

The mother's heart is the child's schoolroom.

MISSIONARY PREMILLENNIAL BIBLICAL BAPTISTIC

The Baptist Examiner

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

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The Bible Doctrine Of Justification

DAVID GOETZ
Kirksville, Missouri

Justification is the legal side of salvation whereby we are declared sinless, perfect, pure, righteous, and fit for Heaven. We are so declared, because of the righteous works of our Lord and Saviour which He imputed to us. By the gracious act of God, the elect are pronounced freed from the penalty of the law and fully restored to divine favor. In the covenant of grace an agreement was made by God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The eternal Father, giving His Son for the elect, the Divine Son being born of a woman, whereby He was made accused and provided the elect His righteousness by which we are justified. The Holy Spirit revealed to the sinner a perfect, suitable Saviour. We see the elect justified before the world was by the promise of God the Son to redeem the ones the Father had given for He was a lamb slain before the foundation of the world. We see the redeeming act of God because of the demands of the law, curse of the law, and condemnation of the law. The law is a mirror of God's holiness and righteousness. The law proclaims God's justice whereby He has the right to cast all

into Hell.

Christ came to redeem them that were under the law. Christ came for His sheep to fulfill the law for them. He became the curse of the law. Cursed is he who hangeth on the tree. Christ endureth the penalty and condemnation of the law. We, the elect, are given a legal title to Heaven!

Justification is a legal term. We shall look at it in a legal way!

1. Arraigned as a criminal.
2. Moses shall represent law of God.
3. Our lawyer shall plead our case.

ARRAIGNED AS A CRIMINAL

Clerk of the court steps forth and reads the charges. "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." What is your plea? The man said, "Not guilty." The second law was read, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image." What is your plea? "Not guilty." "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." What is your plea? "Not guilty." The fourth law was read, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." What is your plea? "Not guilty." "Honor thy father and thy mother." What is your plea? "Not

guilty." The six, seven and eighth laws were read. "Thou shalt not kill. Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not steal." What is your plea? "Not guilty." The ninth and tenth laws were read. "Thou shalt not bear false witness." Thou shalt not covet." What is your plea? "Not guilty."

The clerk declared that this man should be bound over for judgment. The offenses were breaking the law of the king. His offenses are recorded in the Books of the King. He shall answer at the bar of Justice, for he has spoken all ten of the King's laws. This man has challenged the court to bring forth evidence of his guilt when he said that he was "not guilty."

I call forth the Defender of the law, Moses, the Law-giver. The clerk looked at the defendant and said, "Do you wish to change your plea?" The man puffed up in knowledge and said, "Not guilty." Moses came forth: "I shall call forth the first accusation which shall be the law." The law said: "Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust. For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me." (Continued on page 7, column 2)

THE "SPECTRE"

RAY HIATT
Hollywood, Florida

PART III

"Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars" (Prov. 9:1).

"Though this be madness, yet there is method in it." Shakespeare, Hamlet II.2.

Wisdom's prevailing method is to construct a sure and certain foundation, for without this the entire structure must fall. Our Scripture above speaks of the blessed completeness of this method. The

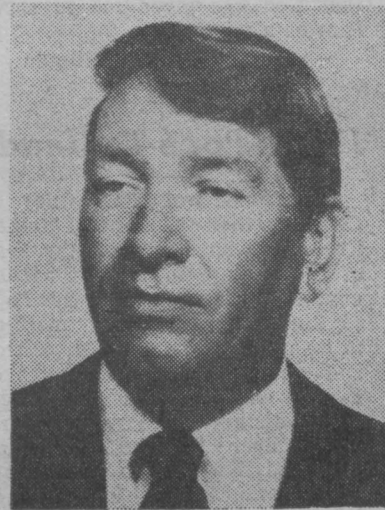
lesson in building, whether spiritual or material, is to make your foundation strong.

I once spent a very nervous year on an island in the Aleutians which was nothing but a mountain set on several other mountain peaks under the sea. Each time we had an earthquake or earth tremor (which was usually about once every two weeks) we thought the entire island was going to tumble into the sea. Geological surveys assured us of the possibility. We slept lightly therefore because we never knew when we would wake up treading water and spitting seaweed.

