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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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ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, MARCH 31, 1979

WHOLE NUMBER 2216

How Satan Connives To Ruin The Lord's Preacher

HAROLD J. HARVEY
 Monticello, Kentucky

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (I Peter 5:8).

As I embark on this subject, let us prayerfully consider the subject, and may the Holy Spirit bless us, so that we will grasp these truths.

Every year, we see a larger percentage of preachers quitting the ministry. There is a large percentage that does not quit, but their effectiveness is lost, because of Satan's traps and snares. I am not exempt, neither are you.

Every man of God can recall the past or present attacks of Satan. The purpose of this message is not to judge or criticize or condemn you as men of God, but to share with you the Word of God so that Satan may not get the advantage (II Cor. 2:11). Paul admonished the Corinthian church, let us also heed his advice.

The devil has a master plan, so let all that is said be advantageous to us and to the glory of God. Let us consider three aspects of a preacher's life, where Satan can ruin his ministry: The preacher's

walk, the preacher's work, and the preacher's wife.

THE PREACHER'S WALK

He is to walk in wisdom, "Walk



HAROLD J. HARVEY

in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that we may (Continued on page 4, column 3)

THE LORD'S DAY

By **WATSON DUFOR**

"If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words; then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." (Isa. 58:13-14).

The desecration of the Lord's day is the most noticeable and perhaps worst evil of this generation that hath forgotten God. The loud cry always goes up when any mention is made of keeping the Lord's day holy. "We are under grace, not under the law." To tell you the truth, I am getting sick to my stomach at people excusing their ugly sins by waving the banner of grace. I would like for someone to show me one passage of Scripture that teaches or even hints that Jesus Christ died to give men liberty to sin against the holy God. I think that we can assume that as long as there has

been a world there has been one day out of seven set apart for me to honour the Lord. When the fourth commandment was given at Mt. Sinai, it was worded. "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," thus pointing back to its original institution at creation when God rested on the seventh day. The Sabbath or the seventh day has since been replaced by what is sometimes called "The Christian Sabbath," for which is much better, the Lord's Day, the first day of the week, but the purpose and need is still the same. It is a holy day in which we are to give all honour to Jesus Christ our precious Lord. I don't believe that any individual or nation can long prosper who fails to heed this commandment of our God. I think it is high time to give the Lord's (Continued on page 3, column 1)

BIBLE NEEDS FOR PHILIPPINES

By **DALE MYERS**

I know it is not customary for missionaries to become involved in the publication of Bibles. I have always felt the Lord calls each of His elect to serve in a particular capacity in regard to mission work. My call has been to preach the Gospel to the lost and to teach the ones whom the Lord has saved.

For sometime, however, I have been much concerned over the utter lack of Bibles in the Philippine language in general, and Cebuano in particular. It is not that translations do not exist, but that they are not being produced. Most have been copyrighted and will not be released. I found, however, the 1936 edition, a translation from the Authorized King James English Version has no copyright.

The Lord has interceded in behalf of the Bibles, in so much, that the American Bible Society, through Mr. John Erickson, has promised to print a number of these Bibles at a nominal cost of about two dollars each. This, of course, will vary according to the number we have printed.

I know it is hard to realize how few Filipino people have seen, let alone owned, a whole Bible. We are accustomed to Bibles everywhere; in our homes, bookstores, and even the supermarket. The cost is from a few cents to several dollars. Any translation, any style, the choice is yours.

In the Philippines there is no choice. There are no Bibles! Bible study and tract references cannot be traced nor Bibles studied.

We can put one style, one translation in their hands at reasonable cost.

Will you ask the elect of our Lord to help us by praying for this work? We know our Lord will supply all our need, and bless those who have a part in it.

What would you do without Bibles? What can they do without any?

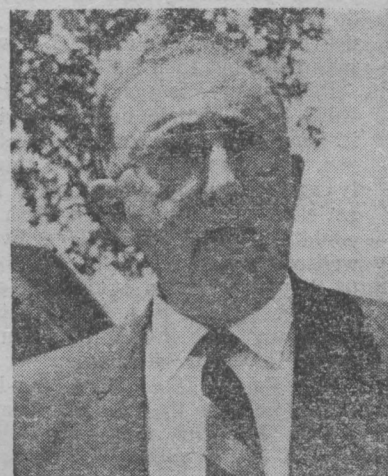
I would appreciate your help in letting others know of this great need. Thank you so much.

Editor's note: This is a project worthy of the support of our churches. Those interested in helping should send their offerings to Elder Dale Myers, 11421 N. E. San Rafael, Portland, Oregon 97220. Please designate that the donation is for the Philippine Bible Fund.

IS HELL A MYTH?

By **ROY MASON**
 (1894-1978)

Is there such a place as Hell? And is there a personal Devil? Or are both Hell and the Devil only the creation of superstitious and ignorant minds? Can we of the twentieth century still hold to belief in these things, or have we



ROY MASON

reached the place where we can no longer hold to them? I am quite frank to say that I, for one, believe fully in the doctrine of Hell and eternal punishment. If I did not believe in these absolutely, without any reservation whatso-

ever, I would most certainly quit the ministry, and quit at once, for back behind all of my preaching and all of my Christian efforts, as a background, is the belief that men are hastening toward Hell and an eternity of suffering just as rapidly as time can carry them. And my belief in Hell and future punishment is not merely founded upon superstition, either. I have what I consider to be good and sufficient reasons for my beliefs. Some of these I expect to give you presently. Some there are who would have us believe that Hell is a myth and that the Devil is just merely a mythical character, like Santa Claus, for instance. Sometime ago I heard a story of a boy who had become quite skeptical. As his Sunday School teacher went on to tell the class about Hell and the Devil, this boy sat with a smile of half-derision on his face. When the teacher had finished, he said, "Aw — they ain't no devil. It's just like Santa Claus, it's paw."

Of course, belief in the Devil and in Hell stands or falls together, because certainly if there is no personal Devil there is likewise no Hell. Any place inhabited by such a character as the Devil is described as being could hardly be less than a Hell, don't you think? If (Continued on page 6, column 2)

John Imah Presents His Doctrinal Position

By **FRED T. HALLIMAN**
 Missionary To New Guinea

Dear friends,

Since returning to the mission field this time there have been several people that have made inquiries as to exactly what are the

did not send one, he is in full agreement with the one that Bro. John sent. I present it to you just as he sent it to me except that he wrote it out in long hand, and I will type it ready for publication.

A DOCTRINAL STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS

By **Elder John A. Imah**
 Calabar, Nigeria

1. We believe in one God eternally existing in three Persons, namely the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2. We believe in the sovereignty of God.
3. We believe in the infallibility and plenary verbal inspiration of the Scriptures.
4. We believe in the Biblical account of creation.
5. We believe in the personality of Satan.
6. We believe in the hereditary and total depravity of man in his natural state, involving his fall in Adam.
7. We believe that salvation is (Continued on page 5, column 5)



JOHN IMAH

doctrinal beliefs of Elders John and James Imah. I wrote to Bro. John and asked him to prepare an article stating his doctrinal beliefs. Below will be found the doctrinal statement of Brother John Imah and while Brother James

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—adapted

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon By **Milburn Cockrell**

SEXUAL IMPURITY

PART I

"Thou shalt not commit adultery" (Ex. 20:14).

Religious radicals, women liberals, homosexuals, and the mass news media are rapidly conditioning America to accept sexual impurity. Modern society no longer frowns upon fornication, adultery, incest, rape, homosexuality, or the abuse of children sexually. There is a mad craze to cast aside the ancient religious doctrines that forbid such practices. For example, in 1715 in the State of Maryland adultery was punishable by a fine

of money or tobacco or up to 39 lashes until the blood showed. Today in that same State the penalty is a \$10 fine, and nobody has been fined since the 1960s.

It is a matter of common occurrence for professed Christians to abandon their spouses for an adulterous relationship. Even after vows of eternal fidelity and love before God and witnesses in a church building, people treat lightly their marital vows and ignore the Seventh Commandment. Adultery has become a way of life in our culture, and instead of Chris-

tians crying out against it, they are following the multitude to do evil. More than a few professed Christian women have been influenced by the voices of certain females who deplore marriage as "sexual servitude." Multitudes of professed Christian men are indoctrinated with the PLAYBOY slogan "monogamy equals monotony." All too many professed believers regard sex as mere recreation.

ITS EXPLANATION

We know from Exodus 20:14 that (Continued on page 2, column 2)

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The 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.

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Entered as second class matter March 4, 1978, in the post office at Ashland, Kentucky, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Instructions To Those Who Submit Manuscripts To TBE

We always are glad to see any manuscript which someone may see fit to submit. As editor it is my job to decide if all manuscripts are to be published or not. This is no easy job, for no human being is infallible or capable of pleasing thousands of readers all the time. After four years trying to edit the paper I am convinced that about two percent of our readers read it each week just to find something to write the editor a nasty letter about. They are at liberty to do so, but I ask them to remember that such letters should be written in a Christian spirit. All that are not are never answered and go in the waste can.

All manuscripts must be typed and double spaced. They must say something and be in the main doctrinally sound. They should have at least a degree of grammatical correctness. I do not mean absolute perfection—our main business is not teaching grammar but printing the truth. Since a printed sermon can speak only in its words and construction, the writer must give some thoughts to these matters.

I receive some articles I can't even read. To print such would not be wisdom nor would it be fair to our readers. Other articles are very poorly written and say little to the reader. Some are too long. Many in sending their first article want to send a 35-page manuscript. Very few of this length ever get into the paper. Do not copy out of a book someone else's material and put your name to it.

The average article should not exceed eight pages. Shorter articles are a crying need. Long series of articles are usually not read by most readers. People always read the shorter articles first. Those who seek to send articles should do all within their power to make sure they are worthy of publication and will merit the reader's attention. If your writing ability could stand some improvement then have someone to examine your material and make suggestions.

One of my present problems is that many of our preachers who have writing ability are too lazy

to write. Others need to have some qualified person to help them in the grammatical construction of their material which is Biblically sound but poorly presented. Some of our young preachers need to begin to write. New writers who are willing to write should start out by writing short articles for the "Christian Boy's" column, then later move up to larger articles in TBE. The editor is always happy to return a corrected manuscript to those who can take it without anger. This is often a great help to a new writer.

I do like to know something about the doctrinal position of those who write in TBE as well as their morals. I was deeply troubled to learn that one man who wrote an article in TBE is now selling narcotics and has quit the ministry. It is impossible to keep up with some people doctrinally and morally. I do not work for the CIA. I try to use reasonable caution and sound judgment, but then I often goof.

