

One way to break a bad habit is to drop it.

# REFLECTIONS ON THE PAST AND FUTURE

By MILBURN COCKRELL  
Editor of The Baptist Examiner

What kind of a year was 1978? It was a year like most other years, except we were a part of making its history. It was a year intermingled with good and bad events. More books and Bibles were distributed and religious TV broadcasts were made than ever before. Yet it was also the year of the Jim Jones mess and the murder of missionaries in Rhodesia.

## EVANGELISM

Billy Graham held crusades in Las Vegas, Kansas City, Scandinavian countries, and Poland. Luis Palau and Rex Humbard preached to thousands in South America. Morris Cerullo announced plans for a \$100 million "World Outreach Center" in San Diego. Oral Roberts got the green light on his controversial medical center, and the dean of his school resigned.

Israel passed a law to hinder Christian missionary work. Missionaries were killed in Rhodesia and elsewhere in battle-weary Africa. Evangelicals came under

pressure in Portugal, but a proposed Spanish constitution carried new guarantees of religious freedom. A bill concerning religious conversions in India was termed "unconstitutional and anti-Christian." Baptist admonitions not to appoint an envoy to the Vatican fell on deaf ears at the White House.

The Russians enraged the world and made a mockery of human rights' statements by sentencing several Jewish "dissidents" and "activists" to prison and exile. Peter Vins, son of Russian Baptist leader Georgi Vins, was sentenced to a year in prison.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Kentucky and North Carolina were battlegrounds. Kentucky education officials got a tiger by the tail in the Kentucky Association of Christian Schools. The courts barred the state from regulating beyond minimum fire, safety, and attendance requirements. An injunction was imposed against displaying the Ten Commandments in Kentucky classrooms. A Kentucky

law requiring Bible reading in public classrooms was "probably unconstitutional."



MILBURN COCKRELL

In North Carolina, 63 conservative Christian schools refused to accept state educational regula-

tions. Teachers were fired for witnessing for Christ in the classroom. New Jersey endorsed silent meditation in schools.

## PUBLISHING

Zondervan reported that pre-publication sales of the New International Version Bible topped one million copies. The Voice, a South African Christian weekly for blacks, was banned by the government. The ban was lifted following international protests. The New York City based New World, published by Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church, increased its press run from 50,000 to 400,000 during the city newspaper strike.

## RELIGIOUS TURMOIL

The United Methodist Church was embroiled in a class action suit over bankruptcy and kickbacks involving the Pacific Homes retirement center. Daddy Herbert W. gave the boot to son Garner Ted Armstrong, so Garner started the Church of God International. The FBI took on the Church of Scientology and led nine arrests to zero. Sun Moon courted England as a po-

tential home, dodged U.S. officials, sued investigating Congressman Donald Fraser (D-Minn.), and termed Fraser's election defeat "punishment from God."

"Christian Yellow Pages" popped up in the Carolinas and Tennessee and quickly folded. The Church of the Brethren turned in its handguns. Anheuser-Busch Brewery dropped its plans to market "baby beer." Madalyn Murray O'Hair lost an \$80,000 slander suit she attributed to a jury of "malice-filled Christians." The Mexican government ordered 50 radio stations to cancel Christian programs.

1978 was the year of three popes. Pope Paul VI's death was followed by the death of Pope John Paul I after less than 40 days in the Vatican. The third Pope was the first ever from Poland. The Singing Nun was singing the blues: she's broke in Belgium.

Underground Evangelism and Jesus to the Communist World engaged in a court trial. The National Council of Churches fired high ex-

(Continued on page 8, column 3)

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

## "LIBERATED" LOSERS

By RAYMOND A. WAUGH  
Midland, Texas

Have we forgotten what God has done for women and with women? From every side, in our supposedly modern day of sophisticated civilization, there is an almost endless din of confusion around the subject of women.

As in most every historical day, it would seem that those with the most radical views and those with the noisiest extremes are the ones

parts of some of our greatest cities in the land are in fact "Red Light Districts." The ghettos of our cities are dungeons of licentiousness and sexual promiscuity beyond any "Red Light District" of 25, 50 or 100 years ago.

Even more, the hotels, and motels in the respected areas of our cities and towns are supported in part by the sexual adventurers which are very prominent in our society. And most of these are owned or operated by respected members of the community who simply harden their consciences as they close their eyes to the evil which they are promoting for a price!

Some of the suburbs of our finest metropolitan and rural areas are rife with swap clubs and socially-acceptable promiscuity. And the number of second, third and fourth marriages in our society pretty well indicate that marriage vows are often simply a legalization of short-term sexual liaisons—not an ideal of "for better or for worse, until death do us part."

Instead of supposed men of God—pastors, preachers, and professors—taking a vigorous stand for Biblical truth and marital fidelity, they attempt to become counselors and confessors of these who care not at all about the Word of God. Some, in their unscriptural scheming for larger memberships and greater financial support, real-

(Continued on page 6, column 4)

## SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS OF LIFE

L. A. DuBOSE  
Hillsboro, Oregon

Another thing about the cells—the blood cells. The Bible states that the life (nepes) of the flesh is in the blood (Lev. 17:11). William Harvey, seventeenth century scientist, later confirmed this statement.

In the body itself there are many differing types of cells. Especially fixed cells, such as those forming muscle tissue, nerve, fat, gland, or bone tissue. Different are the cells that form the fluid known as blood. This fluid is free to move throughout the entire body, and its function is both to feed and carry off the waste products from all of the fixed cells. Our purpose is not to go into the biological functions of blood cells, but to show their duties, as well as to point out their multitudinous numbers, and their short-lived existences. The normal adult has about five quarts of blood within his body structure. Each one of these fixed cells is dependent upon this flowing stream of plasma and blood cells for its continuing existence. According to my understanding, one of the tracts on blood tell me that there are about five million of these little red cells to every cubic millimeter. (Continued on page 5, column 3)

## The Baptist Examiner

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

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## UNITY & DIVIDED SUNDAY SCHOOL

RALPH A. DOTY  
Aloha, Oregon

(Text of a message delivered at the New Testament Baptist Church of Nicholasville, Kentucky, by Ralph A. Doty, former pastor).

In Acts, Chapter 4, verse 32, we find these words: "The multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul." The question I would ask you all to consider is this. Does this passage constitute an abomination or is it merely a statement of facts? Should we construe this statement to mean that we must all, without exception, meet together in one single group, or should we look upon this statement as only a description of a situation as it then existed in the church in Jerusalem? If we interpret this passage as an abomination then we must also accept the rest of the passage which I have not read as an abomination too. "Neither said any of them that ought of the things he possessed was his own; but they had all things common." I know of no Baptist Church which advocates this latter condition, nor do I consider it practical in the day and age in which we live. Acts 4:32 in my opinion is simply a statement of the conditions as they were in that early church and in no way constitute a command for us to function in the exact same way today.

Was it Henry Clay who said, "I would rather be right than be president"? No matter who said it, that is my position. I want above all else to be right and to know God's will for me and I have that desire in my heart, as I know every member of this church has, to do God's will whatever may be the cost. The subject I am about to discuss with this church is one which has been on my heart and mind for some time. In an independent study of the subject the

past few months, I have had to reconsider and modify some of my earlier thinking. In private discussions of the subject I was advised by well meaning friends to refrain from ever bringing this matter to your attention. However, I



RALPH A. DOTY

feel that I would be shirking my duty as your pastor were I to fail to present all of the truth of God's Word as I see it.

Before considering certain passages of Scripture I feel that we ought to get settled in our minds exactly what we mean by certain terms. We sometimes speak of an action or doctrine or system as be-

ing "scriptural" or "unscriptural." What exactly do we mean by these terms? I assume that you have the idea on these terms as I have, namely, that any activity, system or doctrine which is taught in the Scripture is scriptural while any activity, system or doctrine which is not taught in the Scripture is unscriptural. I believe that these definitions express that which is in most people minds relative to the two terms.

Let us examine several passages of Scripture. Philippians 1:27 says: "Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ; that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel." Philippians 2:2 says "Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind." I Peter 3:8 says: "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous." Romans 12:16 says "Be of the same mind one toward another."

All of these Scriptures have one central thought, that of oneness, unity, agreement, accord and harmony. They exclude any idea of division, disagreement, dissention or antagonism. All of these Scriptures are applicable to the Lord's (Continued on page 3, column 1)



RAYMOND A. WAUGH

who get most of the publicity. On the one hand, the women who promote themselves toward an unscriptural liberation confuse even their strongest supporters with their hypocritical sensationalizing of themselves as feminists.

On the other hand, some magazines, books, and dramatic productions promote women as the playthings of men. Although the effort seems to be promotion of women, it is really a new twist on the old, historic idea that women are the chattel of men with a price on their bodies.

## "LIBERATED" LICENTIOUSNESS

It is true, we no longer hear of "Red Light Districts." Yet, many

## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon By Milburn Cockrell

## ARE YOU A SINNER?

In II Chronicles 28:10 there is found this question: "But are there not with you, even with you, sins against the Lord our God?" The children of Israel had taken 200,000 captivities of their brethren of the tribe Judah. But God sent Oded to warn them concerning their blood-thirsty thoughts against their brethren. Our text is God's warning through the prophet to the Israelites, showing them that they too were sinners before Jehovah. How timely is the question: "But are there not with you, even with you, sins against the Lord our

God?" What a home question! This gets down to the nitty gritty of the matter. We are prone to look at the sins of other people and forget our own. It is our nature to magnify the mote in our brother's eye and minimize the beam in our own eye. Yet it behooves men to clean their own houses, to sweep their own streets and to purify their own streams.

Today I want you to forget about the failures of other people. Rid your mind of the hypocrites in the churches. Cleanse your thoughts of the follies of your immediate

family. For a few moments concentrate on your own condition before the Lord. Ask yourself the question: "Is there not with me some sins against the Lord my God?" To honestly face this question is to answer it in the affirmative.

The Bible expressly teaches that all the sons of Adam are sinners. Every son of Adam is a sinner in a fourfold sense. First, each descendant of Adam is a sinner by the original sin of his first father. Second, he is a sinner by the sinful (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

NO PAPER  
NEXT WEEK  
UNDER DATE  
OF JAN. 6, 1979



## The Baptist Examiner

THE BAPTIST PAPER FOR THE  
BAPTIST PEOPLE

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1622 Wharton Avenue  
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27107  
November 26, 1978

Dear Brother Cockrell:

I resent deeply the "To Whom It May Concern" note you felt compelled to write in regard to Brother Joe Wilson's excellent sermon on "Were the Elect Ever the Object of God's Wrath."

Of all the preachers that you know, how many of them do you actually know how they feel on this matter? I'd be interested and I think you would be surprised to know just how they do feel. I am no theologian and I think a lot of technicality in interpretation is foolish. But simply stated, just as surely as reprobation follows election, so does belief in an immutable God lead to the fact that the elect could never have been the objects of God's wrath. One can twist and turn words around to confuse but it is a fact that God never hated Jacob and he never loved Esau. I feel that is what Bro. Joe was saying.

