely because of the Canal. A similar example is British ownership and occupation of the Rock of Gibraltar for almost 300 years, a situation which greatly benefits the Spanish economy. Some claim that the Canal is Panama's most valuable "natural resource." Not true. It is strictly a man-made resource — by the U.S. Corps of Engineers over a ten year period of superb dedication, sacrifice and perseverance.

We could go on and on with the facts in the case, which are largely ignored by the opposition, but space is limited.

**Question No. 2:** What is the position of our government? Not very favorable. Unexplainable. Mysterious. Before his election, President Carter said, "I will never relinquish actual control of the canal by this country." However, after the election, he immediately resumed negotiations for a new treaty to surrender U.S. sovereignty. And negotiations were soon reported as "going well and advancing." Why did Mr. Carter completely ignore his promise?

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has been the leader in attempting to commit the U.S. to a new treaty for the return of the Canal to the sovereignty of Panama. He signed the Kissinger-Task agreement of February 7, 1974 for this purpose. New Secretary of State Cyrus Vance has said we cannot renege on this commitment.

However, the public has not accepted this and neither has Professor Donald M. Dozer, professor of History at the University of California and Canal expert, who calls the Kissinger agreement an "ultra vires" act — meaning without binding force. He says that the "agreement" is illegal and unauthorized because the Executive Branch, under our Constitution, is denied the right to promise the surrender of U.S. territory. Article IV, Section 3 (2) gives solely to Congress the power to dispose of U.S. territory and property. The State Department knows this, of course, but has pressed on for the past ten years with promises and placations to Panama for the eventual return of the Canal. This has only served to keep the Panamanian agitators stirred up.

(Continued on page 8, column 3)

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### Halliman's Report

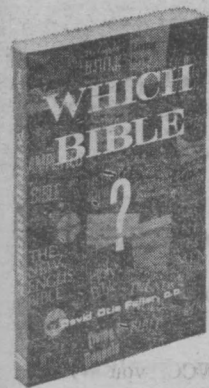
(Continued from page five)

water, but until and unless you have had such upon the authority of the Lord's church you have not had the 'one baptism.'

As this is being written, some three or four churches have candidates to be baptized that have come to them from other denominations and the pastors of these various churches have been promised that they can expect trouble if they try to baptize these candidates. Of course, the baptizings will take place in due time and any battles to be fought will be left up to the Lord insofar as we Baptists are concerned. The one thing that might cause you folk back in America to set up and take notice is the fact that almost all the opposition that comes to the Baptists here in Papua, New Guinea comes from these dear old Protestants—the ones that go around telling everybody that all professing Christians other than the Catholics are one and the same, sort of like the Joneses and Smiths, just different names. But the truth of the matter is, we Baptists lay no claim to having any relatives either distant or near when it comes to the Lord's Church, you are either a Baptist or you are not of the Lord's Church — it's just that simple. Beloved, pray for us.

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## God Came Down

(Continued from page one)  
of His greatness. Yet, what a wonder that God has considered us, who are less than nothing, and has come down.

### GOD IN THE BEGINNING

"In the beginning God" (Gen. 1:1). What a fitting way for the Bible to start. The beginning starts with God already in existence. No proof is given. It is merely understood. God is and always has been and always will be. There has never been a time when God has not existed.

God's greatness and power is shown in the creation as He spoke the heavens and earth into existence. In six days He created all the wonders of space and the living matter upon the earth. Of such things, we cannot comprehend. "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable" (Ps. 145:3).

The zenith of God's creation, man, was to have dominion over that which He had created. But Satan, as you know, came in the form of the serpent and tempted Eve. When she had been deceived of Satan and had eaten of the tree which God had said for them not to eat, Adam also ate of the fruit of that tree in willful transgression against God.

Then came God walking in the garden. What a wonder that God came down! Though certainly He knew what they had done, in His wonderful grace He came down unto them and inquired of them, thus showing them their transgression (though inwardly they knew they had disobeyed, for they, in their self-will tried to cover themselves). God then covered them with the skins of animals which He slew and made a glorious promise. "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou

shalt bruise his heel" (Gen. 3:15). Why did God make this promise? Why did God come down unto them? Truly, this is a wonder that I shall never comprehend. "What is man, that thou art mindful of him?"