I do not have to agree with every word in an article before I print it. Some liberty is granted to brethren. If I printed only what I totally agreed with I would print no articles but mine. Even then I could not print all I have ever written because I have been known to change my mind at times. Nevertheless, there is a point that I must draw the line in how much liberty a writer is to have.

The Forum is constantly under attack because they do not always agree. But the purpose of the Forum is for each of these four men to give their views on the question—not necessarily the views of the editor or readers. Readers should keep this in mind when reading their material. These men are honest and sincere in their views and their views should be respected even if the reader and editor disagrees with what they said.

All articles appearing in TBE are a mixture between the old writers and the new writers. I try to avoid giving one person a special place while ignoring others. There are no big and little preachers to me—the ground in front of the cross is level! But it is well-known that God has given some men a remarkable writing ability. I do feel these men should be permitted to use this talent to the blessing of our readers. Articles are not refused because the editor does not like certain views of the writers. It is true some do hold views which I would not print but I will print their views on all other subjects.

The readers are always at liberty to send letters critical of the editor or those who write. But please do not send one in anger and malice. If you disagree with the editor tell him so. If you disagree with the other writers please tell them so. Some prefer to blast the editor and never to contact the real writer they want to get at. If you do not know their address, send the letter to us and we will send it to them.

Do not think that you can castigate and malign the editor and Calvary Baptist Church each day of the week and then have your article and picture on the front page of TBE every week. The law of self-preservation should teach one better than this.

Sexual Impurity

(Continued from page one)

God requires chastity and forbids impurity. The Seventh Commandment enjoins that a husband and wife use all proper means to preserve lawful marriage, conjugal love, and cohabitation. It demands that we control our passions and keep our bodies in subjection. We are to avoid everything which tends to unchastity — intemperance as in the case of Lot, idleness as in Sodom and immodest apparel as in the case of Jezebel.

Just what constitutes sexual impurity? How many different forms does it take? With all the confusion in the world much time needs to be spent in giving Bible answers to these questions. There are eight things which constitute sexual impurity.

First, it may be said that fornication is one form of it. This is voluntary intercourse between unmarried people. Premarital sex is not a normal development of a

human being, nor should it be considered as necessary to growth toward maturity and subsequent domestic family life. It is now and will forever remain sinful, unethical and immoral.

The Bible calls upon people to flee from this sin: "Flee fornication" (I Cor. 6:18; Acts 15:20). I Thessalonians 4:3 says: "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should flee from fornication." Under the old covenant fornication was punishable by death: "If a damsel that is a virgin be betrothed unto a husband, and a man find her in the city, and lie with her; Then ye shall bring them both out unto the gate of that city, and ye shall stone them with stones that they die; the damsel, because she cried not, being in the city; and the man, because he hath humbled his neighbor's wife: so thou shalt put away evil from among you" (Deut. 22:23-24). While we do not live under the Mosaic Dispensation, we can be sure God has not changed His mind about this awful sin.

Second, it may take the form of adultery. This is voluntary sexual intercourse between a married man and someone other than his wife, or between a married woman and someone other than her husband. This is the specific act forbidden in the Seventh Commandment. Leviticus 18:20 declares: "More-

FINANCIAL REPORT

February 1979

Balance February 1	\$ 781.83
Receipts	4669.92
	\$5451.75
Expenditures:	
Labor	1566.75
FICA on Labor	92.84
Postage	690.14
Supplies	395.02
Printing TBE	3300.00
Total Expenditures	6044.75
Deficit Bal. Feb. 28	\$ 593.00

RADIO FUND

Balance Feb. 1, 1979	\$1070.07
Receipts	345.00
	1415.07
Expenditures	605.30
Balance Feb. 28, 1979	\$ 809.77

over thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbor's wife, to defile thyself with her." Under the Old Testament economy it carried the death penalty: "And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbor's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death" (Lev. 20:10; Deut. 22:22). God has in no way changed His mind about this awful moral defilement in the twentieth century.

Third, sexual impurity sometimes takes the form of homosexuality. This is sexual desire toward a member of the same sex. Romans 1:26-27 describes and condemns this sin: "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet."

Religious liberals are working night and day to achieve "gay rights." Radicals and rascals think the churches should ordain these sex perverts to the gospel ministry. There is no argument to the question of ordaining homosexuals. The Bible is plainly against this practice. The Scriptures consign these sex perverts to eternal torment. In I Corinthians 6:9-10 Paul says "abusers of themselves with mankind" shall "not inherit the kingdom of God." If God is not going to allow such people to enter Heaven, we can be assured He does not want us to put such into our churches and into the gospel ministry.

Fourth, lying with an animal is forbidden: "And if a man lie with a beast, he shall surely be put to death; and ye shall slay the beast, And if a woman approach unto any beast, and lie down thereto, thou

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shalt kill the woman, and the beast: they shall surely be put to death; their BLOOD SHALL BE UPON THEM" (Lev. 20:15-16). This sexual defilement is a horrible sin and always will be.

Fifth, rape is sexual impurity. This is sexual intercourse with a woman by a man without her consent and chiefly by force. God condemns this: "But if a man find a betrothed damsel in the field, and the man force her, and lie with her; then the man only that lay with her shall die: But unto the damsel thou shalt do nothing; There is in the damsel no sin worthy of death" (Deut. 22:25-26).

Sixth, incest is a violation of the Seventh Commandment. This is sexual intercourse between persons so closely related that they are forbidden by law to marry. "And the man that lieth with his father's wife hath uncovered his father's nakedness: both of them shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them. And if a man lie with his daughter-in-law, both of them shall surely be put to death; they have wrought confusion; their blood shall be upon them" (Lev. 20:11-12; 18:8-18).

Seventh, unscriptural divorce is sexual pollution. Jesus said: "Whoever shall put away his wife except it be for fornication and shall marry another committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery" (Matt. 19:9). Luke's account gives the words of Christ as follows: "Whoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery; and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery" (Luke 16:18).

Here the Saviour makes it plain that all marriages which take place after divorce, where continued adultery is not the cause of the divorce, are adulterous. Human legislatures have no right to tell men they may put away their wives for any other reason. Where they do and a second marriage occurs the law of God declares such a marriage to be adulterous. Fraud, impotence, conviction of a felony, habitual drunkenness, desertion, non-support, mental cruelty, physical cruelty, insanity, nor narcotics addiction are not Bible grounds for divorce.

Nowhere does the Bible say a person can get a divorce on suspicion of adultery. In Deuteronomy

22:13-21 there is an account of a man accusing his wife of unchastity. If the accusation was not proven beyond any reasonable doubt, the woman was to remain his wife and he could not "put her away all his days." If sexual impurity was established for certain, then the woman was to be stoned by the men of the city. Thus it is seen that adultery in the case of either the man or the woman must be proved, not assumed to justify one's religious conscience.

Eighth, even to look upon a woman and to lust after her is heart adultery. Jesus Christ condemned both physical and mental adultery: "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matt. 5:27-28). Immodest clothing in the case of either a man or woman can cause the opposite sex to have "eyes full of adultery" (II Pet. 2:14). The Scripture forbids lustful desires as well as the overt acts.

ITS EXPLOSION

In the last few years throughout the world sexual immorality has exploded like a powder keg. Out of four people in America are having extramarital affairs. Teenage pregnancies and divorce are increasing at an alarming rate. Fornication, adultery, incest, petting, and homosexuality have gotten to be the order of the day. These practices are becoming so commonplace the pulpits in our churches are as silent as a tomb. Scaredy-cat preachers fear the immoral members will band together against them and run them away from their church.

TEENAGE PREGNANCIES

More than one million unwed teenage girls get pregnant every year in this country. About 400,000 of them end the pregnancy through abortion or miscarriages. There are 600,000 illegitimate babies born each year to teenagers. These infants are more sickly than normal, have a higher death rate than normal and tend to become social welfare problems. Venereal disease among teenagers has skyrocketed to epidemic levels, with a jump in syphilis alone being 500 percent in the last twenty years.

What is behind these grim statistics? Why the problem in our time of sex education and contraceptive materials? Why the social problem of 600,000 tiny, sickly babies that nobody really wanted in the first place — and maybe never will?

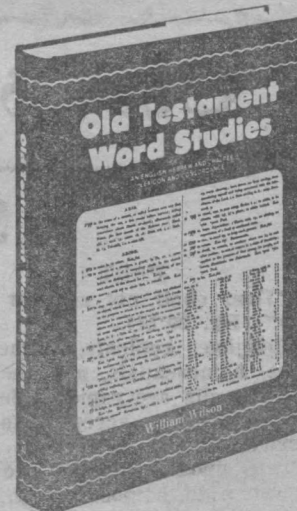
First, the fault is with the teenagers themselves and their own lustful desires. Despite the failure of parents, the ravings of liberal sex educators, the Communistic ideas in the textbooks of our schools and the sex scenes on TV, teenagers do not have to go over fool's hill. They don't have to believe the lies of the Devil and his cohorts. They can turn the sex scenes on the TV off, or go out of the room where it is being shown. They can read their Bibles and discover what God says about

(Continued on page 5, column 3)

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By WILLIAM WILSON

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This volume by William Wilson will enable the English student to gain an understanding of the Old Testament Hebrew word and terminology. This exhaustive dictionary and concordance includes all the words in our Authorized Version, the corresponding Hebrew words and their meanings from which they were translated, and all the passages in which each meaning occurs. Here is an invaluable aid for the understanding of word meanings. It is a "must" for all serious Bible students.

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The Lord's Day

(Continued from page one)

day back to the Lord. I think this matter is of such utmost importance that I would like all of God's people to bow their heads for a moment of silent prayer as we earnestly beseech the Holy Spirit to give us enlightenment from His Word and fill us with grace to keep the Lord's day holy to the honour of Jesus Christ!

I. WHAT WE ARE TO DO ON THE LORD'S DAY.

Instructions are given to us very plainly in God's Word that we are to keep this day holy. I don't want you to tell me that I am teaching something out of law and not grace. God's people have always kept a day for the one purpose of honoring God. The apostolic church always used the first day of the week to meet together, that they might honour and praise God, preach, pray, break bread, and have fellowship with Christ and the brethren. In these United States, founded on Christian principles, on whose coins we have written "In God We Trust," for many years the Lord's day was kept sacred and holy. Until just recently some places such as Philadelphia and Boston held to their Sunday Blue laws, and we thank God for them, but now you will look in vain for any coordinated effort to keep the Lord's Day. All have given in to the Devil and his agents of darkness. This is a serious matter. The Lord's Day is to be kept holy. God intends for us to be just that and we must determine to get back to the blessed privilege, duty, and joy of using the Lord's day for the Lord.