There seems to be a "Get Joe Wilson Movement" under way and you seem to be the leader of the pack. Underlying this movement, there seems to be a lot of jealousy. And I don't know why. Preachers who believe in a sovereign God should know that God didn't give everyone the amazing preaching, teaching, and writing ability that He gave Joe Wilson. You state plainly in the Publication Policies that "publication of an article does not necessarily mean the editor is in complete agreement with the writer, nor does it mean he endorses all this person may have written on other subjects." Now, this statement seems to have been sufficient on all other articles in the past. Why did you feel you had to make special note about Bro. Joe's article?

Was it due to all the phone calls, letters and personal inquiries? I doubt it. As I doubt that there were many. Of the few you may have received, I would imagine they were all from people who, for some unknown reason have this personal

vendetta against Bro. Joe.

There are some people and articles you have not been lead to "wash your hands of," and let your reading audience know about. Maybe it's because you haven't received enough letters, calls, and personal inquiries about them. Well, I am inquiring.

I understand G. Russell Evans is a Methodist. He has as many articles in TBE as anyone else. Why don't you tell the people of his affection for the harlot daughter of Rome? You require the writers of "For Christian Boys and Girls" to identify themselves as members of particular Baptist churches. Why don't you identify Evans and other non-Baptist authors as such? I'd be ashamed too. As long as people don't know, they won't complain, right?

Elvis Gregory and Dr. Pound are post trib and have "new light" on the priesthood of the church. Why don't you tell your readers that there are very few sound Baptists who believe that the saved will go through the tribulation and fewer who believe that only members of Baptist churches are priests unto God? You don't believe that, do you? Regardless of how many missionaries Bro. Gregory supports and how many members he has and how he hates the name, he is a hardshell on the gospel as is Brother Pound.

When you announced the ordination of a young preacher in the church in Charleston, S.C. pastored by Lee Williams, it sounded to me like you also recommended the church as if it were a true church, when in fact they had literally taken the name of Baptist from their church building. And her pastor denounced Baptist doctrine and principles. This was called to your attention but I never saw a retraction in TBE.

In an article some time ago, Furman Jones sent women to hell who wore pants and were not chastised for it. I consider this a far more reaching and serious pronouncement than anything Bro. Joe said. At least he didn't send anyone to hell for disagreeing with him. I am sure you received many calls, letters, and inquiries about that article. You stood in your office and assured me that you surely didn't agree with him and that you were preparing an article at that very time opposing Jones' view to be published in TBE. Somehow, I must have missed an issue for I never saw your answer to that rash statement.

Incidentally, I hope Mac Hall doesn't embarrass you and preach what he believes about the church at your Thanksgiving Conference. Bro. Cockrell, how can you hobnob with men who have such great differences doctrinally from you and treat as a leper one who is in very close doctrinal agreement with you?

Since so much space in TBE is devoted to "What's Happening in the Religious World" and current events, you are undoubtedly well read on the subjects. So, you must have noticed the great affinity our government has for her enemies while she stabs her friends in the back. There is a striking parallel between you and our government. The revival services of Grace Baptist Church in Winston-Salem with David West were not announced in TBE. I suppose there is some logical reason.

I could go on and on but these few examples are enough to make Brother Gilpin turn over in his grave. He can't be pleased to look from glory and see the battle he fought so long and hard being lost.

My husband and I have supported TBE for 23 years. From her inception as a mission of Calvary Baptist Church 19 years ago, Grace Baptist Church and her pastor have supported TBE. I'd be curious to know how much support it got from Milburn Cockrell or his church before he became editor. I feel I can make this statement without qualification. "There is not a man living today who, in the past, has given TBE any more of his time, prayers, and support in every way than Joe Wilson." The thanks—a knife in the back!

TBE is in danger of losing some support. And that is not a threat, but a promise. But then you may no longer need the support of the faithful.

I am sorry that unlike Bro.

Gilpin, you have not used your position to unite sound Baptists, but instead have been instrumental in dividing them. I hope you will prayerfully consider your attitude toward Bro. Joe and other sound men who are contending for the faith once delivered to the saints.

Mrs. Cletus R. Snyder

Dear Brother Cockrell:

Obviously I have not been making a regular contribution to The Forum. There are several reasons for this, among which are the press of business affairs, the burden of my pastoral work, the need for family life, and lastly, so many of the questions seem, to me, at least, to be irrelevant to any spiritual or biblical issue.

Consequently, please accept my regrets for informing you that I am no longer able to write for The Forum. I have thoroughly enjoyed having had the privilege to be a regular contributor to The Baptist Examiner and hope that, from time to time, to be able to send an article which you might use in TBE as it pleases you.

Sincerely, Your Brother in Christ,  
Paul Tiber

## Are You A Sinner?

(Continued from page one)

nature inherited from Adam. Third, he is a sinner by practice. Fourth, he is a sinner by choice. Now I want us to consider these four facts in the order in which I mentioned them.

**A SINNER BY ORIGINAL SIN**  
In the Garden of Eden Adam, the father of the human race, had a choice between life and death, self and God, and sin and righteousness. By the exercise of his free



Bro. Daniel Parks has made known his call to go to the West Indies under the authority of the Hillcrest Baptist Church and Pastor E. W. Parks. Bro. Parks will go to assist Missionary George A. Starling, who has been ministering on that field for the past 25 years. Elder Parks will teach in the Baptist Academy and in the churches of the fellowship there.

Churches desiring him to visit with them and present his work should contact him at 350 Fishel Road, No. 18, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27107, or by phone at 919-788-8299. For more information about the work you may contact Elder E. W. Parks, care Hillcrest Baptist Church, 4580 South Main Street, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27107, or by phone at 919-788-7093.

will he chose evil instead of good and Satan rather than God. The consequence was two-fold: Physical death (Gen. 3:22; I Cor. 15:22) and spiritual death (Gen. 2:17). Since the fall man has been alienated from the life of God and a dying creature. In Eden man lost the moral likeness of God. His intellect was blinded, his affections corrupted, and his will enslaved. Seeking to be a god, he became a slave; seeking independence from God, he ceased to be master of himself. His sin caused him to be banished from Eden and to lose the fellowship of God.

Adam was the federal head of all his natural seed. His sin was as truly the sin of every one of his posterity as if it had been personally committed by him. In Romans 5:12 it is written: "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so

death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Death came through sin, and all who die are sinners. This proves that even infants are sinners in Adam. Paul said that "death passed" to all men, meaning it passed from father to son from one generation to another. Death is common to all men because all men are sinners before God.

By virtue of our organic unity (Acts 17:26), the sin of Adam is a sin charged to the whole human race: "Therefore, as by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation . . . for as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners . . ." (Rom. 5:18-19). By the one offense of Adam "judgment came upon all men to condemnation." When Adam ate the forbidden fruit, he by that single act made us sinners. All mankind descending from Adam by ordinary generation sinned in him and fell with him in the first transgression. You, sir, are a son of Adam and every son of Adam is a sinner. There is with you, even with you, some sins against the Lord your God.

### A SINNER BY NATURE

Man is born in the world with a sinful nature inherited from Adam. Sin is the heritage of man from the time of his conception, and it is present in human nature so early that it cannot possibly be considered as a result of imitation of parents. There is no birth without sin: "Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? Not one" (Job. 14:4). A sinful woman cannot give birth to a sinless child. Each child born into the world has a sinful nature from birth.

It is an immutable law that like begets like all over the world. The nature of the hyena is propagated. The offspring resembles the parentage. The offspring of the lion is not a lamb but a young lion. The offspring of a wolf is not a lamb but a young wolf. Even so the offspring of a sinful woman is not an angel but a young sinner. The child has the same nature of his parents, the same moral character, the same proneness to evil. Those who go around and speak of "pure, sweet, innocent babies" are ignorant of the teachings of the Bible. Like begets like, and a clean child can no more come from unclean parents than grapes of thorns. Sin is a hereditary disease passed from one generation to another.

The psalmist said: "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me" (Ps. 51:3). Here David expresses a depravity so deep it had its origin at the beginning of existence. The sense is as soon as the mass of human nature was shaped in the womb and united to a soul, sin was in him, and he was in sin. David was a sinner when he was conceived in his mother's womb. He does not say "my sin," but "sin." He being descended from Adam had a sinful nature which is common to all mankind.

If David, born of religious parents, famous for early piety, a man after God's own heart, and from whose seed the Messiah sprang, was born a sinner, then every man comes into the world with a corrupt nature. We have from conception the snares of sin in our bodies, the seeds of sin in our souls, and the stain of sin upon both. This is what is called original sin, for it is as ancient as our origin and the cause of all actual transgressions. This is that foolishness bound in the heart of every child (Prov. 22:15). This is that evil imagination that man has from his youth (Gen. 8:21). This is that propensity to sin

which causes even a child of the king to be bent to backsliding from God (Hos. 11:7).

David did not mean as some have supposed that his parents sinned by begetting and conceiving him. He was conceived in lawful wedlock. In other Psalms David speaks of his mother's piety and pleads his relation to her (Ps. 116:16). This he would not have done by Divine inspiration had his mother been an impure woman. Besides, if David were a bastard, he could not have entered into the congregation of the Lord (Deut. 23:2), yet we know that he often did (Ps. 42:4; 55:14).

Isaiah 48:8 says man is "a transgressor from the womb." Psalm 58:3 reads: "The wicked are estranged from the womb: They go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies." The first thing a baby does is not an act of holiness but an act of sin. His first speaking is lying and his first going is straying. The first developments of character are sinful. His depraved nature inherited from Adam makes it certain that he will act according to his nature. In Ephesians 2:3 Paul says the elect were "by nature children of wrath, even as others." The term "by nature" points to something inborn and original, as distinguished from what is subsequently acquired.

Sin is original in man's nature. He is a sinner before he exercises a personal and conscious choice (Rom. 5:12-14). Sin exists in the case of infants prior to moral consciousness. Infants die, and death is the wages of sin (Rom. 6:23; Jas. 1:15). The Scriptures teach all men are under condemnation and need redemption by Christ. Children are never made an exception to this rule. Hence infants are not innocent, being born with original sin. Yes, dear friend, there is with you, even with you, some sins against the Lord our God. You have been a sinner since the day you were born!

**A SINNER BY PRACTICE**  
No mortal on earth is without sin. I Kings 8:46 says: "For there is no man that sinneth not." Such is the depravity of human nature, the temptation of Satan, and the treachery of the heart, men cannot cease from sin. Isaiah 53:6 says: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way." Here it is seen that (Continued on page 4, column 3)

## BRIEF NOTES

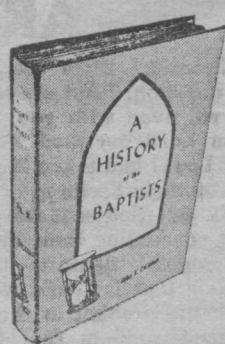
Elder Martin Holmes has a new address. His old address was 1525 N. E. 17th Ave., Ocala, Fla. 32670. His new address is 3608 N. E. 22nd Court, Ocala, Fla. 32670.