### GOD WITH US

Those words, "And they shall call his name Immanuel" (Matt. 1:20-23), are most precious because they tell us again that God came down. Immanuel, of course, means "God with us." Truly God, who came in the form of flesh, came to save that which was lost.

But Isaiah 53 tells us that Immanuel had no comeliness. "God with us" was despised and rejected of men. Jesus Christ, God the Son, the promise of God in His grace, found no favor among sinful men. He, the Creator of the Universe, was afflicted shamefully among men and yet He opened not His mouth to revile them. He opened not His mouth to command His angels to consume them! He opened not His mouth to testify of His holiness and unworthiness to die, but He suffered all the torments of the fierceness of God's wrath which His elect would have suffered. O, what a wonder that God came down! What is grace as this? "What is man, that thou art mindful of him?"

### GOD UPON US

After that God had redeemed for Himself a people and had established His kind of church, He did not then let us to ourselves (Acts 1:8). He would not leave us comfortless (John 14:18). His work on the earth had ended. He was ready to ascend to His Father. But, praise His name, He was not through with coming down unto His people.

I believe that the Holy Spirit indwelt all believers in the Old Testament just as He does now. Those believers were not waiting to be indwelt by the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. They were waiting for a special outpouring of the

Holy Spirit. In fact, there on that day, Christ immersed His church in the Holy Spirit thereby empowering it to fulfill the Great Commission which He had given her.

God, again, came down upon them. He was to lead them (His church) in all truth (John 16:13). He was to accredit them as He had accredited His tabernacle and His temple. He was to be with them, even unto the end of the age. Again, "What is man, that thou art mindful of him?" Why should God regard them? Who are we that God should privilege us to carry out His Great Commission? Who can measure the depth of God's love, mercy, and grace?

### FOREVER UNITED WITH GOD

In His grace, God the three in one, came down to sinful man. But, one day His people shall ascend to Him in Heaven. By His power "we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality."

What a glorious thought! While living here on earth we have had the "earnest of our inheritance" living with us, the Holy Spirit. But, when that holy city, New Jerusalem, comes down from God out of Heaven as a bride adorned for her husband, then shall "the tabernacle of God" be with His people (Rev. 21:3). We shall dwell with God and He shall dwell with us. We shall be His people and He shall be our God. There we shall be forever united into endless eternity.



## The Panama Canal

(Continued from page seven)

President Carter's chief negotiator for a new treaty is Sol M. Linowitz whose background is unbelievable. In 1972, he was a registered foreign agent of Communist Chile under the late Salvador Allende. Congressman Larry McDonald (D-Ga.) tells us this and much more. Linowitz is still an active foreign agent for the government of Columbia which borders Panama. Furthermore, Linowitz has other conflicts of interest: He is a former director of the Panama Marine Midland Bank which has loaned hundreds of millions of dollars to Panama, and repayment of these loans largely depends on a "new treaty" favorable to Panama. He is linked with the Marxist Institute of Policy Studies, the late Chilean Communist leader Orlando Letelier, Cuban dictator Fidel Castro, the Cuban secret police and a group of pro-Castro leftists — all seeking a new treaty. All these charges are well documented by Congressman McDonald and have not been challenged or disproved.

Even if there were any reason to negotiate, Mr. Carter's choice of Linowitz as chief negotiator raises serious questions.

Former Ambassador Spruille Braden, a respected diplomat and authority on Latin America, sums up the situation like this: "It would be unlawful, unpatriotic and absurd for us to give away the Panama Canal, as it would be for us to return the vast areas of the Louisiana Purchase to France, Alaska to Russia, Texas to Mexico, the Virgin Islands to Denmark, and parts of Florida to Spain, England or France.

"Secretary of State Kissinger appears to be ill-advised and ignorant of the history, moral commitments and other pertinent facts concerning the relationship of the U.S. to Panama and the Canal Zone. He risks the dignity of this great nation in a futile gesture which will benefit only the Panamanian politicians, the Communists and the agitators." Perhaps Dr. Kissinger just does not have the "feel" for American history, having been a U.S. citizen only since World War II.

**Question No. 3:** What are the mainline churches saying and why? Most want to give the Canal away and want the preachers to tell their congregations about it. Why? Because the Panamanians need liberating even if it means the Communists take over the Canal. They call it the "Christian" thing to do.