"CALL THE SABBATH A DELIGHT."

It has always been a matter of bewilderment to me that Christians dread the Lord's day with its blessed privilege of attending the house of worship and praising the name of our Redeemer. The Lord's day is intended to be the highlight of the week and if it isn't, there is something wrong. If you dread to get out of bed on Sunday, if it is a tiresome task for you to get ready to go to church and you are the last to arrive and come in dragging your feet, there is something wrong. We should call the Lord's day a delight. There should be joy in our hearts at the prospect of coming to His house and praising His name. I am not rebuking anyone, neither am I laying down the law. I love you and am trying to point out to you the things in God's Word that will cause you to grow in His likeness. If you will heed the Word of God, you can most surely rejoice in the Lord's day.

Psalm 84:10 "For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness."

One day spent in the presence of God is worth a thousand spent anywhere else. The Psalmist was a man of great fame, he had many days of applause, victory, and rejoicing, but he considered the day spent in the courts of God to be greater than all. Likewise, we ought to look forward to the Lord's day as an inestimable privilege. David knew also the power and authority of kings, but he said he would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of God. We need to have the same sense of values. The very humblest job in the service of God is to be desired above the highest position the world has to offer. It has been said that the angels would delight in sweeping the streets just as much as they would in doing the greatest work, if God told them to. They delight to do His will. It is not what we do but whom we serve that counts. We need to know what it is to be in the presence of God and do the most menial of service as if it were the greatest of all.

Psalm 122:1—"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

The Lord's day should be eagerly awaited and warmly welcomed. The most pleasant moments of my life have been spent in the house of my God with the brethren and my Saviour Jesus Christ. I certainly am not going to get involved with the things of the flesh until I can no longer call the Lord's day a delight.

"THE HOLY OF THE LORD, HONOURABLE."

It is a shame to think of the Lord's day as anything but holy and honourable. If we have the slightest thought in our hearts that His day is a burden we ought to crucify the thought and beg the grace of God to consider it holy and honourable.

Ezekiel 44:23-24. — "And they shall teach My people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; and they shall judge it according to My judgments; and they shall keep my laws and My statutes in all Mine assemblies; and they shall hallow My sabbaths."

Certainly God deserves a day in each seven and we should consider that day above all days. The Lord's day is the day designated by God for us to hallow. There are the unholy days of Christmas and Easter which have been brought in by the old whore, the Roman Catholic church, and many people think they can dress up and make a big splurge on these days and please God but it just isn't so. You might please the Devil but not God. He has only one day, one out of seven—the Lord's day. Let us hallow that.

"AND SHALT HONOUR HIM."

The purpose of the Lord's day is to honour the Lord. Especially should we remember His death and resurrection. Don't you think there is enough in that to keep our hearts and minds busy for a day? It should be a blessed truth to us how the Lord Jesus has saved us.

Psalm 107:31-32. — "Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! Let them exalt Him also in the congregation of the people and praise Him in the assembly of the elders."

I know none so worthy of praise as Jesus Christ. I believe we can use a whole day praising His name and yet the half will not be told. I also believe that the Lord knows our frames better than we do and He set aside one day in seven for His worship because we need it. The same is true of the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, which I think also should be kept every Lord's day. You might not



The Baptist Examiner

BIBLE STUDY LESSON

By WILLARD PYLE

Pastor — First Baptist Church of Naples Park, Florida

For April 1, 1979

I Peter 3:1-4.

The two main objects of the Devil's fiery darts are the home and the church; for, as the home and church goes, so goes the nation. Surely we can see the need for a prayerful study in connection with the home. Both the church and the home have been set aside or are woefully neglected by most, even professing Christians. Especially is this seen in the relationship and responsibilities of husbands and wives.

VERSE ONE

"Likewise." In like manner as the charge and admonition to the servants, so the wives. Notice also the injection of the lesson concerning the example of the Lord Jesus Christ as the suffering servant comes between these admonitions.

"Ye wives." The principle is the same to both saved and lost, but

know why eating the bread and drinking the wine contributes to your spiritual well being, but it does. God is not starved for our affection. He does not need our worship, we need it. Let us understand that our God knows best and let us keep that day He hath given us, calling it a delight, holy, honourable, and honoring Him.

II. WHAT WE ARE NOT TO DO ON THE LORD'S DAY.

"Not doing thine own ways."

The Lord's day cannot be our day, we cannot devote the day to self and to the Lord. We have no right to decide through the week or on Saturday, if we shall go on a picnic or take a pleasure ride or something else on Sunday, our Lord has already decided. Once for all we need to understand that the Lord's way is right and ours is wrong.

Proverbs 14:11-12. — "The house of the wicked shall be overthrown; but the tabernacle of the upright shall flourish. There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

We, everyone need to pray, "Not our way, but Thy way, Oh Lord, not our will but Thine."

"Nor finding thine own pleasure."

Sunday has been turned into funday. On this count alone we are terribly guilty in the sight of our Lord. Ball games, fishing, swimming, golf, movies, newspapers, radios, television. Name anything that men indulge in for pleasure or amusement and there is more of it done on Sunday than any other day. Today in every creek and stream people will be fishing and swimming; on every corner lot and ballfield a game will be in progress. In almost every home where there is a television set baseball will be the main fare. If one stood by the side of the main highway all day he would see perhaps ten thousand cars go by, all intent on using the Lord's day for pleasure. If you stopped those cars and inquired, over fifty per cent would claim to be followers of Christ. How, brethren, shall we explain this to the Lord? It can't be done. We spend five or six days making money and then we spend it all on Sunday bringing shame upon the Lord and His day.

II Timothy 1:3-5. — "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."

(Continued on Page 6, Column 1)

this concerns primarily saved wives. The saved are to be the examples before the world.

"Be in subjection to your own husbands." This is a bitter pill to swallow for those in rebellion to the Word of God, but not for any seeking to honor and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ. Subjection is taught for both men and women in their relationship to Christ (Matt. 11:28-30, Matt. 17:5; Matt. 16:29). God gave us men and women like Joshua (Joshua 5:14) and Paul (Acts 9:6). How we need to remember God has set up a standard by which the home is to be regulated. Therefore, there is a God given place for both husbands and wives and children (Eph. 5:22-6:4; Titus 2:1-5). It has been well said a woman was taken out of the side of man signifying she is not to rule over the man or usurp authority, nor is she to be trampled under his feet, but to be a true helpmeet in the Lord (Gen. 2:20-24), and to be cherished by him in love and respect. However, the Bible does teach the headship of man in the home. This is a solemn responsibility for the man and a serious obligation for the woman.

"That if any obey not the word." A wife who is seeking to please God, and who has a husband who is failing to heed God's Word, has a very serious burden to bear, and is in need of divine assistance. It would seem at first appearance that this would mean her husband is unsaved, but this is not necessarily so, because there are some saved husbands who are not obeying God's Word in regard to the home. But either way the advice is the same.

"They also may without the word be won." Some of the best sermons ever "preached" are not preached from the pulpit, but are preached in the conduct of the saints. The eye gate is a channel to the heart as well as the ear gate. To see the truth portrayed has a great influence on unbelievers and the disobedient. To be won here means to be gained. Compare Matthew 18:15. This does not contradict I Corinthians 1:21 or Romans 1:16.

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ans 11:17, etc., for this husband or husbands have heard the truth and now they see the light.

"By the conversation of the wives." The wife as she goes about her daily activities in caring for the home can radiate the glory of God. She can create a happy and healthy atmosphere that speaks volumes. As she bears and forebears the perplexities and problems created by a disobedient husband, she is making a good impression that is not easily overlooked.

VERSE TWO

"While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear." Practical holiness or godliness in view of daily temptation, again created by a disobedient husband, before the eyes of constant inspection is living proof of inward grace. To manifest reverence towards God and respect towards the position of the husband cannot fail to achieve results.

VERSE THREE

"Whose adorning." The outward clothing of a woman, and also even of man, has been and is a very serious problem. The extravagance and exposure of a woman has been the means of enticement and temptation over the years. The great stress placed on clothing and cosmetics in order to gain popularity and position is evidence of its abuse and misuse. Women are taught in order to get their way, how to dress, or sad to say, undress. Please understand, there is nothing wrong with a woman looking like a woman and being neat, clean, and dressed modestly. However, Peter under inspiration has shown there is something of greater value than the outward appearance of a woman.

"Let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel." This teaching is also brought out in I Timothy 2:9,10 and serves to emphasize the vast importance of the inward qualities of the heart over the external covering. But we must never lose sight of the fact that the external does give some strong indication of what is in the heart. If a woman is spiritual, she will seek to dress right. Many people use the verse to teach a woman shouldn't fix her hair or wear any jewelry, but if you say that, a woman would also not put on any apparel.

VERSE FOUR

"But let it be the hidden man of the heart." The inward man created in the new birth by which all things become new (II Cor. 5:17; II Cor. 4:16). This new man is to be put on in outward manifestation (Eph. 5:24).

"In that which is not corruptible." What a contrast between the works of the old man, Galatians 5:19-21, and the fruit of the Spirit produced through the new man (Galatians 5:22, 23; Romans 5:5). Peter gives us a good study on the incorruptible and the corruptible (Ch. 1:18, 19, 23).

"Even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit." What a heavenly characteristic to cultivate, for its end results are peace and harmony. Again, we have a great contrast (Prov. 21:9). In this age where women want to be seen and heard, how pleasant to find one with a meek and quiet spirit. This doesn't mean a woman is to be a doormat, but it does mean she is to be a woman!

"Which is in the sight of God of great price." Here is the heart of the issue. Whom are you seeking to please? A godly woman may not have the applause of the world, but if she is well pleasing in God's sight, this is the vital thing. (Read Proverbs, chapter 31, especially verses 10 and 30).

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MARCH 31, 1979

PAGE THREE

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The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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

"Is it possible for a person who preaches the priesthood of the church to be sound on the church and the doctrines of grace?"—Red Wing, Minn.

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They can be sound on the doctrines of grace in every way except the fact that God gives all His people the instructions to go preach the gospel which is a part of the doctrine of election. For instance, Christ told the man of the Gadarenes (Mark 5) to go and tell his friends what had happened. The priesthood people couldn't tell him to do that until they had a church established.

They can be fairly sound on the church. For instance, they can believe in the local church, proper organization, and truths as to it being the Bride of Christ. They would have the church, however, to be disobedient to the Lord by having her to be a priest. The church is spoken of as the Bride, a chaste virgin, and in the feminine gender. The Bible is clear in teaching that the priesthood is to be held by the male, yet they would have the church to be in the priesthood.