Elder Bruce Morgan has resigned as pastor of Grace Missionary Baptist Church of Kirksville, Mo., and is available for work wherever the Lord may lead. His address is 22 Roselene Dr., Kirksville, Mo. 63501 and his phone number is 816-665-2559.

Any elder interested in the Grace Missionary Baptist Church should contact Bro. Carl Walker, 513 E. Mill Street, Kirksville, Mo. 63501, or by phone at 816-665-9147.

Elder Wendell P. Furlong has resigned as pastor of the Faith Missionary Baptist Church, Earl Street, Danville, Ky. Bro. Furlong has a new address: 301 Aztec Trail, Indian Hills, Somerset, Ky. 42501.

The Faith Missionary Baptist Church has called Elder Eugene P. Helton as their pastor, and he has accepted the work.



## A HISTORY OF THE BAPTISTS

By John T. Christian  
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## Unity And Divided . .

(Continued from page one)

Let me now direct your attention to 2 Timothy 3:16-17: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." I believe exactly what this passage says, but what exactly does it say? Consider the 17th verse, "that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all (or every) good works." Does this mean that the Scriptures will tell me all of the tiny details about every good work, or does it mean that it will indicate what is to be done and leave the details up to me? The question before us now is, will the Word of God tell us what we are to do and also exactly how to do it down to the smallest detail? Before answering this question let us examine a few practices of this church. We have said that we must have a "thus saith the Lord" for every teaching or activity of our church. The big question is DO WE? Where may I find Scripture advocating the following?

1. At 10:00 A.M. we meet in this building each Sunday morning for Bible study. Do we have any Scripture which commands us to meet for study at exactly that time? No, we do not. By our own definition of unscripturalness we are therefore forced to concede that this is an unscriptural practice. Does Bro. Doty advocate our continuing to meet for Bible study at that time? Yes, there, you see Bro. Doty is advocating something that is unscriptural!

2. We meet for preaching at 11:00 A.M. Do we have any Scripture that tells us to meet for preaching at exactly that particular time? No, we do not. Is it scriptural? No, at least, not by our own definition of scripturalness. Does Bro. Doty think that it is all right for us to do this? Yes, again, there is Bro. Doty advocating an unscriptural practice.

3. Some may object that this has nothing to do with our worship service. Perhaps not, but it is an authorized meeting of the church at a stipulated time, for which we have no direct Scripture. However during our worship service we often sing four or five songs. Sometimes we sing three before the preaching and sometimes we sing more. Where is the Scripture which directs us to sing any certain number of songs? There is no such Scripture. Then we are engaging in activities for which we have no scriptural precedent or command. Does Bro. Doty think it is all right for us to do this?

This may be considered somewhat legalistic by some. And perhaps it is, but some of my teaching in the past has also been that way and to be somewhat that way now may help to clarify some of the things I have taught in the past which may have been incorrect.

4. At the conclusion of most of our preaching services this church extends an invitation to the lost to accept Christ as their Saviour. We

usually sing a song at that time. Do we have any Scripture for this practice? No, we do not. Is Bro. Doty in favor of giving invitations and sing invitational songs? Yes, this then, is another unscriptural practice, according to our own definition, which I am in favor of, and which I will continue to practice.

Here in this church we have no divided class Sunday School. There are several reasons for this:

1. We originally had no room for such classes.

2. We originally had no suitable teachers.

3. We could find no Scripture indicating that we ought to have separate classes for different age groups.

4. Some people, outside of our church, insisted that we positively had to have divided class system if all were to understand. There was enough Yankee obstinacy in us to go ahead and prove that we could teach so that all could understand without dividing into groups.

5. When opposition on the outside of our church became pronounced we became just as pronounced and convinced that we were right in what we were doing. When we were pushed, we pushed back.

6. The main reason that I opposed the divided class system was that I believed that it destroyed the church unity which I felt was necessary for a church to have. The word "divisions" meant to me little separate groups.

In 1 Corinthians 1:10-11 we read, "Now I beseech you brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe that there are contentions among you."

Now, exactly what kind of division did they have at Corinth? Did they have a divided Sunday School there? No. Did they separate by different ages into classes? No. In what sense then, did they have divisions? They were not concerned with any actual physical division or a spiritual division. It was a division in their thinking. Verse 12, continues, "Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I Apollos; and I of Cephus; and I of Christ." This then, was the trouble at Corinth. There were several intellectual or spiritual cliques in the church. Could our church have cliques in it? Could one group in the church be followers of one of the preachers in the congregation and another group be followers of Bro. Doty? Could this occur and still not have divided class system in our Sunday School? It could, in which case we would not have unity even though we did not have the divided class system.

The next question is, could we have two classes, say men and women, or those over twelve and those under twelve, or one of the old members and one of new converts, and yet not have the kind of division I mentioned above, that of

(For January 6, 1979)

Philippians 4:6-9

In this portion of Scripture, we have one of the greatest lessons on godly serenity and contentment found in God's Book, plus timely exhortations, to God's children, which are much needed in this hectic and confused world. These were written to not only bring peace in our hearts individually, but also to bring peace and unity in the churches.

### VERSE 6

"Be careful for nothing" in contrast to Martha who was careful and troubled about many things (Luke 10:41). How many times do we cry out in our anxiety "alas master, what shall we do?" when we should cry out "our God is able." This expression, "be careful for nothing," encompasses every phase of our lives, whether physical, material, or spiritual.

"But in everything." This again includes every situation and every circumstance which arises in the course of our lives, regardless of how small or how large. "Casting

intellectual or spiritual division? Yes. I believe we could. Does this mean that Bro. Doty is all for the highly organized system we see in some churches - hyper-institutionalized set up in which each class is separately existing with barely any responsibility toward the church, doing as it sees fit with its offerings and being in fact, an independent body from the rest of the church? No. This does not necessarily mean that.

In 1 Corinthians 3:3-4 Paul writes, "For ye are yet carnal; for where as there is among you envying, and strife and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos, are ye not carnal?" The trouble here was obviously not that of physical division but of intellectual or spiritual division. Paul was not talking about a physical division of the people at all. There was no occasion for him to be referring to physical division. To make this apply to a physical division of people is to go beyond that which is written.

In our study of the Lord's Supper we agree that "only undivided church was authorized to observe this ordinance. Not several churches together, not an association, not some visitors, but just one local undivided church." We felt that the ONE LOAF expresses the idea of the oneness and unity of the body. 1 Corinthians 10:17 says: "For we being many are one bread, and one body; for we are all partakers of that one bread." When we speak of an undivided church and oneness of the body, what do we mean? If we refer to physical unity then every single member of the church would have to be in the assembly for the Supper to be observed. If one member were sick and not present there would be no physical unity. On the other hand, how could this supper be observed if one group were in the main auditorium and one group were in the basement. This would be physical disunity or division. Do any churches advocate this? No. Was Paul thinking of such a thing? No. Because physical unity was not under consideration. It is an obvious conclusion that all who make up the body at that particular time must be in one place in order to participate in the ordinance.

What then, is under consideration in the Scriptures just quoted and in the statement that only a local undivided church could partake of the Lord's Supper. What kind of division is Paul talking about? It must be the kind of division which can exist in a body which is assembled in one place! That can only be an intellectual or spiritual division. Otherwise the following Scripture makes absolutely no

(Continued on page 6, column 1)

## The Baptist Examiner

### BIBLE STUDY LESSON

By WILLARD PYLE

Pastor — First Baptist Church of Naples Park, Florida



all your care upon Him."

"By prayer." Unless the details of our actions and activities are surrounded by prayer, they will not be pleasing to God. Prayer should preface, or go before, all purposes and practices. Herein lies the secret of spiritual Christians and churches. If Euodias and Syntyche had continually practiced this, it would have prevented any division. Even after the conflicts arose, this would have corrected it.

"And supplication." Supplication is the specifics of prayer. Prayer has to do with worship and waiting before God, and supplication has to do with the particular needs and desires of God's children (1 Sam. 1:27). How we need to "ask," "seek," and "knock." Prayer is to be a continual matter, and supplication is done in urgency. In one we present our case, and in the other we supplement or augment our case.

"With thanksgiving." Here is an ingredient which many times is lacking in our praying. The healed leper who turned back and fell at Jesus' feet giving Him thanks is a perfect example of what it should be like in the life of a Christian, from the time of his salvation throughout his life on this earth, and of course this will only intensify in Heaven. The giving of thanks for things past, present, and even for those things which will be in the future. In fact, praying in faith is believing that the Lord will answer our prayers, thereby giving Him thanks before we receive it.

"Let your requests." The petitions that are on your heart in relation to any doubts or fears or problems which might be troubling you. God will not chide His children for He was in all points tempted like we are, yet without sin (Heb. 4:15). He can be touched by the feeling of our infirmities (Rom. 8:26).

"Be made known unto God." "Take your burdens to the Lord and leave them there." Don't merely dwell on them in brooding or in anxiety or just relate them to others alone, but take them to the throne of grace. He not only cares, but is able to supply.

### VERSE 7

"And the peace of God." Herein is the result of right praying and praising. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee" (Isa. 26:2). It is glorious to "have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" and also to have the peace of God reigning in our hearts (John 14:27; John 16:33; John 20:19-21).

"Which passeth all understanding." This peace is so amazing it defies all attempts to conquer it. It abides in spite of trials, tribulations, and sorrows. The world can-

not understand the serenity of the child of God. Yes, we can have, and do have peace in believing (Rom. 15:13). Furthermore, we should preach the gospel of peace to others (Rom. 10:15).

"Shall keep your hearts and minds." Like David, we can say, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me." How wonderfully we are kept by God's power (1 Pet. 1:5) and also kept by His peace.

"Through Christ Jesus." As we have seen "we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ," and also the peace of God is through Christ Jesus. Thank God "He is able to keep us from falling and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy."

### VERSE 8

"Finally, brethren." Now in consummating and summarizing what is needful at this time. The Spirit of God leaves out nothing that is necessary. He covers all of the bases. There are no non-essentials in His inspiration.

"Whatsoever things are true." It is these truths which make men free (John 12:32). "Sanctify them through Thy Truth, Thy Word is truth" (John 17:17). A mark of the last days is men "shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables" (II Tim. 4:4).

"Whatsoever things are honest." Speak every man truth with his neighbor, which is being honest (Eph. 4:25).

"Whatsoever things are just." Honesty in our speech and dealing fairly or justly in our transactions with others is needful if we are to be trusted and respected.

"Whatsoever things are pure." "Unto the pure all things are pure" (Titus 1:15). God's people are not to be contaminated by a wrong relationship to the world. They are to be a holy people. The word pure is from the same root word as holy.

"Whatsoever things are lovely." Has to do more with internal qualities than merely external appearances (Song of Solomon 5:16).