Last year, the Methodist Board of Global Ministries called for the immediate recognition of the "sovereign rights" of the Republic of Panama over the U.S.-controlled Canal Zone, and called on churches to educate their people.

L. M. McCoy calls the Panama treaty "one of the most immoral treaties the U.S. ever entered into," and says the 1903 treaty was "usurpation of the national sovereignty of Panama." Telling the congregations is a wonderful idea and it is right in line with the 1977 Emory University Conference of Methodist ministers which challenged pastors to "speak their convictions on official church positions."

The National Council of Churches (NCC) agrees. Its 14-member delegation spent five days in Panama in early 1976 at church expense to prove it, saying in effect: The U.S. is guilty of colonialism in Panama; and let's negotiate a new treaty with Panama to return the Canal and give Panama increased benefits. The NCC group said that "U.S. churches have a responsibility to inform and educate their constituencies" about the Canal. Informing constituents is a great idea, and they must be told the whole story — start to finish.

The 1976 General Conference of the United Methodist Church resolved, almost unanimously, with no floor debate and only scattered negative votes, that negotiations should begin for return of the Canal to Panama. The resolution called the present treaty unjust, unequal, disadvantageous and irritating.

The United Presbyterian Church at its 188th General Assembly in 1976 resolved much the same thing: Give the Canal back to Panama. It was a close vote: 295 to 253. At least, 253 Presbyterians were not afraid to speak up.

In mid-1976 the U.S. Catholic Conference attacked the 1903 treaty, saying it was drafted "when international affairs were frequently determined by precepts of power." However, the Catholic statement did not explain just when "precepts of power" ceased to be used in international affairs.

And where were all our "statesmen" and church "leaders" when American history was being studied in school? These examples of support for a changed Panama Canal treaty suggests that they were not paying attention. Dr. G. Aiken Taylor of the "Presbyterian Journal" reminds us of a rule of thumb to be applied when the churches begin to pass resolutions on national and international af-

fairs: "You can be sure that the welfare of the U.S. and the cause of freedom are under attack."

**Question No. 4:** What can we do? We can do something. We can do a few simple things: Pick up your pens and a few sheets of paper and write a few brief straight-to-the-point letters. This will take just a few minutes and will cost you a few 13c stamps. But it could change things!

Write a letter to the President. Write one to each of your two U.S. Senators and one to your Representative in the U.S. Congress. Tell them your feelings on the Panama Canal. Ask the members of Congress their positions and ask how they will vote on any proposed new treaty. Then, telephone a few of your friends (5 or 6) and ask them to do the same. And ask your friends to telephone 5 or 6 of their friends for the same purpose. (Of course, we are assuming that most of our readers agree with our Panama Canal position). After a few weeks, go through the same letter writing procedure again, including calling your friends. Repetition helps drive home a point.

The letter does not have to be long and complex. Much better to write two lines than nothing. Even a super-short letter, such as: "I strongly oppose any change in the Panama Canal. Please advise me of your position and why." (However, please don't make photocopies of some form letter or use multiple signatures on one letter because these letters are less than impressive). Don't worry about correct addresses or salutations. They'll get the letter and the message. The Senate zip code is 20510, the House of Representatives 20515.

Some may be thinking: "What's the use?" But, take heart. There are signs that letter writing has changed many politicians' minds. If we can help change their minds on the Panama Canal, these politicians might just think more carefully about other radical proposals. Remember: They have to listen to constituents. They want our vote.

If only one-half of the people who are reading these lines do only one-half of what we are suggesting, the impact could be terrific. Politicians do listen to their constituents. It is vital for them to listen because it has to do with a most important mission: Get re-elected!

It seems incredible that we should be pleading with our elected representatives to keep one of America's most important and vital assets: the Panama Canal. And doubly incredible when most public opinion polls are better than ten to one against any change in the Panama Canal treaty. It is also hard to believe that our churchmen and politicians have the whole story — even as much information as contained in this short article.

"We shall have no better conditions in the future if we are satisfied with those at present."—Edison.

## At Least Five People To Whom You Can Send TBE

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (A SINNER)  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (A PREACHER)  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER)  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (A CHURCH MEMBER)  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (A YOUNG PERSON)  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Subs \_\_\_\_\_

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