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With such a diversity of belief on the matter of the priesthood of the church, I find it very difficult to give an answer to this question without knowing what the questioner means by the terminology of "the priesthood of the church." I do believe that God has established it as the one place on earth (i.e. the tabernacle and temple) when He can be worshipped. I believe He has given it the special authority to receive tithes and minister, as He did the Levites and before them, the patriarchs and Melchizedek.

However, I do not believe that one has to be a member of the Lord's church to be saved or pray. I furthermore believe that God has been pleased to use men who were not Baptists. I know that many will find that hard to accept, but I have discovered that God is just so big, so sovereign, that everytime we think we have Him bottled up with a statement of faith, He upsets our wonderful position and does what we thought He could not. Besides, God saw fit to speak through a jackass once and the jackass surely was not a Baptist. He was not even an Israelite.

Then, too, I wish the questioner would have been a little more specific on the matter of sovereign grace. I fail to see the connection between that and the priesthood matter. I know brethren that agree with my position on grace and disagree with the church matter. Others agree with me on the church and disagree with my position on the doctrine of grace. You may notice that I did not say that they were "sound" and "unsound."

I have decided to be very careful the way I use that word, as well as the word "heresy." The terms used as we use them, are

too relative. Everybody that disagrees with me, whether it be a big issue or not, is either "unsound" and "a heretic." Of course, I am to him also. What is heresy and unsoundness should be governed by the Word, WHERE IT SPEAKS ON MATTERS AND DOCTRINES SO CLEARLY THAT IT IS NOT A MATTER OF INTERPRETATION. If a brother is so sure of his doctrinal position on all matters that he can declare that all who would disagree are "heretics" or "unsound," so be it. Personally, I have not arrived yet with mine.

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I would not say that it is impossible for a person who holds to the doctrine of the priesthood of the church to be sound on the church but we know of some who have left their former position on the church since imbibing that doctrine. There seems to be less danger of leaving the doctrines of grace as a result of priesthood of the church than there is of leaving church truth. I am persuaded that sooner or later this doctrine will undermine the wonderful doctrine of our Lord's church. To me the two do not seem to go together too well.

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Thus far in my study of the doctrine of "The Priesthood of The Church" I cannot see where it enhances or contributes anything to the Landmark Baptist position on ecclesiology which would cause them to further identify with their forefathers, or N.T. practices.

I do not mean to infer that the brethren who hold to the doctrine of the priesthood of the church as recently introduced, are not Landmarkist in theology. Those whom I know, certainly are Landmark Baptists.

Soundness of doctrine is a relative term, yet every man has his own yardstick by which he measures everybody else. When I lay my ecclesiastical yardstick upon my dearest brethren, I find they come in some degree short of my thirty-six inches, and that is their measure of unsoundness on the church? However, there is a text of Scripture which the Holy Spirit uses to constantly remind me that "If any man think that he knoweth anything, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know" (I Cor. 8:2).

I find in my study of the doctrine of the priesthood of the church that the following points are essentially the same as those which true Baptists have held all through their history:

1. Origin of the church; 2. Perpetuity of the church; 3. Ordinances of the church; 4. Nature (local-visible) of the church; 5. Church discipline; 6. Head of the church; 7. Church, God's executive on earth under the administration of the Holy Spirit; 8. Church, repository and custodian of divine truth; 9. Ecclesiastical glory restricted to the Lord's true

churches; 10. All believers have access to God through prayer; 11. Church authority; 12. Etc.

The crux of the doctrine seems to be a denial of the priesthood of all believers, and yet the doctrine allows all believers the privilege of entrance through prayer into the holy of holies not made with hands which is in Heaven. Prayer may not be a priestly function but it is one means of offering the sacrifice of praise unto God (Heb. 13:15). If a person outside of the priesthood can pray acceptably to God, the prayer is then a means of praise toward God.

It is my understanding that what is meant by the doctrine of the priesthood of believers as held by Baptists is, all believers can confess their sins to God without the medium of an earthly priest. I doubt very seriously that one could find a Baptist who did not confess his sins to God before he was baptized. Jesus excepted.

Priesthood of believers as here-in described can in no way be construed to mean that they which hold the view must give some credence to the doctrine which contends that the church is universal and invisible. As to the position of the church priesthood brethren on the doctrines of grace I have never seen where there is a need to question them.

How Satan Connives

(Continued from page one)
know how ye ought to answer every man" (Col. 4:5, 6).

Satan would have us not to use good judgment or wisdom. He will attempt to discredit us. He wants us to be the opposite of what Paul said that we are to be, "blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach" (I Tim. 3:2). The word blameless means to be irreproachable. Let us seek wisdom from God in all that we do, for Satan can ruin our ministry if there is doubt concerning our character.

He would have us to be blameless concerning those of the opposite sex. When the Lord called me to preach, several preachers gave me this advice: keep your hands off the women, be careful where you counsel, do not provide transportation for one female passenger alone, do not be alone with a woman that is not your wife (Genesis 29:7-16). Satan says to the preacher don't be so naive. All of us know that many a preacher has been ruined by falling into Satan's trap by getting involved with his secretary, pianist, or others.

We are to be vigilant, wakeful and watchful of our words and actions. The Devil would have us to be slothful not vigilant. We ought to be able to spot the trouble makers in the church that we pastor, lest they get the advantage; he rejoices when the preacher is not watchful of his words. He would like for you to tell shady jokes, and when preaching call your people names like rascal (a base dishonest person), scoundrel (a villain, an outlaw).

We are to be sober or prudent, wise men of sound judgment and good understanding. Some ways that Satan tries to trap the preacher: church discipline, renovation of church property and relocation of church property. It is sad for a church to be more concerned about what color to paint the auditorium than the saving of lost souls. Satan can get the advantage of a preacher, when he goes to a new work. He would have him criticize the former pastor and discredit his work. If we go to a new church and it is in a mess, let us go to work and teach the people the truth. A wise preacher under God's leadership will feed and lead the flock, not scatter the sheep.

Paul wrote to Titus, "For a bishop must be blameless as the steward

of God; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, not striker, not given to filthy lucre" (Titus 1:7). Satan likes to hear preachers say, it's going to be done my way. He would have us to become angry and strike back at the deacons or other church members. We must remember that Satan will use the deacon to provoke the preacher; and will use the laymen of the church to provoke him. "Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil" (I Tim. 3:6). He likes to hear preachers say, I could do a better job, if I pastored that church, I would do it this way. We seem to have answers for the problems of others, but not our own.

Question: How are you progressing at your church? The Devil would have you believe that the church cannot do without you. He wants you to think that you are a big shot preacher, that you have the bull by the horns, that you know it all, that your job is to straighten everyone out. He would have you to be mean, fierce, hateful, haughty, proud, boastful. I know of many preachers that preach the truth, but people will not hear them because of their rotten, stinking attitude.

He is to walk worthy. "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called" (Eph. 4:1). Satan would have you believe, that everybody is indebted to you, regardless of your walk. What saith the Lord? "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine" (I Tim. 5:17). Paul told Timothy to make full proof of his ministry (I Tim. 4:2-5). Many religious racketeers are displaying themselves on radio and T.V. today, so Satan places this temptation before every God fearing and honoring preacher today. May we not be unfaithful, "thou therefore, my

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son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men" (II Tim. 2:1, 2).

THE PREACHER'S WORK

Among the people of God there have always been wolves in sheep clothes (Matt. 7:15). History reveals that Baptist churches have been filled with tradition, Jezebels, those who want to indoctrinate the pastor, some that are set against truth, some that want the pastor to resign, some that want to vote him out. We have always had these things in Baptist churches and always will, but I believe that Satan has a greater weapon that he uses today.

The preacher's work is described, "Preach the word: be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, make full proof of thy ministry" (II Tim. 4:2, 5). The Devil would have us to believe that our work is over and above that which God has given us to do. Sad to say, that some of my good friends are falling for the Devil's gimmick. The greatest temptation for the preacher today is to meet the world's standards. Be popular and successful, even if one has to resort to gimmicks and sensationalism. He would have us to believe that the end justifies the means. If we do not meet the criterion of these successful preachers according to the world's (Continued on page 8, column 1)

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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.

"DO YOU CARE?"

MRS. SHARON R. HAYNES
Chardon, Ohio

"For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself" (Gal. 6:3).

This opening verse is especially for me, because I desire to warn against a particular sin, but I pray not to do it self-righteously — as though I have no sin of my own.

In Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus (Ephesians 5:27) he states Christ's desire is to present His church to Himself without spot or wrinkle, that she might be holy and faultless.

As believers and church members, each one of us has a responsibility to keep ourselves separate from the world, untainted from the sins and ways of the world, that we might not be a spot in Christ's church.

The particular sin among young church members and even young married couples in the church which has made me sit down to write today is R-rated movies and TV shows which cater to evil lusts and sensual passions of one's lower nature.

"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul; Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evil-doers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation" (1 Peter 2:11-12).

I can't imagine a child of God willingly viewing an R-rated movie nor can I understand sitting in

front of a TV show which stirs up evil passions. Have we lost all fear of sin? Have we become so deceived by sin we no longer know right from wrong?

Is this proper conduct spoken of by Peter? Is this your good deeds which will glorify your Lord when witnessed by evildoers or have your deeds become as evil as the world's?

Young girls and any other believers who may read this today, in II Peter 3:14 you are called beloved, and urged to: "Be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless."

Free from the fears of being found in such sinful circumstances? And what could cause agitating passions and moral conflicts within a believer more than movies and TV shows full of adultery, fornication and other perversions?

Girls, we are not infallible. We will begin to think and practice what we see and hear. And I fear we have far more of the world in our lives than what we have of God's Word and spiritual things.

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" (James 1:22).

Did you read that verse carefully? If we do not obey God's Word in our "ways and deeds," if we sit in church and listen but do not practice; we only hurt ourselves! How? We will deceive ourselves. We will begin reasoning in opposition to the truth we hear. In other words we will think up reasons why it's "O.K." to go to an R movie. "I'm old enough." "I

know right from wrong so it won't influence me." "I only want to see my favorite star."

"But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest, any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin" (Heb. 3:13).

Girls, I care. I care about young people. I care about my brothers and sisters and I care about my own spiritual life. And I thank my Lord and give Him the glory, that in this sin-filled world He has kept me sensitive to His Word, so I still care.