"Whatsoever things are of good report." That which is helpful and edifying. Such as the report of Isaiah (Isa. 53:1). Notice the contrast in 2 Corinthians 6:8.

"If there be any virtue." Summarize the previous words and it means anything which has moral excellence or which produces it.

"And if there be any praise." Praise and virtue here are similar (1 Pet. 2:9). We can readily see these all portray the perfect man, the Lord Jesus Christ in His earthly life. He was full of grace and truth.

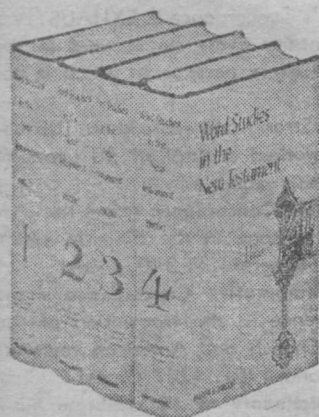
"Think on these things." How we need to "set our affections on things above." We need to ponder them in our hearts. Study Psalms 1:1-3.

### VERSE 9

"Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me." The previous things in verse eight were not only preached by the Apostle Paul, but were practiced in his daily activities, and to this extent he was a walking sermon. He like Peter and John had been with Jesus and it was evidenced.

"Do." Practice what you have been pondering and proclaiming. Paul had just said "do all things" in chapter 2:14. This is said in view of the fact that God works in us both to will and to do (2:13). "And the God of peace." He is its author and finisher and giver. "Shall be with you." Both in experience and in expression. Compare Matthew 28:20.

May we encamp here until these things become a reality in our souls and in our churches.



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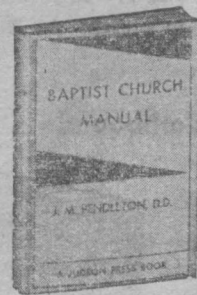
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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

DECEMBER 30, 1978

PAGE THREE



# The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER — P. O. BOX 71 — ASHLAND, KY. 41101

*"Why were only the apostles (except Judas) included in the Lord's Supper rather than the rest of the disciples?"*

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There are a lot of questions that come to mind that I do not know the answer to. This is one of them. I do have an idea that satisfies me.

During this time, our Lord spends time teaching His church lessons that must be learned so as to be able to continue when He returns to Heaven. Sometimes He taught the multitude and sometimes He taught those who would be the leaders of the church.

In this case He is instituting the Lord's Supper, an ordinance that is to be observed by the church. By bringing the apostles in, He teaches them the ingredients and the symbolism. By leaving out the owner of the house and dismissing Judas, He teaches them the fact that it is closed. They, in turn, were to teach the church.

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The ordinance of the Lord's Supper was instituted on the occasion of our Lord's last observance of the paschal meal (Lk. 22:14-16). On this occasion our Lord expressed gratitude for eating the passover with His disciples, "With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer" (Lk. 22:15). He was grateful that His disciples were yet with Him, especially so, seeing that His betrayal and death were imminent. Then, too, He was grateful His disciples were there to eat "this passover" with Him, for it was at this passover the memorial ordinance with its unleavened bread and wine would be instituted, and given to the church to be kept until He returns.

The Lord's Supper was instituted immediately following the Jewish paschal meal, and one lamb to a family was specified. Only when

the family was too small to consume the lamb were neighbors invited to eat with them the paschal meal (Ex. 12:3-4). So, it was most natural for our Lord to observe the paschal meal with His original disciples, seeing they had become His family with which He was most intimate. "Who is My Mother? And who are My brethren? And He stretched forth His hand toward His disciples, and said, Behold My mother and My brethren!" (Matt. 12:48-49).

Of the paschal meal, we read, "In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof" (Ex. 12:46). Note: it says, "In one house shall it be eaten." Our Lord in His perfect obedience adhered to this law in observing the paschal supper. Josephus says, the company partaking of a paschal lamb was usually somewhere between ten and twenty (Wars of the Jews 6, 9, 3). One house and one lamb would not accommodate the whole church. Also, we must remember that the apostles were authoritative disciples, they were vested with peculiar authority by their Lord. They were endowed with power and authority which other disciples did not possess (Acts 1:2, 2:43; 2 Cor. 12:12). By virtue of this special authority they represented the church at the institution of the Lord's Supper, and through them the ordinance was passed on to the whole church. The same is true with the commission (Mt. 28:16-20), only the eleven received it first hand, but it was given to the whole church.

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So far as I know there is no reason given for the apostles being the only ones to take the first Lord's Supper. However, we find in 1 Corinthians 12:28 that the apostles were the first ones to be put into the church. And in Ephesians 2:20 we are told that the church is "built upon the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone." It would seem that at the time this Supper was observed the New Testament prophets had not been added to the

church. The first mention of these prophets seems to be in Acts 13.

So I can only assume that at the time this Supper was observed the apostles were representative of the entire church. If there are other reasons for it I hope my fellow laborers will be able to enlighten us on the matter.

## Are You A Sinner?

(Continued from Page Two)

all men like silly sheep go astray from God. They deviate from His Word, err from the paths of righteousness, and walk in crooked paths which lead to destruction. You, dear friend, are this very hour going your own way. Yes, your own way—not God's way. It is this going about your own way that constitutes sin in the eyes of God.

Ecclesiastes 7:20 declares: "For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not." Some are quick to say, "I have been saved and sanctified." But you cannot say that you are perfectly free of sin. None that live on this side of Heaven live without sin. There is no man on earth who always practices good and never sins. Only Jesus Christ lived on earth without sin, and you, sir, are a far cry from Jesus Christ. There is with you, even with you, some sins against the Lord our God!

All the sons of Adam without exception make a practice of sinning. It is written in Romans 3:9-20: "What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin; As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the way of peace have they not known: There is no fear of God before their eyes. Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God."

Not one man by nature possesses a righteousness that can meet the demands of God's Holy law. These verses assert the universal sinfulness of the whole human race. Such expressions as, "They are all," "they are together," "every one," and "all the world" show the universality of sin to be without exception. The multiplied negative terms, "no flesh," and "there is none," four times over, beside "no, not one" twice, means the universal practice of sin is common to the whole human race. Finally, the Apostle Paul says: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). If you are a descendant from Adam, and you most certainly are, then you make a practice of sinning. There is with you, even with you, some sins against the Lord your God.

Every violation of God's moral standard of conduct is a sin: "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4). James 2:10 declares: "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." Who are you kidding? You know that you daily transgress the moral law of God. This means that you are a law-breaker. Even failure to do known good is sin: "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it

not, to him it is sin" (Jas. 4:17). Every day of your life you could do more good deeds than you do. Yes, there is with you, even with you, some sins against the Lord our God.

The Bible says foolish thoughts are sinful: "The thought of foolishness is sin" (Prov. 24:9). Vain conversation is sin: "In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin" (Prov. 10:19). Don't you think about things which should not enter your mind? Don't you say things you should not? Do not many of your words offend and make people angry? If you were to claim to be sinless, your own mind and mouth would condemn you. Yes, there is with you, even with you,

some sins against the Lord our God.

The best performances of the Adamic man are defective. Even what we call righteous acts are "filthy rags" in the sight of God (Isa. 64:6). Men are so corrupt and polluted that they are only fit to be cast to the dunghill. The finest duties of the children of men are full of sin and corruption. All our prayers, sacrifices, alms, and praises are mingled with pollution. In the Adamic nature there "dwelleth no good thing" (Rom. 7:18). "So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God" (Rom. 8:8). You still live in the flesh. You do not have a sinless body yet. Therefore, there is with you, even with you, some sins against the Lord our God.

## A SINNER BY CHOICE

God calls upon a man to choose good and refuse evil (Deut. 30:19). But because of the depravity of his heart man always chooses evil rather than good. In Isaiah 65:12 it is written: "Because when I called ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but did evil before mine eyes, and did choose that wherein I delighted not." Apart from saving grace man will always persist in the choice and pursuit of that which is evil. It is this choice of sin which so highly displeases God. In Isaiah 66:3 it is said: "Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations." Here again we are told how the Adamic man chooses the way of his own wicked heart. He so often chooses to sin that the Bible says he "drinketh iniquity like water" (Job 15:16). An unsaved man constantly chooses to sin by satisfying the appetites of the old man.

The more a man sins the more he chooses to sin. He chooses to continue in sin from one day to the next. Is the adulterer ready to quit his adultery? Is the blasphemer ready to cease his blasphemy? Is the liar ready to terminate his lying? Is the drunkard ready to become a sober man? No! No! A thousand times, No! They by deliberate action of their wills choose to go on sinning. Sin is man's master, and man is its slave. Jesus said: "Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin" (John 8:34).

The sons of Adam love darkness rather than light, and God holds men responsible for their wretched choice of sin and Satan instead of the Saviour. "For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord: They would none of my counsel; they despised all my reproof therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices" (Prov. 1:29-31).

By deliberate choice growing out of their depraved hearts, all sinners hate the knowledge of God. They regard not His gracious counsel. They despise all His reproof. They refuse to choose the fear of the Lord. Their end will be accord-

(Continued on page 5, column 3)



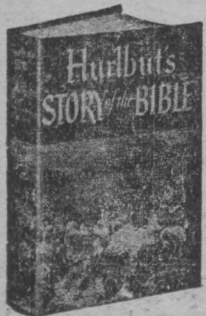
Bro. Herb Hatfield, Jr. has made known his call to go to the mission field in Trinidad. His work is sponsored by the Southside Baptist Church, P. O. Box 9144, Winter Haven, Fla. 33880. Any church desiring to support him should send the check to the church in care of his fund. If you want him to come to your church and present his work, please contact him at P.O. Box 1322, Winter Haven, Fla., or by phone at 813-676-5365.

All supporting churches will receive a financial report. He expects to go to the field about the first of September.

some sins against the Lord our God.

Verily in the light of such lofty requirements of us in the Bible, "Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?" (Prov. 20:9). 1 John 1:8, 10 declares: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. . . . If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." To deny that you are a sinner is to be guilty of self-deception. It is to demonstrate to all that God's Word has no place in your heart and that you are ignorant of its teachings. Don't lie to yourself. There is with you, even with you,

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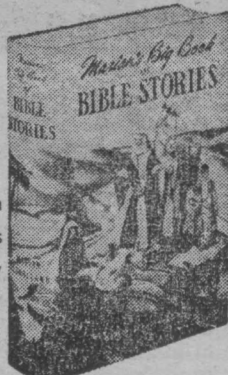
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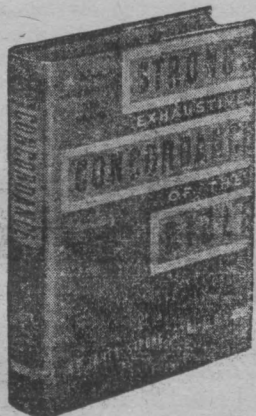


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The editor urges our readers to contribute articles to this column. Articles "FOR CHRISTIAN BOYS" should be written by Christian men and boys, and "FOR CHRISTIAN GIRLS" by Christian women and girls. Such articles must be at least one page, typed and 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.