My good friends and brethren in the "priesthood" camp must find themselves on a similarly tenuous ground. Their foundation is as faulty as mine was. With just a little shake, a little tremor their carefully built structure must collapse. They have my sympathy. I have lived on shaky ground myself where the raging sea stood by to receive the fall of the foolish. Wisdom has a septennial foundation but I'm afraid that the "priesthood" is built otherwise.

One of the fondest memories of my early childhood was a Saturday morning radio program called, "Let's Pretend." It was pure fantasy and I loved it. There were the Brothers Grimm and Hans Christian Anderson and though it was fantasy and make believe I am convinced it was better than the "kill, crush, destroy" genre that makes up Saturday morning television viewing for children today. It was fantasy and didn't pretend any pretense at being anything else.

When we were children these things were delightful and we delighted in them but now that we've put off childhood days and put on (Continued on Page 6, Column 1)



RAY HIATT

method that our good friends have used to construct the "priesthood" is surely not madness but it is far from wisdom. It is a method of sentiency and not Scripture. I don't intend to demean my brethren for they are good and intelligent men but surely they must see that if the foundation is weak then the structure must also be weak. If the foundation is strong then it can withstand an occasional error in construction without the entire building tumbling down. The first

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon By Milburn Cockrell

REVIVAL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE

PART II

REVELATION 17:3-14

(Preached on the Independent Baptist Hour April 29, 1979)

Last week I dealt with the prophecy in Daniel chapters 2 and 7 about the revival of the Roman Empire. I also mentioned Revela-

tion 17:3-14 discuss the prophecy about Rome in Revelation 17.

THE SCARLET WHORE

Like the prophet Daniel, John saw the beast which represented the revived Roman Empire more than once. John saw the same beast he had seen in chapter 13

the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of the names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns."

The woman riding upon the beast is the world church. According to the seer, the world church is to

Is The Pope To Head The World Council Of Churches?

By Editor

In Revelation 13 there are two different beasts under consideration. The first came up out of an unsettled state of things—the sea (Rev. 13:1). The second came out of a settled and established condition of civil and political government—the earth (Rev. 13:11). The First Beast is Antichrist and the secular power; the Second Beast is the Pope of Rome and

the religious power.

The Second Beast causes men to worship the Antichrist (Rev. 13:12), attesting his religious power. The False Prophet is what John calls the Second Beast (Rev. 19:20). He is said to deceive them that dwell on the earth by miracles, just as false prophets do in the religious world today. The False Prophet has all the power of the one-world government behind him to force people to worship the image of Antichrist (Rev. 13:14-17). The long dream of Roman Catholicism will be realized in the tribulation period. There will be union between the church and state. Who is a bigger False Prophet than the Pope of Rome? Who today has people worshipping images under the color and cloak of Christianity?

The Bible not only teaches there will be a revival of the old Roman Empire but that there will be a revival of the religion of Rome. From Revelation 17 we learn that the woman (the World Council of Churches headed up by the Pope of Rome) dominates the Antichrist the first three and a half years of his rule. This is seen in the woman riding upon his back as a man riding a horse's back controls the horse. During this time the greatest religious persecution the world has ever seen will be waged by the False Prophet—the Pope of Rome (Rev. 12:6; 13:12-17; 17:6; Matt. 24:15-22; Dan. 12:1).

Who is better qualified to be the head of the World Council of (Continued on page 2, column 2)



Above is the likeness of the old Roman Empire at its widest extent. By comparing this map with a modern map of Europe you can see who some of the probable ten nations will be in the Roman Empire revival, predicted by Daniel and John in our Bibles.

tion 13 which is another prophecy of the revival of the federated nations in the land area of the old Roman Empire. Today I want to

and in chapter 17. He gives additional information about this beast in chapter 17, verse 3: "So he carried me away in the spirit into

control the revived Roman Empire in the first part of the tribulation period. Here is the union of church and state with the

church controlling the state like in the Middle Ages. The world church will derive her material (Continued on page 2, column 3)

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Halliman Back At Home For Short Visit

Dear friends,

Greetings to you from my home in Kentucky. About midday on April 28 I arrived at the Huntington airport and will have a brief visit with my church and family here in America.

At present it is not known exactly just how long I will be back here but due to several factors in-



FRED T. HALLIMAN

involved it is not expected to exceed three or four months as I write this.