Open your Bibles and read them carefully and often. Pray without ceasing and care. Care that your life pleases your Saviour and that your actions bring glory to Him.

"Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord" (Lam. 3:40).

Sexual Impurity

(Continued from Page Two)

sexual impurity and marriage being honorable among all. Some are stupid about improper sex because they want to be so.

Second, the problem lies in the home. Some of these unwed mothers have come from broken homes. Others have come from homes where the parents are too busy earning money to explain to their children the facts of life. In the main their parents are irreligious and never take their children to church so as to hear what God says about sex and marriage. All most teenagers hear about sex is what some dirtyminded person tells them at public school. Youth growing up in such an environment need no special genes or chromosomes to travel the road of sexual impurity.

Third, modern sex education in public schools and the new morality which it teaches have caused young people in the main to have the wrong conception of marriage. A good example of the results of sex education in public schools can be seen in what happened in the Belgian Congo. In 1960 the Belgian priests and nuns were replaced with lay educationists. Now after years of sex education the first results of this so-called reform are at hand. The lay schoolmasters have left in a family way a number of girls 13 and 14 years of age. A medical check-up has just found that 80 percent of the pupils are affected with syphilis! This is a small sample of what we can expect in the next few years to come from PLAYBOY sex education in our public schools.

Fourth, television portrays the so-called blessings of sexual intercourse without marriage. TV brainwashes the young people of America with scenes of sexual intimacy 30 to 40 times each week. Sex acts between unmarried partners are portrayed seven times as often as intercourse between married couples. When you add to this tragic ordeal the pornographic bookstores and the X-rated movies, it is little wonder that Satan has been successful in turning some of our teenage girls into whores and some of our teenage boys into sex maniacs.

Fifth, the blame for teenage pregnancies may be laid at the door of ministers of the gospel who fail to preach what the Bible says about sex and marriage. All too many times our young people hear many sermons on the scriptural grounds for divorce and never one sermon on the evils of an unscriptural divorce. They hear much about adultery being a ground for divorce but never do they hear that even when this happens the home can be saved by the guilty party turning away from sexual impurity. Divorce is played up as a God-given right as much as marriage, yet no one seems to want to present divorce as the last resort as the Bible presents it.

Many of the young people in our independent sovereign grace Baptist churches have heard many sermons on adultery being the grounds of divorce, but when did they last hear any preacher preach from the text in Malachi 2:17 which reads: "For the Lord, the God of Israel, says: I hate divorce and marital separation" (Amplified O. T.). When did they last hear a message on: "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matt. 19:6)? Why

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do our preachers preach on Matthew 19:9 but never Matthew 19:6? Are there certain verses in the Bible not to be preached? The results of such lopsided preaching can be seen in the wrecked and ruined homes of our churches. Our preachers have sown to the winds and now they are reaping the whirlwind.

TILL DIVORCE DO US PART

In colonial days there was one divorce in about 500 marriages. By the year 1812 there was one divorce in every 110 marriages. Recent figures show there is now one divorce in every 3.7 marriages. One out of three marriages today end in the divorce court. Fifty percent of the marriages in California end in divorce — seventy percent in Los Angeles County! The number of divorces in America has reached the million mark annually. There are now over 100,000 divorces per year in the British Isles. In Russia the divorce rate is ten times higher than it was in 1950.

Most people look upon marriage as a trial by error thing. They marry for lust and looks, not for love. Some say, "If she doesn't suit me, I will get another." And they go around trading their spouses like cars and cows. The marriage knot is reduced to a slip knot in easy divorce. Because of this crucial problem some ministers are considering changing their marriage ceremonies from the proverbial closing, "Till death do us part" to "Till divorce do us part." To say the least, in one out of three cases it would be much nearer the truth!

The late Alfred Kinsey gave us the first indication of how widespread women's adultery was back in 1953 when he published his monumental SEXUAL BEHAVIOR OF THE AMERICAN FEMALE. He found that one out of four of the wives he investigated had had extramarital sexual experience. Two later independent studies confirmed Kinsey's statistics. In 1975 a mammoth study conducted by REDBOOK magazine revealed that among that magazine readers, at least one out of three were adulterous. In 1978 McCALL'S magazine conducted a survey among Christian women which revealed that twenty-seven percent believed in extramarital sex and fifty percent in premarital sex!

That premarital and extramarital sex should be a common practice in the ungodly world is to be expected. But that professed Christian women would say it is okay is enough to make our hair stand upon our head. This can only be due to ignorance of the Scripture or willful rebellion against its teachings.

In spite of the modern divorce

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and remarriage scandal even in Christendom, the Bible still teaches the marriage knot is not a slip knot. Malachi 2:16 reads: "For I hate divorce, says the Lord God of Israel" (Berkeley V.). There is nothing to indicate that God has changed His mind since the days of Malachi.

Concerning marriage Jesus said: "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matt. 19:6). On the subject of divorce He said: "Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery" (Mark 10:11-12). Modern sex educators have in no way caused Christ to revise His views.

The Apostle Paul taught the same doctrine which Christ taught: "For the woman which hath a husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband" (Rom. 8:2). I Corinthians 7:10-11 declares: "And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: And let not the husband put away his wife." The language of such verses does not require a theologian to interpret them. They are plain enough that even a child should not misunderstand.

(To Be Continued)

John Imah Presents...

(Continued from page one)

wholly by grace through the mediatorial work of the Son of God, and Who, by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon Him our nature; yet, without sin, honored the divine laws by His personal obedience, and by His death made full atonement for our sins.

8. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried and raised from the dead; that He ascended up to heaven and is now at the right hand of the Father as our intercessor.

9. We believe in the atonement by the blood of Christ for the elect of God ONLY.

10. We believe in the doctrine of election. About election we believe it to be God's eternal choice of some persons unto everlasting life, not because of foreseen merit in them, but because of His free mercy in Christ and in consequence of which choice they are called, justified, and glorified.

11. We believe in the person and work of the Holy Spirit in the regeneration of the sinner.

12. We believe that justification before God is by faith in Christ's Blood.

13. We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties and also inseparable graces wrought in our souls by the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit.

14. We believe that sanctification is the process by which the saved are made partakers of His holiness by the work of the Spirit through the Word.

15. We believe in the eternal security of the saved.

16. We believe in water baptism by immersion, to be administered to believers only and that by divine authority as given to Missionary Baptist churches. We would not receive members from other churches, even though they had been immersed by this group.

17. We believe the Lord's Supper to be a church ordinance; to be administered to baptized believers only and in Scriptural church capacity. We believe the elements to be unleavened bread and fermented wine.

18. We believe in the separation of God's people from the world. We also believe in the separation of the Lord's churches (Missionary Baptist churches) from the religious world.

19-A. We believe in the establishment of a visible church by Christ (Continued on page 7, column 2)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

MARCH 31, 1979

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The Lord's Day

(Continued from Page Three)
I am sorely afraid that these days are upon us. Men who call themselves Christians, will be found on the Lord's day doing all of these things that in no way bring glory to Christ. It is a shame to save your conscience by coming to church on Sunday morning and then use the remaining part of the day to indulge the lusts of the flesh. One who uses the Lord's day for his own pleasure, loves pleasure more than he loves God.

"Nor speaking thine own words."

This is a very searching thought, even our very words are to be guarded that they might bring glory and honour to our Lord on His day. I and you, are both guilty of speaking of trivial things on the Lord's day, the weather, crops, the state of our health. I am sure the people to whom I talk would be profited much more if I talked to them of nothing save Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

Psalm 141:3.—"Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips."

The angels of heaven desire to know the mystery of Christ. Throughout the eternal ages we will be singing the praises of the Lamb. Surely if we tried we could make Him our one and only subject on the Lord's day. We mustn't take this lightly. Our tongue is a very important and sometimes, devilish member. Oh, how we need to seek the aid of the Holy Spirit that our words and tongues will glorify Jesus on His day.

III. THE BLESSED RESULT.

"Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord."
Most every Christian expresses the desire for a closer fellowship with Jesus, and the best way to start is to keep the Lord's day holy. I don't mind telling you that I would rather spend one moment with Jesus than an eternity in fleshly pleasures. I have the promise of my Lord that if I keep His day holy, doing the things He tells me to, and not doing the things that He tells me not to do, that I shall delight myself in Him. If we don't love our Lord enough to take one day out of seven to praise His name and delight ourselves in Him, I don't see how we can hope to enjoy His presence in heaven. God did not give us this teaching because He is a tyrant but because He loves us and knows what we need.

Psalm 16:11.—"Thou wilt show me the path of life: in Thy presence is fulness of joy; at Thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

To be in God's presence is all that one could ask. Just to be with Him assures us fulness of joy and pleasure forevermore.

I Peter 1:8.—"Whom having not seen, ye love; in Whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory."

Anything that draws us closer to Jesus should be welcomed, and nothing is so calculated to do just that as the Lord's day. If we spend all of the Lord's day seeking His glory then we will be better Christians on the other days. We ought not to let company, laziness or anything else, keep us from coming to church on the Lord's day.

I have gone to people personally about this. Mothers will pray for their sons and wives for their husbands who work away from home, then when they come in on Sunday, they defeat their very purpose by staying home and cooking up a big feast, showing very plainly that they think more of their boy's and husband's stomachs than they do of the Lord and their soul's salvation. There are many other things such as pride. A woman says she doesn't have the proper clothes, someone gets a black eye, others have their teeth pulled and stay at home. It doesn't make any difference to me and I don't think it does to God, if you look like a monkey, you still ought to be in the Lord's house on His day, praising the name of Jesus Christ.

"I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with heritage of Jacob thy father."

God takes care of those who honor Him, blessing them on this earth. He might not give you all you want, because what you want might not be good for you, but no matter how many enemies you make by honoring the Lord, and you will make many, such as lodges and other forms of spiritual darkness, God will take care of you and no man will be able to lay a hand on you until your work is finished. And what is even more blessed, He will give you Jacob's heritage, that wonderful inheritance of the saints of light in heaven.

"For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

Keeping or not keeping the Lord's day is not something we can decide for ourselves. God hath spoken. Neither individual nor nation can afford to go against His revealed will pertaining to His day. Once upon a time we honored our Lord and His day and we were the leading nation of the world, today we are a second-rate power, and we will be a tenth-rate power if we don't get back to honoring the Lord's day. The blessings of God are bestowed upon those who honor His day.—W.K.D.

Is Hell A Myth?

(Continued from Page One)
there were no Hell, then a Devil and such characters as his followers must be, would not have much trouble in creating a Hell all their own.