## "UNSUSPECTING MICE AND MEN"

SYLVANUS STALL

My dear young friends: You may think that possibly there was a time when wicked men did not desire to destroy others, as is so often the case in this day; but hundreds of years ago, God said, "Among my people are found wicked men: they lay wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men" (Jer. 5:26).

I suppose you have all seen traps. There are a great many different kinds. Some are very dangerous, and yet you cannot see the danger until you are caught, or until you see some other person who has been caught in the trap. Now here is a trap. I suppose that you have all seen such as this, and possibly have them in your own homes, to catch the little mice which destroy your food, and oftentimes do great injury.

Now, this trap does not look dangerous to the unsuspecting mouse. The little wire, which is to be drawn up by a strong spring to choke the mouse to death, is concealed, and he does not know that there is a wire there at all. He simply smells the piece of cheese. This tempts his appetite, and as he is fond of cheese he desires to obtain it, and so he attempts to crawl in through this small hole to get the cheese, but the moment he nibbles at the cheese, it disturbs the little catch which holds the spring, and when it is too late to escape, the little mouse finds that he has been caught. Then he does not think of the cheese, but struggles to get loose and escape out of the trap. But all of his struggles are in vain, and after a few moments he is choked to death. Then the man, or the housewife comes, takes the little mouse out of the trap, and with the same piece of cheese the trap is again set for another unsuspecting mouse. So people go on, day after day, catching one mouse after another, with the same trap and with the same bait.

Now, there are traps which men set for boys and girls, and men and women. Such as story papers, bad books and pictures, that might be called pest papers, printed poison, moral leprosy. To the innocent, the unthinking and the unsuspecting these things may not appear very dangerous, but they are very dead-

ly in their efforts, and they result in the temporal and eternal ruin of thousands upon thousands of people every year.

Then there are also the saloons, with gilded signs, frosted windows, and showy looking glasses. Rooms which are made attractive only to catch men, to rob them of their money, and of their self-control, and of their reason, and of their homes, and of all temporal good and of all hope of Heaven—destroying men's soul and body, both for a time and for all eternity.

Then there is the theater, with its glittering lights, with its tinsel show, with its corrupting play, with its scenes upon which no pure-minded man or woman can look without blushing. Scenes which deaden the moral sense, pollute the mind. Such as are calculated to rob the individual of virtue, and of integrity, and of faith in God, and of hope of Heaven.

Then there are other dangerous traps which are set for young men and for older men—tobacco, and cigars, and beer. These traps which are set for our money, which so often rob of health and strength, for no boy who uses tobacco in any form can be strong like the boy who does not use tobacco. Boys begin with the deadly cigarette, and then go on to the cigar, and then follow with drinking beer, and so, step by step, they go on down to ruin.

You will notice that this mouse trap has four different places where mice can be caught, and is it not strange that when one mouse enters on this side, and is caught, and is lying there dead, that another live mouse should come along, and see the same trap and desire the same thing, and walk right in to the same danger, and the same sure death? You would think that when he saw that the other mouse had been caught, and had lost his life, that he would turn away. But instead of that, he smells the cheese, walks right into the trap, and is caught, and in a few moments is as dead as his neighbor.

So boys see others who have been ruined by smoking cigarettes, who have paved the way for their destruction by smoking cigars, by keeping bad company, by drinking beer, and going on step by step. They see drunkards all about them who have squandered all their money and lost all their friends, and been forsaken by their own parents, their wives, and their children; who have become outcasts, and for whom no one longer has any respect. Men see these things daily, and yet they go on in the same way, beginning with beer and going, step by step, from social drinking, until they themselves become drunkards and outcasts, and go down to fill a drunkard's grave. The Bible says that no drunkard can inherit the kingdom of Heaven.

I trust that none of those who listen to me this morning will be so foolish as to permit Satan to deceive them. Look about you and see the results of worthless story-papers, of card-playing, of theater going, of social drinking, of round dancing, lying, swearing, cheating, and all forms of wickedness, and then remember that these same influences, if wrought into your life, will also produce the same result. Do not be like the foolish mouse, which sees its dead companion in the trap, and then walks up unthinkingly and pokes his head into the same inevitable death and destruction; but remember that Satan waits to destroy you, just the same as he has destroyed others.

In the book of Job it says, "The snare is laid for him in the ground and a trap for him in the way"

(Job 18:10), and in the 8th verse of the same book and chapter it says, "He is cast into a net by his own feet, and he walketh upon a snare." Satan has laid traps and snares all along your path through life, and you need to be very, very cautious lest you are ruined for time and destroyed for eternity. Remember the text for this morning, which says, "Among my people are found wicked men; they wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men."

## Are You A Sinner?

(Continued from page four)

ing to their work. They shall perish in their sins. They are to reap the fruit of their own devices. They cannot blame others for their ruin. They cannot blame God, for He does not force them to choose sin. They cannot blame Adam, for they have chosen to sin as much as Adam did. Man is without excuse for his wretched choice of sin, and he is totally responsible for his miserable end.

### CONCLUSION

Sin in the heart, when loved and obeyed, is a killing serpent. James 1:15 tells us: "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." In this verse lust is personified as a harlot who conceives and bears a child, sin. Sin then conceives and brings forth a grandchild, death. This same idea is presented in Psalms 7:14: "Behold, he travaileth with iniquity, and hath conceived mischief, and brought forth falsehood." Lust is the bud, sin is the blossom, and death the fruit.

My friend, you are playing with the most deadly thing in all the world—sin. It is not something to be trifled with. It is not a minor sickness of the soul. By daily sinning you are killing yourself. You are making your life on earth miserable. You are damning your soul for eternity. Sin killed Achan, Ahab, Herod, and Judas Iscariot. It will kill you unless you forsake it, confess it, and flee to the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ came to save sinners. If you know yourself to be a sinner, then Jesus Christ came to save you. In I Timothy 1:15 it is written: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."

Your friends know that you are a sinner. Your conscience admits the same. The Bible declares it to be true. Your experience proves that there is with you, even with you, some sins against the Lord our God. What are you going to do about these sins? Will you continue in them until they destroy your physical life and bring your soul to eternal torment? The command of God to you is: "Repent, and turn yourself from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin" (Ezek. 18:30). Why not join with the psalmist in saying: "For thy name's sake, O Lord, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great" (Ps. 25:11). Claim the cleansing blood of Christ as your only hope of forgiveness of sins, for it is written that His blood "cleanseth us from all sin" (I John 1:7).

## Aspects Of Life

(Continued from page one)

Now how long do you think these little red cells, the work horses of the body, live?

About thirty days. These little red cells, called erythrocytes, are formed by a series of mitoses from cells in the red marrow of flat bones and at the end of long bones. Although they have no nucleus, they themselves are formed from nucleated cells. This is important to note, for thus this main ingredient of the stuff we call blood, which the Bible terms the life (nepes) of the flesh, is not able of itself to procreate and carry on life. In the economy of life, all this is contained in the plans of that original cell.

Another word about these blood cells, please. The duty of the red cells is to carry oxygen from the lungs to the resident cells abiding in the body. They also return a certain amount of used air, carbon dioxide, back to the lung membranes. These red cells enter the blood stream and will remain there until they are literally worn out from work. Then these worn-out

cells go through an organ of the body called the spleen, and are removed from circulation, where also the iron contained in the cells is conserved.

So you see, we mammalian creatures have an air-conditioned body. There are other cells in this rapidly flowing stream of blood that course through our bodies performing other functions. These are the white blood cells (Leucocytes) which average about 8,000 per cubic millimeter of blood. If the ratio per cubic millimeter of the red blood cells and the white blood cells were swapped, then your or my blood would either be white or a pale pinkish-white. These white cells have several differing types of workers. They are the healers, the feeders, the sustainers that the blood stream carries along. And just think, according to some people who either claim to be authorities or are acclaimed to be such, each living, fixed cell of the body is bathed, fed, air-conditioned, and doctored when necessary, every fourteen seconds! Small wonder these hard-working cells have such a short mortality rate.

Between or accompanying the worker cells and the more or less fixed cells, there is the lymph, a colorless fluid present in the blood stream. It is the middleman, the servicer between the blood vessels and the tissue cells. Needed sustenance, such as water, salts, food, air, etc. pass out from the laden blood vessels into this dock-like fluid, and then the fixed cells absorb from it the needed fuel to carry on the energy called life (nepes). Do you see the complexity of only one angle of this soul, nepes? All work with machine-like precision, although each cell is autonomous within itself. All work together, that is, in the normal body. The reason we made that last statement, mind cells (thinking) do not always collaborate with this wonderful scheme of life.

If the total life plan of an individual is so diffused, how could some other life principle squeeze itself into another individual? One difference and the whole scheme is ruined. One other point: Whereas the male blood stream has around five million red blood cells every cubic millimeter, the female blood

stream has only four and a half million! Along with other differences, what a swap this would be!

Or, suppose you are going to start with a baby inhabited. Say from an adult life principle. Six feet of complicated, wonderful structure crowded into sixteen or eighteen inches!

Oh, but you object that Jesus was with the Father before He became a babe. Well, I'm happy you believe in the Virgin Birth. But, you see He who could design this amazing cell of blueprinted perfection plus the ability to produce its own needed manufactured goods could also very necessarily control each and every aspect of the cell's behavior, since He was its designer. Don't you think if man could design a cell, for instance, he could someday work out its future? Revelation 13:8 tells us that God had such a design before the foundation (or planning) of the earth. Genesis 3:15 announced there would be only one variation, the Saviour.

Oh, but you object again somewhat triumphantly, that there was this Mary Magdalene, over in Luke 8:2, out of whom went seven devils. Seven devils, I remind you, not seven wandering Willies of past human experience.

I would never, never, call you my reader friend, ignorant. On the other hand, since I best communicate with intelligent people, I know you must be above average. However, we are all ignorant in the fields of our inexperience. This about seven souls inhabiting the Magdalene is the language of ignorance. Seven in Bible symbology is simply the number of completeness. In other words, here was this wonderful, clean, Christ follower; before times wholly a creature of utmost degradation. Prostitute, whore, dope fiend, beggar, thief, murderer, traitor to all righteousness—all these she was. Then she met the Saviour. After this, she is altogether changed, all the evil habits are gone. A person so completely transformed that her name goes down in history as one fit to visit the Saviour's tomb on resurrection morning. An announcer of good news, this erstwhile, completely degraded woman.

Oh, but you may object, I'm thinking of the word *pneuma*, the Greek word for the vital spirit, the soul of man. *Pneuma*, used by us moderns as pertaining to the wind, or the air. Pneumatic, I am thinking, dealing with the soul in a kind of an airish manner.