Other than the brief statement at this time to let you know that I am at home, the other main reason for this note is to let you know that the amount of money needed to finish paying for the vehicle for Brother John Imah in Nigeria has been received, and no more is needed for that purpose. There has been a little over the amount we requested; therefore there will be some extra to be sent for operating expense.

On behalf of Brother Imah and the Lord's work in Nigeria I wish to take this opportunity to sincerely thank each of you who had a part in this special offering. Only eternity will reveal just how much this means to Brother Imah and the folk there in Nigeria. If you could see them as I have

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MAY 19, 1979
PAGE TWO

seen them and know first hand as I do just how much this money is needed, you would thank God many times more for making it possible for you to have a part in this ministry.

Also I wish to thank you in a very special way for your confidence in me regarding the needs of this special offering and the way you have responded so quickly.

Now that I am at home and will have time to write more, I will give you a complete report on the mission work in New Guinea. Other than still tired from the trip home, I am feeling good and in another three or four days will feel like writing more. I thank the Lord for each of you and for the privilege that God has given me to serve Him as a missionary.

F. T. Halliman

Is The Pope To Head?

(Continued from Page One)

Churches than the Pope of Rome? The man who already is the head of the largest so-called Christian community in the world, the Pope of Rome. Who is better qualified to bring about the union of church and state in the United States of Europe which is presently 77 percent Catholic? The Pope of Rome.

For over ten years I have preached that Roman Catholicism and Communism will join hands at the end of this age. They have much in common. Both seek to dominate the world with their philosophy. Both have hands dripping with the blood of those who oppose them. Both systems are Satanic and are engulfing the whole world. The Communists already control over half of the world. In the United States out of a population of 203,999,298 there are 49,325,752 Roman Catholics. Out of a world population of 4,219,000,000 and of a Christian religious population of 983,620,900 there are 566,686,800 Roman Catholics. It would seem from such figures it is not a question of how soon the world will become Christian, but of how soon will the world become Catholic.

It is worth noting that the Antichrist and his world government will destroy the Scarlet Whore—the World Council of Churches—in the latter part of the tribulation period (Rev. 17:16-17). But nothing is said about the death of the False Prophet in connection with this. He is still alive at the end of the tribulation period (Rev. 19:20). Could it not be that the last pope is a Communist pope? I personally believe that the False Prophet is a Communist pope in a great one-world church and is spared being a member of the Communist Party.

Is the pope who is to be a Red pope already in office? John Paul II is from Communist Poland. Before his election he was the "most ecumenically minded of Poland's leading Catholics." He was congratulated by Leonid Brezhnev, dictator of Communist Russia. Pope Paul II is in Rome surrounded by Communists, with a Communist-led municipal administration and Italy's ruling party, the Christian Democrats, dependent on the support of the Italian Communist Party for the parliamentary majority necessary to govern. Thus there are some good reasons to believe the present Pope of Rome could very well be the False Prophet of the last days of the times of the Gentiles.

After the rapture of the saints, the present theological apostasy will unite in a one-world church of tremendous wealth, prestige, and political importance. Thus with the exception of born again Christians, all Christendom will be combined under the banner of Rome and its pope. The description of the great whore reveals the purple and scarlet color accompanied by gold, precious stones and pearls. This is the attire of ceremonial Romanism.

The future of this present world is dark indeed. Premillennialists are not pessimists; we are realists. We believe that what is to be will be. We know that there will be a future Roman Empire because God said there would be. We likewise know Rome will finally become the political and religious

Memorial Pulpit

By JOHN R. GILPIN

Our Beloved Pastor and Editor Now in Glory



"GOD'S ELECT"

"Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness" (Titus 1:1).

I remember some months ago I was reading from a preacher out in Arkansas who made the statement that there was no such thing as election, and he said that for one to speak of an elect remnant was nothing but sheer folly. Well, I am sure that there are lots of folk even in the Baptist pulpits and Baptist churches that would agree with him and of course there are lots of heretics outside of Baptist churches that naturally would agree with this particular preacher.

I'd like to say in contrast, that even the Lord Jesus Christ is spoken of as being of the elect, for we read:

"Behold, my servant, whom I uphold; MINE ELECT, in whom my soul delighteth." (Isa. 42:1).

Even God the Father refers to

center of the world. We know by the Bible perilous times are ahead for this world. We know the battle of Armageddon will be the worst war this world has ever known. But we too know very well this war will end when the Prince of Peace comes and so ends this conflict that the nations of earth shall learn war no more! Therefore we say with John: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

Roman Empire . . .