Now, before I give you my reasons for believing in the existence of a Hell, I want to consider the objections that are commonly raised by people who profess not to believe in the existence of such a place. There may be other objections than those I shall mention, but they are the ones that I have commonly heard made. I desire to face these objections frankly and fairly.

The first objection, and one that I have seen and heard repeatedly raised, is this: GOD IS TOO MERCIFUL TO LET ANYONE GO TO HELL. Let me ask you, what do you know about God, or about His character? Isn't it true that you get all of your information from the Bible? This same Bible tells us that there is a Hell. By what rule of interpretation do you accept the Bible's teaching on one point and reject its teachings on another? God is merciful, that is true, but let us remember that God is just. Let us also remember that God never sends anyone to Hell. If any man ever goes to Hell it will be because he, of his own will and volition, voluntarily chose Hell as his portion, instead of Heaven and eternal life. When God made man, there was one of two things possible for him to do: either to make him with no power of will of his own — just a machine — or else to make him a free being with the power to choose between good and evil. God made man with the power to make choices for himself, and, that being the case, man becomes responsible for his own actions and his own choices and must abide the consequences in case he chooses the wrong.

Again, another objection that is often raised to the Bible doctrine of Hell is this: A GOOD AND MERCIFUL GOD WOULD NOT SUFFER HIS CHILDREN TO

IS "THAT" IN THE BIBLE?



Question:

WHAT TWO OLD TESTAMENT MEN LOVED EACH OTHER "PASSING THE LOVE OF WOMEN?"

Answer: David and Jonathan, Second Samuel 1:26. "I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women." See also First Samuel 20:17.

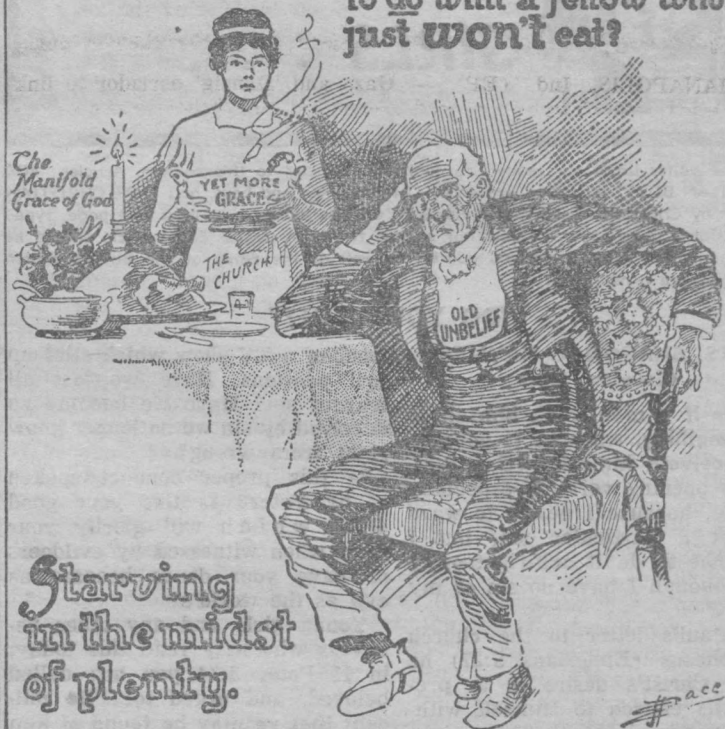
SPEND ETERNITY IN TORMENT. I agree with those who raise this objection. We cannot conceive of a God of love sending, or permitting, His children to go to torment. But the point at which I disagree with the objector is in regard to who are the children of God. Many people assume that God is the Father of all men. There is, in fact, no doctrine that is more popular in our day than that of the Universal Fatherhood of God and the Universal Brotherhood of Man. But is it true? It absolutely is not. If God is the Father of all men, then Hell is an absolute impossibility and an insult to God and to man. "But how can you deny that God is the Father of all?" I have had people to ask me "Didn't He create everybody?" Yes, He did, but there is a vast difference between creatorhood and fatherhood. God made the Devil, didn't He? Is He, then, the Father of everything that He created, then He is the father of every old mule, every cat, every dog, every skunk, every tree, every cabbage, and so on. It is not right to confound creatorhood with fatherhood.

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What are you going to do with a fellow who just won't eat?



A certain preacher tells the story of how once upon one occasion, after he had preached on Hell, a certain woman approached him and said, "You are a father, and I am sure that you love your children." "Yes," said the man, "I do." "Then I suppose that if you could ease the pain and sorrow of your child you would do so?" "Yes," said the preacher, "I would." "Well, what would you think of a father who could ease the pain and sorrow of a suffering child, and who would not?" "Why," said the man, "I think he would be a tyrant and a monster." "I am glad to hear you say so," said the woman, "for you see that is what you are making God out to be. God could never see His children in Hell and in torment. He would be a monster if He did." The preacher said, "Lady, there is just one point on which you are mistaken. God hasn't a child in Hell, never had one and will never have one. Moreover, there are none on the road there. All of God's children are either in Heaven or on the road there — one or the other. The people who go to Hell are the Devil's children. God as a father has a home for His children, and the Devil has a home for his. God is only the Father of those who believe on and trust Jesus Christ as their Saviour" (John 1:11, 12; Gal. 3:26).

Again, let me note another objection to Hell that many people raise. It is this: They say that it is UNREASONABLE FOR US TO BELIEVE THAT PEOPLE ARE TO BE PUNISHED FOR ALL ETERNITY FOR THE THINGS THEY DID DURING THE SHORT SPACE OF TIME THAT THEY LIVED HERE. That is a very plausible objection. But let us think for a moment and we will come to see the truth about the matter. The person who dies a lost sinner and goes into Hell, goes into that place still a sinner with all the tendencies to sin that they ever had active. Now, if they lived in sin in this world, where there are many good influences, is there any reason to think that they would no longer sin after reaching Hell, where every good person and every influence had been removed? Certainly not. In Hell they would go on sinning forever. Thus sinning in eternity, they would be guilty of eternal sin and deserving of eternal punishment.

Then again, someone else objects to Hell BECAUSE OF THE BIBLE'S TEACHING ABOUT FIRE. They say that they can't understand how a person in the world to come can be tormented in literal fire. That objection grows out of the failure to think. Let me ask you this question: In describing Hell, didn't the writer of Scripture have to express himself in language and in terms capable of being understood by human beings? The only way either Heaven or Hell could possibly be described to the human mind, so as to mean anything at all, was for the description to be couched in terms understandable

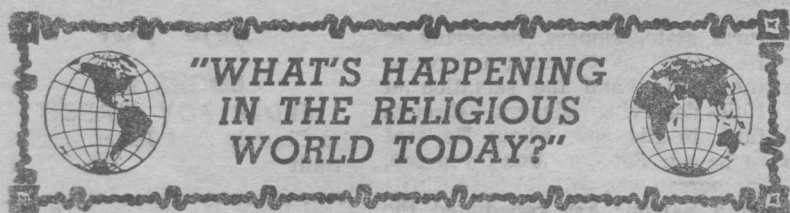
to the human intellect. Consequently, Heaven is described to us as containing those things that are most beautiful to us here in this world, and the most precious. Hell is described to us by means of terms that convey the idea of supreme suffering, horror, agony and woe. If you should ask me the question, "Do you believe in Hell as a place of fire?" I should answer, "Yes." It seems to me but reasonable to believe that Hell will contain fire, or else something that corresponds to it so closely that to the human mind it could not have been properly described in any other way or by any other term. And I say to you, we do an exceedingly dangerous as well as a foolish thing when we, with our puny little minds, rise up against what God has revealed in His Word, and attempt to say that it is impossible for this or that to be, just because we don't happen to know the how of it all.

And now I want to take a little time to tell you some of the reasons as to WHY I BELIEVE IN THE EXISTENCE OF HELL. I BELIEVE IN IT, FIRST OF ALL, BECAUSE I BELIEVE THE BIBLE, AND THE BIBLE TEACHES THE EXISTENCE OF HELL TOO PLAINLY FOR ANY HONEST MAN TO DENY. The Bible is absolutely the only book in this world that has any creditable claim to divine inspiration. No other book or earth even begins to bear the stamp of having come from God. I have read the Koran, the writings of Confucius, the sacred books of India, the Book of Mormon, Mrs. Eddy's book on Christian Science. I have even struggled through such a collection of bunk as Darwin's Origin of the Species, but in none of these do I find anything to intimate that they are (Continued on page 7, column 3)

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INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (EP) — A bill to exempt church-sponsored day care centers from certain state licensing procedures passed the Indiana Senate by a 37-12 vote. The second of three so-called "church freedom" bills survived debate despite accusations that there was no issue of separation of church and state present.

Senate Bill 160, sponsored by Sen. James W. Spurgeon (D-Brownstown), exempts church-operated day care centers from licensing by the Department of Public Welfare, but would still require such centers to meet state fire and health standards. In addition, exempted day care centers would have to post notices stating that the center is not licensed and provide the parents of children with a written notice that the center is not licensed.

The "church freedom" bills were the focus of a rally that attracted 1,500 supporters to the Indiana statehouse lawn at the start of the present session. However, the Indiana Council of Churches voted recently to oppose the bill, claiming it does not interfere with a church's freedom of religion.

Here of late post-tribbers have introduced some new views into the theological world. The first is that Antichrist is to come from America. Sharrel E. Ford, pastor of Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Sacramento, Cal., took this position in the January 1, 1979, issue of THE MIDNIGHT CRY. He says: "You should know that America fits the prophetic description as the nation on which the Antichrist will come to power. This means that the Antichrist would be a president of the United States."

Pastor William G. Lowe in his book, EVEN SO, COME, LORD JESUS, contends the true church will cease to exist during the tribulation period. On page 38 he maintains the church is not mentioned in the Book of Revelation after chapter 3, verse 22, because it has become "utterly apostate, not because it was raptured!" It will be interesting to see if Landmark post-trib men who believe in the perpetuity of the church will be able to endure this new view. It seems not to matter to Pastor Lowe that his new view contradicts the promise of Jesus Christ to His church in Matthew 16:18.

In his neighborhood on the southwest side of Cleveland, John White, 41, was known as a quiet religious man who worked hard at a nearby Ford plant.

On February 18, his body was found in the utility room of his home, nine days after his murder. Cleveland police arrested his teenage children on charges of hiring a gunman to kill their father for \$60.

According to police, the children said they hired their father shot because he wouldn't let them do anything they wanted to do — like smoking pot. Such events remind us of Paul's description of the last days: "Without natural affection" (II Tim. 3:3).