Well, I am happy that we are thinking. Air conditioning is one aspect of the body. But only one. If you are perchance thinking that there is a little bag of air that leaves a dying body—say on a crowded highway—and rushes from the wreck to the maternity ward of a hospital to attach itself to the helpless little body of a poor emerging infant—what kind of a monstrous leech would this be, to do such a thing? And what befuddled mind would teach such a hideous thing? Your last breath of air will come out carbon dioxide, not a soul. Remember, *nepes* means a living invisible knit-together force, not just a puff of air.

Oh, but you may continue to argue, I can produce a man who had a feeling upon coming to a certain place he'd been there before, but really he knew that in this physical life he'd never been there.

We make all kinds of mistakes. Of course we all have that feeling at times, if we ever travel very much. If you've ever seen one rodeo, one circus, one snowflake or one hill, you've seen them all, is an old saying. The same goes for, "I'm just positive I've seen you or known you somewhere before."

Though there are billions of people now upon the earth, there are just a few face or figure forms. Some say seven different types of face covers them all, highbrow or lowbrow.

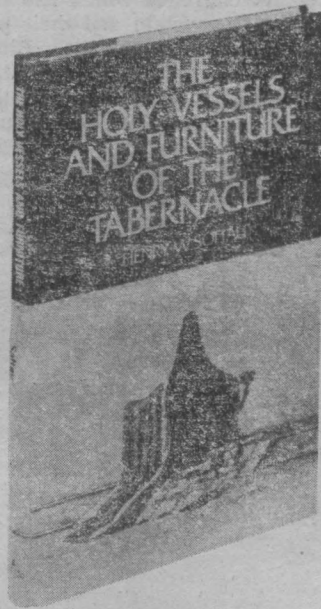
"Oh," one reincarnationist fad-dict told me, "we won't really know all that until death."

After death, according to this man's philosophy, he is just a bag of wind. Not even able to take over and help negotiate for friend baby

(Continued on page 7, Col. 4)

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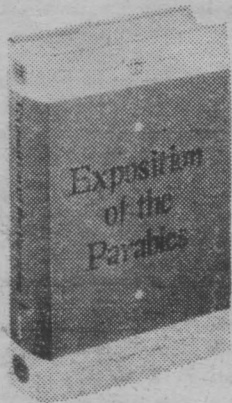
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## Unity And Divided . .

(Continued from page three)

sense: 1 Corinthians 11:18 says: "For first of all when ye come TOGETHER IN THE CHURCH, I hear that there be divisions among you, and I partly believe it." How could there be physical divisions among them if they had not physically come together in the church? If there could not have been a physical division among them (since they were together) what kind of divisions were referred to? The basic question which naturally then presents itself is, how could they be together and divided at the same time? Only one way, that of an intellectual or spiritual or mental division.

Therefore since an intellectual or spiritual division is under consideration and not physical division then it would be possible for a church to have unity without all necessarily being together in the same room.

Here are some questions for us to think about:

1. Is a church a church when it is not meeting for worship?
2. If the Holy Spirit resides in the church in a special way, which many believe He does, He only resides in that body when they are assembled?
3. Does the preacher have the assistance of the Holy Spirit in the preparation of his message when he is at home and not joined physically to the church?
4. If the Holy Spirit is only with the body when all are present would the absence of one member preclude the presence of the Holy Spirit in that body in that special way?
5. If all except two were absent would the Holy Spirit be in those two in the sense under consideration?
6. When the church is not assembled in one place is there physical, or spiritual, unity among the members?

Here are two questions which we can answer:

1. If the church did not wish to have a divided class system in their Sunday School is there any Scripture which commands them to do so? No.
2. If the church desires to have a divided class system in their Sunday School is there any Scripture which forbids it? No. Closing our eyes and putting our heads in the sand like the proverbial ostrich and refusing to examine the facts of this question will not solve the issue at all.

Our Church here in Nicholasville was originally a mission of the New Testament Baptist Church of Cincinnati, Ohio. We were all members of that church until we organized into a local church in this place. Is there any Scripture for such a mission work? No, there

is not. Was it scriptural then? According to our definition it was not. What sort of unity did we as members of that church have with that church? Was it physical unity? No, we were 90 miles apart! Did we have intellectual and spiritual unity with them? Yes.

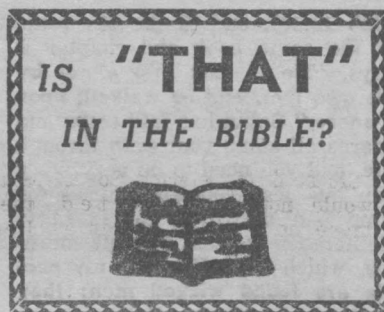
When we organized into a church we adopted a constitution and a church covenant. Did we have a direct Scripture for doing so? No. Therefore it also was unscriptural, according to our own definition. Was it a bad thing to do? I don't think so, in fact I think it was a good thing to do. Yet, we have no Scripture for doing it. The Scripture tells us to organize churches but they do not furnish us with every little detail in accomplishing it.

What is the chief reason put forth by the advocates of the divided class system in the Sunday School? Modern educators tell us that a graded system of education is more efficient than the old one room school house in the country, where all ages met in one room. In secular education they have proved this to be so.

We, I in particular, have scoffed at this argument because it was advocated by "modern educators." It was not logical for me to do this and ridicule the system merely because its advocates were "modern educators." To do so, it was necessary for me to put an evil connotation on them and on their methods so as to prejudice your thinking against them. This was not particularly exemplary of me and it was unfair to them, because they were "modern educators" does not necessarily imply that they were either right or wrong.

Is it more difficult to learn secular subjects or is it harder to learn Bible subjects? I suspect that the latter is the more difficult. We often hear the complaint that there are too few teachers for our public schools and that present teachers have great difficulty in teaching classes of forty to fifty students. More teachers and smaller classes are urged for more efficient teaching and more efficient education of our children. If pupils learn more in small separate classes in our public schools, why would they not learn more in separate classes in a church school? I do not say that they would, nor do I necessarily advocate inaugurating such a system in this church. But if pupils do learn more and in a more efficient manner in secular schools using that system why would they learn less if that system were used in a church school?

It is illogical to say that we know of certain churches which use the divided class system and their pupils have learned very little Bible truth and then to arrive at the conclusion that therefore all of the pupils in all churches which use that system will know very little



Question:  
IS THE BOOK OF HEZEKIAH IN THE OLD TESTAMENT OR THE NEW?

Answer:  
Neither; there is no such book in the Bible.

Bible truth. I do not necessarily subscribe to everything our secular educators have to say relative to teaching, especially when it comes to teaching the Bible. The Bible is a spiritual Book and the application of its truth is made by the Holy Spirit. In this sense Bible teaching differs from secular teaching and yet the basic principles ought to apply to both.

In its simplest form, what actually is a divided class Sunday School? Is it part of the church or is it a separate organization? I believe that a Sunday School is part of a church just as an individual member is part of the church. They are part of the church, but they are not the church. It has been claimed by some that none but the church, the ecclesia may teach. If this is the case, may any member of the church teach anywhere else than in the assembly? To be consistent one would have to say no. But then where are the older women to teach the younger women? If it is not in the church, it must be somewhere else, and if it is somewhere else then we have someone teaching who is not in the church.

Could certain members of our church meet at my house on Monday night at 7 P.M. and study the Bible? At the same or exact time could other members meet at some other brother's house and also study together? Is there any violation of the Scriptures in doing this? May these same groups meet at any other time and not violate the Scriptures? Could these two groups meet on Sunday morning at 10:00 A.M. in a schoolhouse located at U.S. 27 and Baker Lane and still not violate any Scripture? If these meetings were not forbidden by our church, would there be anything wrong with them? If the church were aware of these meetings and did not expressly forbid them, would they not be giving their approval to the meetings?

I do not now necessarily advocate any change in the teaching system this church is now using. My position as pastor of this church is that of a servant, and I am bound to do what this body decides to do as long as I am her pastor. I have presented these thoughts that you may all understand where I stand. My original reason for not having divided classes was preserving unity of the body. I now see that it was a foolish argument. I do not say that a church must have a divided class system to be right. I believe that each church has the right to have exactly the system she desires.

The church that sent me out as a missionary to establish this work here had a divided class system in operation at the time she sent me out. I had no concern over this fact. Another church which has supported this work started its support while they had a divided class system. Neither church now supports our work here. Neither church made the divided class system a test of fellowship with me, nor did I ever make the undivided class system a test of fellowship with them. Neither of these churches now have the divided class system. I SHALL NOT MAKE HAVING A DIVIDED CLASS SYSTEM OR NOT HAVING A DIVIDED CLASS SYSTEM A TEST OF FELLOWSHIP BETWEEN THESE CHURCHES OR THEIR PASTORS.

## "Liberated" Losers

(Continued from page one)

ly encourage such travesty toward scriptural truth by promoting "singles" programs and "singles" meetings, often with special appeals to the separated and the divorced. Some are so utterly depraved that they appeal to the goddess "gay's" as valued "singles" members of society!

Such activities on the part of pseudo - pastors, preachers, and professors do not invalidate the marital vows. Neither do their rationalizations justify or validate the odious, ungodly practices of men and women who apparently despise the Word of God. Rather, such simply show that there is a tragic unconcern for the ideal of "old fashioned morality," a morality based on God's goodness.

In defense of themselves, some women who make the news with new names or names temporarily assumed, may suppose, in the heat of the passionate exchanges, that they are gaining new freedom. Those who clandestinely make periodic visits to the local hotels and motels with someone else's husband or some "single" may suppose they are manifesting the true characteristics of liberated females. In reality, they are but another generation of females being used by males who are happy they do not have to bow first at the altar of some pagan goddess, as in Corinth, or pay a required fee at some brothel door.

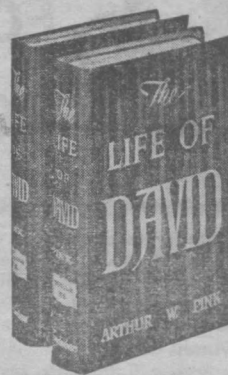
Others caught in the swirl of "swap-clubs" in the suburbs may suppose they have attained the ultimate in casual connubial bliss. Then, they awaken one morning to the realization that they are the mothers of one, two, or three or more "fatherless" children whom their spouses suppose are theirs.

Highly-paid, very successful TV, radio, stage and movie celebrities may promote the ideal of "Women's Lib" as the modern mecca of real love, whether heterosexual or homosexual. Yet, the licentiousness which issues from expressed and experienced lust simply deprecates women in the eyes of the very men or other women who are permitted to use them.

In the process, the high and holy purposes which God has for women are defeated in the lives of those who succumb to Satan's unscriptural sexual devices and deceptions. Younger girls, following the examples of their "liberated mothers" and other women, involve themselves in the accepted promiscuity of the time and conclude with guilt-complexes which they cannot handle. Even their psychologists and psychiatrists are unable to resolve their problems despite the appeal to the "ideal" of the "new morality"!