Just who said that Mormonism has changed? In a recent issue of the LATTER DAY SAINTS' CHURCH NEWS (11-12-77) Mormon President Spencer W. Kimball says: "Only through celestial marriage can one find the strait way, the narrow path. Eternal life cannot be had in any other way..." Thus the way of salvation to the Mormons is not the person and work of Jesus Christ, but it is "celestial marriage."

A full-page ad in THE JERUSALEM POST (2-79) by Americans for an Undivided Israel is interesting. A portion of it reads: "We reaffirm our solidarity and support for Israel's unquestionable right to its ancestral homeland. We regard Israel's sovereignty over the whole and undivided Israel to be divinely sanctioned and inviolable! No Judea, No Samaria, No

Gaza and 'Danzig' corridor to link them, nor any other areas essential to Israel's security. With abiding faith in a righteous Providence who guides the destinies of men and nations and the aid of aroused Jewry the Goliaths of guile and hypocrisy will be defeated and another Holocaust averted."

Mrs. Cynthia Webster, a kindergarten teacher, faces up to two years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine for spanking one of her students. This so-called "abuse of children" in which a person must be proven to have cruelly maltreated a child is a class E felony.

Pastor James Roy spanked his fourteen-year-old daughter, Shirley, in April, 1978. The Child Protective Agency of the Onondaga County Welfare Department (Syracuse, New York) took Shirley into their custody and investigated the Roy home. Shirley was put into a Roman Catholic home. On July 6, 1978, Pastor Roy was charged with "child abuse."

Baptists in America had better wake up! The state is soon to take our children away from us like they do in Communist countries. It is a sad time when the state can take a child from its home because the father spanked it for disobedience! Is this the country of freedom or oppression?

John Imah Presents...

(Continued from page five) Himself during His personal ministry on earth.

19-B. Regarding the church, we believe it to be not only visible and not universal, but that it is a congregation of baptized believers associated by covenant in faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the ordinances that Christ gave to the church, governed by His laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in the church by His Word.

20. We believe in the perpetuity of Missionary Baptist Churches from the time that Christ established the first one in Jerusalem until He comes back to earth to receive His Bride and all the saved.

21. We believe in a Baptist Bride, but not all Baptists will make up the Bride. We believe only faithful Missionary Baptists will be in the Bride.

22. We believe Matthew 28:18-20 to be the commission that Christ gave to the church and not to individuals and that this commission not only includes foreign missions but home missions and all in between.

23. We believe in Storehouse tithing; that the New Testament church is His storehouse for today and that its program is to be supported by tithes and offerings. We do not believe in suppers, rummage sales, etc. to get money to support the work of the church.

24. We believe Sunday to be the first day of the week, that this day is the Lord's day; that if it is His day, it is not ours to do what we want to do, but is to be kept sacred for worship purposes.

25. We believe that church discipline is absolutely necessary to a normal healthy church, that for a church to fail to discipline disorderly members is to displease our Lord and bring heartache and distress upon the church.

We believe in the premillennial return of Christ to earth and then to reign personally upon the earth for one thousand years.

27. We believe the Scriptures to teach two separate resurrections, the first of the righteous at Christ's second coming, I Thessalonians 4:13-17, and the second where the wicked dead will be raised and judged at the end of the one thousand years reign, Revelation 20:4-6, 11-15.

28. We believe in the reality of Hell, involving everlasting punishment of the incorrigible wicked.

29. We believe in the reality of heaven, involving divine assurance

of eternal happiness for the redeemed of God.

30. We believe in the absolute separation of church and state.

A foot note at the end of this doctrinal statement that Brother Imah sent to me states: "I wish to sincerely thank each and every one of you as individuals and supporting churches and all readers of TBE for being so patient with me in waiting for this statement to know what I believe. Every reader of TBE may not fully agree with what I have stated here but this is my belief and I would not change just in order to get support. I could use all the support that I can get but would not compromise my beliefs for any amount. May God bless all of you for being so gracious and kind to the poor saints of God here in Nigeria. Yours in the love of Christ, John A. Imah."

Beloved, I trust that this will clear up any doubts about what Brother Imah believes. Having spent a month with him, I know that he believes all that he has stated here and more. In a month of 30 days there are 720 hours. Of the 720 hours that I was there, Brother Imah and I had at least 540 hours together. We were not separated by sleep more than 6 hours a day while I was there.

The picture, that accompanies this article, of Brother Imah looks more like a doctor than a preacher. Brother Imah is not only a fine looking man but I believe to be one of God's choicest saints.

Is Hell A Myth?

(Continued from page six) divinely inspired. The Bible is the only book that reveals God and that furnishes the human race with any adequate conception of a Supreme Being. The same Bible that reveals God tells us in plain, unmistakable terms about Hell. Either there is a Hell, or else the Bible is a lie, one or the other. There is no escape from this position.

Again, I believe in the existence of Hell because JESUS CHRIST SAID THERE IS A HELL. I believe that Christ was truthful, and that He knew exactly what He was talking about. All over the world today we have men who claim to hold Jesus in great admiration. All admit that He was a great character. They say that He was the world's supreme teacher, and they quote many of His teachings, but when it comes to what He taught about Hell and future punishment, they ignore that — they omit that. Why? Simply because they don't want to believe it. Such men know that if there is a Hell they will go there, so they deny it. But listen: a fact cannot be altered, no matter how many times it is denied. If Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and He is, then there is a Hell. You may deny it, but that won't change matters one bit. Fire burns

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whether I believe it or not. Poison kills whether I believe it or not. Frost freezes whether I believe it or not. Two and two make four whether I believe it or not. Hell is a reality whether I believe it or not. I will land right into Hell if I reject Christ, whether I believe it or not.

Once more I believe in the existence of Hell BECAUSE I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST WAS A FOOL. To deny Hell is to make Jesus the most foolish person that ever walked the earth. He claimed that He left Heaven with all of its glory in order to come to this earth to save men. Save men from what? If there is no Hell, then there was no danger, and there was nothing to be saved from. Wasn't it ridiculous for Jesus to permit Himself to be foully murdered unless there was some reason for it? He said that He did not have to give up His life. "No man taketh it from me." He said, "I lay it down of myself." He told Pilate that he would speak the word and God the Father would come to His rescue with ten legions of angels. Why did He lay down His life? He claimed that He gave His life in order that all who believe in Him may not perish but may have eternal life. And unless men were in real danger of perishing — perishing in Hell, at that — then the death of Christ was a useless, bloody tragedy. Either there is a Hell, and men are in imminent danger of going there, and His death offers the only way of escape, or else Jesus didn't know what He was about and was laboring under self-delusion, one or the other.

Then again, I believe in the existence of Hell because, apart from the Bible and divine revelation, THE HUMAN REASON DEMANDS THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A PLACE. This world is a place where there are all sorts of inequalities. Injustice of all kinds is constantly being perpetrated. Will any person dare to assert that everyone gets exactly what they deserve in this life? No, for everybody knows that they don't. Then isn't it reasonable to believe that sometime, somewhere, all such matters will be adjusted and men will get exactly what is coming to them?

Some months ago the whole nation was horrified when the sons of two Chicago millionaires took a boy the son of another millionaire, and deliberately killed him with no reason than that they wanted to experience how it feels to be a murderer. There was money behind them to save them from the electric chair, and it will not be long until they will both be turned loose. Can you believe that those two cold-blooded murderers will never be brought to justice? Will God turn those two red-handed wretches into the same place with His people to live with them forever?

Just a few months ago, the whole State of Kentucky was filled with horror and revulsion over one of the most brutal crimes that has ever stained the record of our state. A negro in Fayette County, apparently with no good reason, killed a man, brutally murdered the man's two children, in front of the very eyes of their mother, assaulted the mother, and then shot her in an attempt to kill her. You just let that crime soak into your mind for a moment, will you? Can you think of or conceive of anything more brutal, more horrible, more awful than that? Then will someone stand and watch a fiend like that murder innocent, helpless children — spill their blood before the horrified gaze of the screaming mother, and tell me that there is no Hell? If the Bible had nothing to say about the existence of Hell, I would be forced to say that there ought to be one for such characters. I don't believe that a just God is going to turn a wretch like that unregenerate into the place where His children have to live throughout eternity.

Did you ever read Josephus' HISTORY OF THE JEWS? There is given there the story of the persecution carried on by that wicked and notorious ruler, Antiochus Epiphanes. Never have I read of such brutalities as were carried on by that inhuman fiend. He had

people put to death with every conceivable torture that his demonic brain could devise. Josephus tells of a mother that had seven sons. The mother was tied and each of the sons was in turn put to death in some different way before her eyes. One was boiled to death, one was cut up and fried, another was baked, another was roasted, and so on. He goes on to tell of how mothers were crucified and of how their babies were run through with a sword and their dead bodies hung around the neck of the mother as she suffered the tortures of crucifixion. You tell me that there is no Hell for such a monster as a man who would torture human beings like that! Do you think that a just God would turn a fiend like that into Heaven to live with His children throughout eternity? Why, it is preposterous for anyone to think so!

A lot of people talk as though they think they are better than God. Yet in these civilized lands we have jails and penitentiaries. Isn't it a shame to put men like the Fayette County murderer I described, in a place like that? Isn't it awful to rob men and women of their freedom and shut them up in jail? Isn't it a shame that civilization should permit such a thing? Many times a man is jailed or electrocuted for only one crime. "But," you say, "Don't you know that these people are lawbreakers? It is for their own good and the safety of the country and the people that we put them in jails and prisons." Yes, I understand that, and I also understand that Hell is simply God's prison house where the incorrigibly lawless, the criminal and the vile are shut out from the society of those who are the pure and good. What sort of place would this world be, anyhow, if there were no prisons, no asylums, no jails, and if all criminals were turned free to murder, pillage, burn, mangle and destroy? Why, this world would be almost a Hell. Nothing would be safe, and we would be living in a constant reign of terror.

Then we have all over the land great asylums, where many nice, respectable people are taken. Isn't it a shame that they are taken there and shut up? "Why," you say, "they are crazy, they are not responsible, they are taken there for their own good and for the good of society at large." Yes, I understand. But let me ask you, "Has God such a place for mad people in eternity?" Certainly He has. Surely a man is mad — is crazy — who will damn his own soul by wilfully rejecting Jesus Christ as His Saviour.

Listen: maybe you have never thought of it in this way before. What sort of a world would eternity be if all the people who will not have God to be their God, will not have His law as their guide, will not have His Son Christ Jesus, to reign over them, should be turned loose to go where they pleased and do as they pleased? Why, such an outfit would turn God's Heaven into a Hell! Oh, no, men and women! Hell is God's madhouse. And those that continue to rebel against God, to break His laws, to refuse His Son, will go there as certainly as God lives. God has an asylum for you, lost man or woman, if you will and choose to go there! God never sends any person there. They send themselves there.