"LIBERATED" LIAISONS  
Such realities should make us graphically aware that God's place for women cannot be improved upon by sinful, godless men whose total objectives are self-centered. Such facts should enable all thinking women to know that their supposed "sexual freedom" which men and some women are offering them is really an old enslavement to lust and licentiousness. Tragically, this is an enslavement in which women—regardless of who they may be—cannot help but lose

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their self-respect, the respect of society generally, and the respect of those who use them.

Godless men and women today may suppose their new look, at an assumed "new morality" is the way to a new-found freedom. In the tragedy of the issues, however, they discover to their loss only more and more misery. They may envision an element of happiness and identity through sexual liaisons. But they find only more "hell" for their piteous lives. They may even look with confidence to their clandestine conclaves as anticipated get-togethers of ultimate satisfaction. In the final analysis, nevertheless, they must conclude that their lives of sin are only further concourses of curses.

In their drives for liberation, many modern women really play into the clutches of Satan, as well as into the clutches of men in his employ. As Eve of old, they listen to Satan's "Yea, hath God said?" Then, they go on to feast on the fruit of licentiousness and find themselves cast out of the garden of fleshly pleasure, peace of mind, and personal profit. They forsake the virtue of purity and fidelity and become plagued 24 hours of every day, asleep and awake, consciously and subconsciously, by the gnawing agony of impossible guilt!

Such an end, however, need not be the lot of women today. Instead, they can turn to the Lord Jesus Christ in faith and in love. They will discover that there is no deception in any of His provisions or opportunities.

Rather, they can learn that it was Jesus who was born of the virgin Mary. They can know that it was He who gave meaning to the lives of women in all walks of life which are honorable, and that it was He who raised women to a place of honor in a world where they were but chattel or slaves.

"LIBERATED" LOSERS  
Those in the "women's lib" or "feminist" movement may secure much support for their supposed cause as they take issue with God's (Continued on page 7, column 3)

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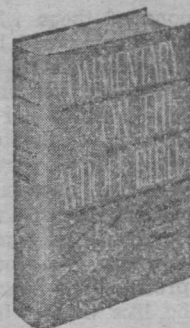
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## "WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD TODAY?"

Seven Southern Baptist ministers attended the annual clergy conference of the Belleville Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church in the St. Louis area. The Baptist ministers in attendance were Wendell Garrison of Fairview Heights, Jim Donahue of Nashville, Charles Boling of Pinckneyville, Leslie M. Huff of Carmi, Myron Dillow and Frank Kirkland of Carbondale and Robert J. Hastings of Springfield.

Bishop Cosgrove reminded the 130 priests and 40 nuns from 28 countries that since Vatican II Catholics have a mandate to learn more about other faiths. A major theme of the conference, "Dialogue With a Baptist," was presented by Joseph O'Donnell, a priest from Newman, Ga.

Do Southern Baptists want to become good Catholics? If not, then why were their ministers present at this Catholic meeting?

It seems that style in clothing is swiftly changing. Bill Cushing, a 34-year-old divorced father of two who lives in Kentfield, Calif., wears skirts all the time. He believes he's a pioneer of male freedom. What will they think of next?

Reports from state conventions in the Southern Baptist Convention indicates that the liberals "rule the roost" and conservative preachers and churches are permitted only to pay the bills.

Virginia Baptists narrowly defeated an effort to delete the University of Richmond from state convention support. The messengers voted 606 to 434 to continue financial support. This is the SBC school where Robert Alley, at one time chairman of the university's department of religion, told a group of atheists that "Jesus never really claimed to be God or to be related to him." Alley still teaches in the university, but they have shifted him to direct area studies where he teaches no religious courses.

Opponents to continued convention support of the school re-

ferred to policies of the university which "allow students to drink alcoholic beverages in designated areas" and "allow visitation of opposite sexes in dormitory rooms under certain specified conditions." One messenger cited an advertisement last year in the university student newspaper of an R-rated movie to be shown on campus.

In the annual session of Tennessee Baptists James Stroud, pastor of Third Creek Baptist Church, Knoxville, said "I'm concerned this action gives the impression that the best version available today is the King James Version, which is the least reliable of all modern versions."

A message to the Georgia Baptist Convention wanted the convention to go on record as being opposed to ordination of women, but the resolution committee reaffirmed ordination to be "solely a local church matter." In Arkansas a resolution opposing the ordination of women pastors and deacons never made it out of the committee.

The Northwest Baptist Convention voted to change its statement of faith. Throughout its 30-year history the Northwest Convention's constitution has included a statement of faith which each church was required to accept prior to its petition for membership and seating messengers at the convention. It declared that churches could accept only persons baptized by "a New Testament Baptist Church." The new statement calls only for baptism of believers by immersion without mention of the church in which baptism occurred.

California Southern Baptists dropped a constitutional clause imposing penalties on churches accepting alien immersions and practicing open communion. The vote was 469 to 179 and required a two-thirds majority. Now messengers can be seated from churches admitting persons with alien immersions or which allow open communion.

These liberal actions are a shame and disgrace to the name Baptist. Yea, they are a disgrace to the Devil! In view of such liberal control one would wonder if a motion were made to affirm that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God would not be defeated. (Continued on page 8, column 1)

## "Liberated" Losers

(Continued from page six)  
scriptural emphasis on women's subjection. In so doing, nonetheless, these blind themselves and all who are deceived by their satanic scheming to the fact that such subjection is a holy subjection which is far better than the supposed "freedom" offered by Satan and

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those in his service who would use the bodies of women for their own sinful, demonic, self-gratifying ends.

In their appalling, wilful, and defiant ignorance of God's Word and His Holy Desires, these must reject God's teaching, "I would have you know that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God." Needless to say, these defiant ones of the "feminist" movement cannot know that such subjection is a holy relationship which God compares with that relationship between Christ Jesus and His Church. "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church . . . Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it."

Women, or men for that matter, who defiantly serve Satan's "Yea, hath God said?" in abject humility or with a high degree of sophistication may suppose they have gained a personal freedom. Their supposition, however, is a delusion. Rather, they have become, in fact, and in truth, the chattel of Satan and men. They may know their own "nakedness," but regardless of the "leaves" which they "sew together," nothing satisfies! They may even spend their lives fleeing from "swords" of guilt which are behind them, and even from the fires of fleshly desires which make living perpetual insecurity!

Sadly, these piteous creatures never learn that freedom does not come by "doing one's own thing," as it were, without regard to God or man or in defiance of God. Rather, freedom comes only to those who, in humility, come to know the truth. God very clearly and distinctly informs us, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Sarah learned and abided by this truth more than 3500 years ago. We learn that "Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him Lord," even though he was a frail creature, man. But across the centuries this understanding, humble, scripturally-knowledgeable woman has worn a crown of glory. Eternally she shall be praised. She knew the truth, and it was the truth that made her free.

One, in his lost, pre-apostolic experience, had moved about freely. He even exerted his authority over his fellows and imprisoned and killed some whom he supposed to be enemies of God and the Jews. Yet, he was not free! He was Satan's slave in the day when he had power over the lives and the

fortunes of men, but he forsook this to become the bondsman of the Lord Jesus Christ.

When he came to know the Lord Jesus Christ, "the way, the truth, and the life," he became the servant of God. Yet, even when he was the prisoner of men, he was free. Hear his joyous songs of praise in the depths of the Philippian jail. Though bound by the imprisoning devices of men, this Apostle was free, while his jailer came crying, "What must I do to be saved?" The way of freedom was opened before him as the Apostle said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."

So it is today! Women who would strive to be free apart from the desires and designs of God may suppose they are free. Yet, they are the abject slaves of Satan and may expect to suffer the agonies which must follow those who become his piteous slaves. These may suppose themselves to be "liberated," but they learn to their sorrow that they are "love's 'liberated' losers"; that is, in seeking freedom through "Yea, hath God said?" they experience the tragedy of Satan's enslavement.

Those women who take their places of scriptural obedience and service may be "bound," but they are free. Being "bound" to Christ Jesus and the Holy Word of God, such can never be the chattel of Satan or of men. Truly liberated but no longer losers! They are free and will be crowned with eternal glory, participating in truth in the holy promise, "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing."

## Aspects Of Life

(Continued from page 5)  
he has inhabited. Later on not certain enough to know and name the person he thought he'd once known intimately. Not sure but he thought he had been in some locality before.

All this he was in ignorance of; yet after death, and only after death he said he would know whether or not reincarnation was true. Wondrously wise on one thing only? While living he had the faculty of thinking, of knowing; but after death (since the soul is the negotiator), why is he not able to give proof while in a cow, or a donkey, or a helpless babe? What if in life he had been a preacher? Why not immediately at his rebirth in a babe begin telling the good news? The babe has a mouth, you know.

Those fourth century B.C. people just played a trick on modern man. Perhaps people who believe this myth of soul transmigration today should swallow the whole lump and believe in cow-headed goddesses also.

Now that we have shown the improbability of reincarnation, let us go on to see how those devils that the Bible talks about did get into that Gadarenian demoniac and Mary Magdalene, and thee and

## Missionary To New Guinea Eld. Fred T. Halliman



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ELDER FRED T. HALLIMAN  
Sovereign Grace Baptist Mission  
P.O. Box 19, Koroba, via Mendi  
Papua, New Guinea

me.

It is amazing how the human race is always coming up with new fads. I speak of conformity to actions, styles, and life manners. Recently I was talking with a young man who says he believes somewhat in reincarnation.

"First, I want to find out what I'm doing here," he said. "Why was I born? What is my purpose in life? I want to find out—then do my thing—whatever that is."

Without a moment's hesitation, I answered, "You're here because of a biological process started thousands of years ago. What you do with the opportunity of life is what counts."

My friend's eyes nearly "bugged out" as he thought this over. "What if I make the wrong choices?" he asked.

"I'm not the final authority. But how could you go wrong if reincarnation is right? Surely with all those countless numbers residing within you, giving advice."

"Aww, preacher, that's not sensible."

"You're smoking," I pursued the subject. "Do you think a person who'd died from emphysema would allow you to smoke, if such a one resided in your body?"

"No."

"Do you think a soul who'd died lost would allow you any peace until you confessed God?"

"I'll think it over," he promised. A way out of thinking, rather.