Suppose I go go out here and kill someone, and for that am sentenced to prison. Who is to blame? I am. Is it the law that sends me there? Not in the truest sense it isn't — I have sent myself there. If I had acted right the law would never have disturbed me in any way. If the Bible is true, then God never prepared Hell for mankind. The Bible says that Hell was prepared for the Devil and his angels. If a man or woman prefers the company of the Devil, prefers to live for and to serve the Devil, then they have no kick coming if they are forced to spend eternity in the presence of the Devil. Every person who ever goes (Continued on page 8, column 3)

TUNE IN TO
THE INDEPENDENT BAPTIST HOUR

Stations:	Time:	Dial:	Watts:
WCAK, Catlsbrg., Ky. Sun.	8:30- 9:00 a.m.	92.7	3000 FM
WFTO, Fulton, Miss. Sun.	1:00- 1:30 p.m.	1360	2500 AM
WFTA, Fulton, Miss. Sun.	1:00- 1:30 p.m.	107.7	3000 FM
*KHYM, Gilmer, Tex. Sun.	1:00- 1:30 p.m.	1060	10,000 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			

How Satan Connives

(Continued from page four)

standard, then we are labeled as nonentities and not concerned about lost souls. May the Lord deliver us from the Devil's gimmick and help us to stay with the New Testament pattern for our churches.

The Devil would have our church members to believe his lie. He is provoking church members to pressure the pastor to produce new converts, new members, record numbers in Sunday School. The Devil uses his favorite tool (TV) to make us believe that we must resort to gimmicks to reach people. I am not opposed to reaching people by the New Testament means of preaching, teaching, witnessing, visitation, using the Word of God, and depending upon the Holy Spirit to make all effective. We should not believe the Devil's lie that we cannot reach people and must remain small. I do not know which is the lesser of the two evils, proud because of our large number or of our small number. May the Lord give us a burden and zeal to reach the lost according to His plan.

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables" (II Tim. 4: 3, 4).

Some Baptists have a new vocabulary today: the greatest, the biggest, the fastest growing, every-

body's coming, super. The Devil knows that if he can ruin the God-fearing pastor, that he can damage the work of the local church. He will try to discredit the work of a preacher, that is sound on: Salvation by Grace, the local Church, the Ordinances, Church Discipline, the Gospel and Bible Prophecy. He wants sound preachers out of good churches and the ministry.

THE PREACHER'S WIFE

"If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly" (Titus 1:6). The purpose of the wife: God has provided woman as a helper and companion for the man. The devil has not been successful in destroying your ministry, but you must remember there is another part of you, your wife (Gen. 2:21-24). He knows your love, affection and loyalty for her.

The Devil attacks the other part of you, your wife. We should not be surprised for this is the same strategy that Satan used in Genesis 3. He can make her unwilling to cooperate. "Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee" (Gen. 3:16). He can cause her to be a talebearer and a busybody. He can cause her to think there is no place for her. She becomes jealous of the church members and your ministry. Satan implants these ideas: destroy him, destroy his ministry, give him no peace. We find ourselves

in a helpless condition and everything we do or say is wrong. May God help us not to help Satan trap ourselves.

The purpose of your children. "One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity. For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God? (I Tim. 3: 4, 5). The Devil has attacked you and your wife, but there is another part of you, your children. He knows your love and affection for them.

Now Satan attacks you through your children. We should not be surprised (Gen. 4:8). He can cause your child to be unruly, use drugs, to be rebellious, to drink alcohol, to commit fornication, to join a false religion and to marry a lost mate.

Satan will try to ruin you through your children. He will cause you to think that you ought to quit, or relocate. The real danger comes when you are tempted to sin with your lips (Job 2:10).

I have known of several cases where the preacher had to recommend the exclusion of his son or daughter. May God give us grace to love and cherish our family, but when they are wrong may He give us grace to stand for truth.

This is Satan's master plan. It has been used on you and me. I thank God for His great mercy and grace, and the victory that is in Jesus Christ our Lord. We are indebted to Him for His grace, for our walk, our work and our wife.

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (I Peter 5:8).

Is Hell A Myth?

(Continued from page 7)

into Hell will have to trample upon the Bible's warnings. God has literally blockaded the road that leads to Hell, and that person that goes is without excuse.

But someone comes to me with another question: "Where is Hell?" I am not going to try to give you the locality. Just where in all this boundless universe Hell is located doesn't concern me. Some people say that the only Hell that there is, is right here on earth. When they say that they pit their own puny minds against what God's Word says. This present earth is not the Hell the Bible speaks about by a thousand miles. Where, then, is Hell? I will put the answer in this way: "Hell is at the end of every Christ-rejecting, Christless life. You may be a church member, you may be very devout in the performance of what you think to be your Christian duties; you may give your body to be burned; you may preach with the eloquence of an angel, but if you have not Christ in your life — if your whole dependence for eternity is not on Him, then you are just as certain for Hell as anything in this universe can be certain.

And listen: Some folk are all confused on this whole question. That negro that I described a while ago, that killed that man, wife and children in cold blood — will he go to Hell? "Certainly," you say, "if there is a Hell, it looks like he is deserving of a place there." Well, here is a man who lives a good, clean, moral life, pays his debts, is nice and kind to his neighbors and friends, is a good citizen, good neighbor, good friend. But with all that he is not a Christian and has never accepted Christ as a personal Saviour. He dies. What about him? Does he go to Hell just like the vile murderer I mentioned a moment ago? Many people are extremely hesitant about saying that he does, but if there is any truth in the Bible's teaching he does! He goes to the same Hell as the murderer, the thief, the libertine, the harlot, and all other criminals and lost sinners.

Here is the thing that many people fail to realize: We are all sinners. We are all guilty—even the best among us, of breaking the laws of God. We are all in our na-

tural state, sinners, deserving of Hell. God has provided a way for the pardon and the salvation of Hell-deserving sinners, through faith in His Son, whom He sent to be our Saviour. Don't you see, the person who will not have Christ as a Saviour has repudiated the plan — the only plan that God has devised for the salvation of lost people? So the man who refuses Christ is bound to go to Hell. There is simply no way around it. He may not receive the punishment that the hardened criminal will receive — I don't know about that, but he will go to the same Hell.

And WHAT KIND OF A PLACE IS HELL? I haven't the time or space to give you a description of the place. If I had the time, I should not want to draw upon my imagination, and simply try to depict something to scare you with. I wouldn't have to do that. The description of Hell given in the Word of God is horrible enough to make anyone want to shun it. A lot of people decry what they term "hell-scared" religion, but let me tell you, men and women — you who are not Christians — you ought to be scared — you ought to be scared about your condition enough to cause you to do something about it. Jesus said, "Fear him that hath both power to cast both body and soul into hell."

There are thousands of people who live through a hard struggle here in this world. They work hard every day, never have very much, and, to sum it all up, there are more sorrows and hardships in life than there is joy and pleasure. About all folks like that have to look forward to is the better life over yonder. And if they haven't that, then it would be better if they had never been born. To live in privation and toil here, then to die and go on out into Hell, is like jumping out of the frying pan into the fire. It is bad enough here in this world, where there are many good people and many good things, but if we are to believe the Bible, Hell is ten thousand times worse than anything we know here. There, in Hell, will be all of the criminals, all of the vile, the depraved, the moral lepers, the scum of the earth that have lived through all ages. Here there is always some hope, some joy. There in Hell will be no hope, no joy — nothing that is good, pure, wholesome, happy or glad. Cut off, cut off forever from all contact with God and with good people, doomed, doomed forever to live in that life that is worse than death — that is the state and condition that awaits every Christ-rejecting person that leaves this world and this life.

And now may I, in the closing moment of my sermon, dwell up-

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on the ONE WAY OF ESCAPE? I have already indicated it. May I repeat the truth that there is no need that any should perish, no need that any person should go to Hell. Jesus Christ, the just, has died for you, the unjust; He was wounded for your transgressions, He was bruised for your iniquities. Surely I am not speaking to anyone today who will go on to Hell with his eyes open and his feet stained in the blood of Christ. For your own sake, and your soul's sake, let me urge you, if you are not ready for eternity, get right by receiving Christ and by placing your case in His hands.

In the north of Scotland, where the main line of a certain railroad crosses a great ravine or gully, is a fearful looking abyss. The viaduct that bridged it was one of the wonders of the North. One night a fearful storm raged over that district. The little stream or burn that meandered under the viaduct was turned into a raging mad torrent. A young Highland shepherd lad sheltered his sheep as best he could for the night. In the morning, long before dawn, he set out to see how they had fared. As he made his way up the hillside, he noticed, to his horror, that the central column had gone and that the bridge was broken. He knew that the mail train was due, and that if not warned she would be dashed to pieces and many lives lost. He looked at the raging torrent. He wondered if he could get across. The thought of the danger of so many urged him on. He plunged in and made his way to the other side. He was battered and baffled and breathless and bleeding when he got to the other side. He made his way up as best he could, wondering if he would be in time. As soon as he reached the rails he heard the "pound, pound" of the mighty engine. He stood and beckoned wildly, but all he saw was the hand of the engineer beckoning him out of the way. He was making up lost time. The train came on nearer and nearer, and still he stood beckoning to stop. At last it came to where he was. He flung himself in front of the engine. The driver put on the brakes suddenly and managed to stop the train almost in its own length. The stop was so sudden that the passengers were awakened and came out to see what was the matter. When they could see nothing they were very angry, but the driver said, "It has been a close shave this time. We might all have been lost." And when they saw how near they were to the ragged edge of the broken bridge, their faces blanched. The driver said, "Come with me and I will show you the one who saved us tonight." They went with him back along the track a little way, and there they saw the mangled remains of the young Highland shepherd laddie. "If he had not died for us," said the engine-driver, "we would all have perished tonight."

That is what the Lord Jesus did for us on the Cross. He flung Himself between us and wrath and Hell. He died for us or we would have died. What base ingratitude it would have been if they had not felt grateful for what that lad did for them! But what baser ingratitude on your part to spurn His love and make light of His death on the Cross. Tell me, you will not rush over His body to Hell, will you? Why should you perish? There is no need. Jesus died for you to save you from sin and Hell. Accept Him. Trust Him, and you shall never perish. But if you spurn His mercy you will surely perish. May God incline your heart to come to Him now.

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