## AN INTERPRETATION OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE

by B. H. CARROLL



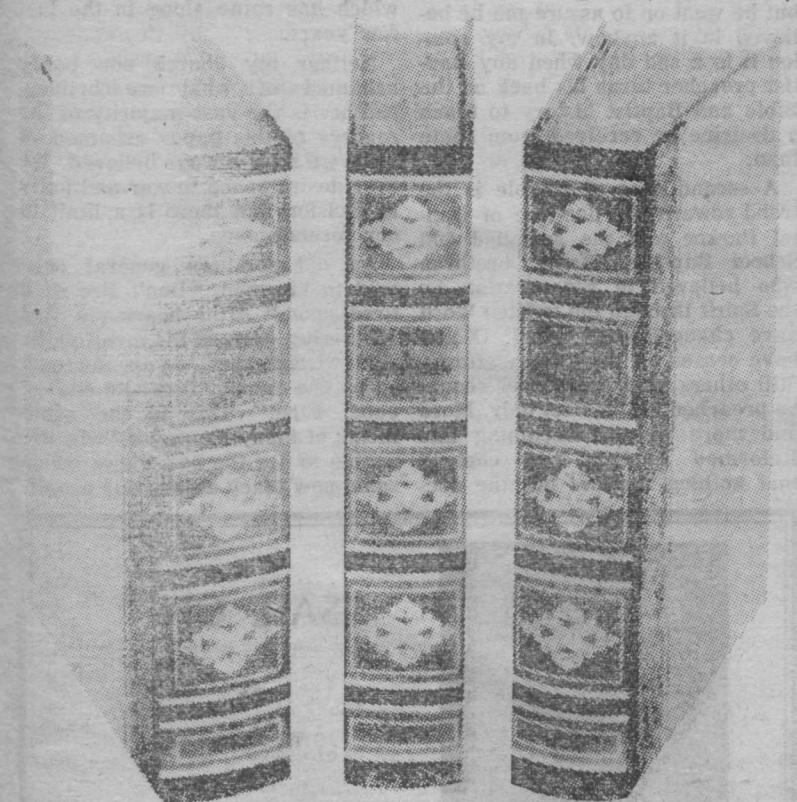
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WFTO, Fulton, Miss. Sun.	1:00- 1:30 p.m.	1360	2500 AM
WFTA, Fulton, Miss. Sun.	1:00- 1:30 p.m.	101.7	3000 FM
*KHYM, Gilmer, Tex. Sun.	1:00- 1:30 p.m.	1060	5000 AM
*WYRD, Syracuse, N.Y. Sun.	12:30- 1:00 p.m.	1540	1000 AM
*WKNG, Tallap'sa, Ga. Sun.	8:00- 8:30 a.m.	1060	2500 AM
*Clear Channel			

## What's Happening

(Continued from page seven)  
and then the conservatives would vote to increase their support to the Cooperative Program. You think this could never be? Then why did the Virginia Baptists vote to continue to support the University of Richmond and its atheistic teacher and adopt an annual budget of \$8,100,000 of which 38 percent will go to Southern Baptist Convention causes through the SBC's Cooperative Program in their recent session?

\* \* \*

Bro. Joe Bell, pastor of Central Baptist Church of Grenada, Miss., has written a new book, "God's Priesthood on Earth." The book sets forth the new and revolutionary teaching of the priesthood of Baptist churches. The book can be ordered from him by writing to Central Baptist Church, P.O. Box 876, Grenada, Miss. 38901. The hardback books are \$2.50 and the paperbacks \$1.75.

Bro. Bell has refused to allow us to review his copyrighted book in TBE. He has also refused to allow the editor to quote from it in his upcoming book which is being written in opposition to the new teaching of the priesthood of the Baptist church.

\* \* \*

Have you heard the latest about the American Red Cross? A recent press release concerning this organization reads: "In conjunction with the American Red Cross, the Gay Rights Chapter of the ACLU will sponsor a Gay Blood Faire on

Saturday, September 9th at West Hollywood Park (641 San Vicente). . . . For donor appointment, call H-O-M-O-S-E-X."

I know the Red Cross has done much good, and I commend them for all their good work. But I am shocked that they have allowed such a press release.

\* \* \*

Having duly informed government authorities, Christians of the small town of Gorlovka in the Ukraine had organized a harvest celebration for August 28, "to thank God for the crop and all His graces."

An hour before the meeting was to begin, Soviet police surrounded the house and blocked the streets, ordering the people to disperse and using force immediately.

"The uncontrolled rage of the authorities of the state, many of them smelling of alcohol, had no limit," stated a group of Evangelical Christian Baptists from Kharkov in an open appeal to Leonid Breshnev. "They . . . beat people and were breaking things . . . chairs, benches, musical instruments, radios . . . causing losses of more than 1,000 rubles. Many believers were robbed. Their cameras were taken by force because they tried to take pictures of what was happening. Purses, handbags with money, documents, rail and plane tickets, microphones and recorders, books, musical instruments, and many other things were taken.

The document states that when the public prosecutor arrived, "instead of putting an end to the lawlessness of the militia, he took an

active part in the violence against the helpless believers, beating them and abusing them with obscene words."

Most of the believers were jailed, although some were taken out of town and released one by one in the countryside. Still others were driven through the streets while the police ridiculed them over their megaphones. (DOOR OF HOPE, Nov. 1978).



## Reflections . . .

(Continued from page one)

ecutive Lucius Walker Jr. over financial problems. A storm was triggered by the World Council of Churches' \$85,000 grant to the Patriotic Front in Rhodesia. The grant was defended by Ambassador Young and the WCC, while the Salvation Army and other evangelical groups withdrew at least temporarily from the WCC.

## LIFE STYLES

Gay teachers were hired and fired. Gay ministers were ordained. The Evangelical Free Church ruled homosexuality "an abomination." A United Presbyterian Church task force favored gay ordination, but the UPC general assembly, somewhat divided, voted to oppose ordination. Local anti-gay rights were voted down in Dade County, Fla., Wichita, Kan., St. Paul, Minn., and Eugene, Oregon, but they were approved in Seattle, Wash., when backing from Church Council of Greater Seattle beat down the efforts of conservative forces.

## DEATHS

Death claimed Kenya's President Jomo Kenyatta, World Vision founder Bob Pierce, Lord Soper of British Methodism, GARB leader Robert T. Ketchum, Southern Baptist leaders R. G. Lee and Gaines S. Dobbins, and independent Baptist leaders Norman Wells and Roy Mason.

## BAPTIST EVENTS

The Southern Baptist Convention had another year of liberal control and conservative concessions. Honest conservative leaders in the SBC are beginning to admit that the liberals "rule the roost" and the convention is a "gone duck." An exodus of a few well-grounded Southern Baptists from the SBC will occur in 1979 since universal church heresy and liberalism is expected to reach an all-time high. However, most conservative Southern Baptists will remain in the SBC, trading the benefits of the Annuity Board for the truth of God.

The American Baptist Association, led by militant Arminian forces, has declared an all-out war on their preachers and churches who hold to the doctrines of grace. Some of their preachers and churches are leaving and others are soon to follow. The Baptist Missionary Association of America is taking a milder stand against Calvinism, contending the association is large enough to contain both Arminians and Calvinists, although some local associations disagree.

Reformed Baptists are growing and increasing the distribution of their literature. Perhaps soon they will organize a national body of Particular Baptists. Primitive Baptists are going all out to print their books and literature. As they are becoming more progressive, Reformed Baptists and Landmark Calvinistic Baptists are looking more and more in their direction.

## OUR BAPTISTS

I mean by our Baptists those who hold to the doctrines of grace and the local church to the exclusion of the universal, invisible church. In many ways the Lord has crowned the year of 1978 with His goodness. He has raised up a fine crop of young missionaries to go to foreign fields and to remote states in our own country. These are going out under the authority of a local church, not a mission board. There have been many good Bible conferences and revivals in our land. TBE has had a successful year and so has our book store.

It is to be feared that great

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danger is ahead in our rank due to growing problems in the area's new prophetic views, hyper-Calvinism, and the new teaching of the priesthood of the Baptist church. None of these issues existed some years ago. Now they have come to disrupt our missionary work, split churches, separate brethren, confuse young preachers, and hinder cooperation among our independent churches. In an elementary stage we face the same two problems which our Baptist forefathers faced in the early 1800's here in America: Campbellism and Hardshellism.

Certainly I would not equate the priesthood of the Baptist church with Campbellism, but I fully believe it contains the seeds of Campbellism. The priesthood of the church idea puts a person in the priesthood at baptism. Since the Bible teaches a person is constituted a priest by the blood of Christ, sooner or later some logically minded person will assert, "You contact the blood in the water." Only a very few who believe in the new teaching about the priesthood of the church would go this far. But what will their followers do? What kind of plants are to spring up from these seeds now being sown among our churches?

The tenaciousness of brethren to cling to this new teaching astonishes me. I talked this year with one dear brother about this doctrine. Following a prolonged discussion, he finally confessed that he had neither Scripture nor Baptist history to prove his new view, but he went on to assure me he believed in it anyhow. In my opinion it is a sad day when any Baptist preacher turns his back on the Bible and Baptist history to teach a doctrine he received from some man.

A second area of trouble is the trend toward the doctrine of Daniel Parker and the so-called Old School Baptists. Some brethren who believed in regeneration by the Spirit through the written Word have changed their mind. Others have ceased all missionary efforts. Still others hold the gospel should be preached to the elect only. More and more we are becoming like Reformed Baptists who contend that nothing matters but the doc-

trines of grace. For the first time to my knowledge, 1978 was the year that Reformed Baptists were invited to speak in our Landmark churches and Bible conferences. Unless this trend slows down or stops, one or two things are sure to happen. Either some Sovereign Grace Landmarkers will give up the local church and hop on the Reformed Baptist bandwagon, or they will submit to re-baptism and re-ordination at the hands of the so-called Primitive Baptists.

These two major trends, joined to a growing trend toward a-millennialism, seriously threaten division within our ranks in the next few years, maybe as early as 1979. Because so many preachers and churches are changing their views with every wind of doctrine, fellowship and cooperation among the churches is not what it should be. It is hard to know whom to invite as a speaker in a revival meeting or Bible conference. The only thing we can be certain of today is the uncertainty of the future views of some brethren.

The threat of division in our ranks over the priesthood of the Baptist church and hyper-Calvinism is real and pending. Some churches are already taking a stand openly against these issues. However, the actual division is not here yet. I pray it never shall come. If it does, no one will hate to see it any more than the editor. It has never been my desire to cram my views down the throats of those who disagree with me. There should be liberty in certain areas and love in all things. I would hope that brethren who lead the faction of militant a-millennialism, the priesthood notion, and hyper-Calvinism would cool it a bit.

Peradventure they persist and demand the acceptance of their views as a basis of fellowship, many brethren and myself will have no fellowship with these brethren. TBE has not ever taught the priesthood of the Baptist church, hyper-Calvinism, or a-millennialism. As long as I am editor it never will. It will remain in the old paths of our Baptist fathers as it has since the '30's. I churches and brethren wish to withdraw support because they no longer believe what our paper has always stood for, they are at liberty to do so. They are not at liberty to demand that Calvary Baptist Church and the editor of TBE change their doctrinal views to conform to some new doctrine which has come along in the last few years.

Neither my church nor I am ashamed of what we believe. Neither is the vast majority of the readers of this paper ashamed of what we have always believed. We ever desire peace to war and unity to division, but there is a limit to our forbearance.

An old southern general once said to his men, "Don't fire until fired upon." After hearing a shot and seeing some of his men fall, he said, "Gentlemen, we are surrounded by the enemy. Don't let one escape. Fire!" This is the sentiments of many like myself who are unable to see the new views which some now teach among our people.

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