(Continued from page one)

strength and enforce her commands through the political government of Rome.

A MYSTERY EXPLAINED

The mystery of the woman and the beast is explained in verses 7-18. "And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carried her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition; and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is."

What is meant by "was," "is not," and "yet is"? The ancient Roman Empire beheld in this vision "was" in existence in John's day with all its imperial form. It continued until A.D. 476 and in a limited sense until much later times. Today it has no political existence, although the kingdoms which composed it remain. Modern Europe, with its many conflicting interests, jealousies, and separate nations, is proof of the complete break-up of the once united empire of the Caesars. It will be reunited under Antichrist with all its imperial power.

It is surprising to know that the Roman Catholic Bible (New Testament Confraternity edition—published by the Catholic Publishing Company) has a footnote on Revelation 17 as follows: "The beast spoken of here seems to be the Roman Empire, as in chapter 13."

THE SEVEN MOUNTAINS

The angel continues to John by saying: "And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth." We are about to see a double application of the symbol "seven heads." Here is seen Rome in its religious form. The seat of the woman her center of universal authority and influence, is on seven hills. There

God the Son as "mine elect."

Not only is God the Son spoken of as elect, but so are the angels spoken of as elect. Listen:

"I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ; and the ELECT ANGELS, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality" (I Tim. 5:21).

You can see here two Scriptures which tell us that the Lord Jesus Christ is elect, and that there are elect angels, and furthermore, we read in the Word of God that there was one church in particular that was called an elect church. We read:

"The church that is at Babylon, ELECTED TOGETHER with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son" (I Peter 5:13).

Here you have an elect Christ, elect angels, and you have an elect church. I'll go further and remind you that the Apostle Paul when he was here in the days of his flesh referred to his suffering

never was but one city built upon seven hills and that is the city of Rome. This passage indicates that the future capitol of the one-world church will be the seven hill city of Rome, Italy. Rome is at the present time the seat of the largest branch of the Christian religion in all the world.

Rome is the city where Roman Catholicism has flourished for centuries. For hundreds of years in the Middle Ages it flourished and spread its tenacles into the whole world. But it suffered a mighty wound in the sixteenth century, and it has been all but stripped of its temporal power in the world. But presently it is regaining its power as the little harlot daughters which sprang from the Great Whore return home to mama. Protestant churches are going back into what they term "the mother church." Even apostate Baptists talk of reuniting with the Roman Catholic Church. True New Testament Baptists are older than the Roman Catholic Church, and they will never unite with the Bride of Satan.

THE SEVEN KINGS

The other application of the seven heads is given in verse 10: "And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space." The angel is now reverting back to the political history of the Roman Empire. Some make these seven heads to be seven successive forms of political government from the rise of the fourth universal empire on through its history till its end. The five that are fallen are said to be Kings, Consuls, Dictators, Decemvirs,

that he has undergone in behalf of the unsaved that they might be saved, and he referred to them as the elect. Listen:

"Therefore I endure all things for the ELECT'S SAKE, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory" (II Tim. 2:10).

Now, beloved, for a Baptist preacher to say that there is no such thing as the doctrine of election taught in the Word of God, and to say that whenever one refers to an elect remnant he is speaking nothing but sheer folly, indicates a woeful ignorance on the part of the preacher himself. If there were no other Scriptures, we have already seen that the Bible speaks of Christ as being elect, we read about elect angels, we read about a church at Babylon that was called an elect church, and the Apostle Paul said that in his missionary work he suffered all things for the elect that they might

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

and Military Tribunes. The one that existed in John's day was the imperial form set up by Julius Caesar. The one yet to come is the future diabolic reappearance after many centuries have elapsed.

I am unable to accept this interpretation. The angel tells John these heads are "kings" and the seventh is called "he." It seems to me that persons are intended, not forms of government. I believe the reference is to seven distinct kings who have ruled and will rule Rome. The five that are fallen were Roman rulers who had an untimely end and who in life were worshipped as gods. This points to Julius Caesar, Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius and Nero. The one that existed in John's day was Domitian, the last of the Caesars. The one to come is the final Antichrist of the last days.

Many are troubled by the words of the angel to John in verse 11: "And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition." It appears that the angel is using the word "beast" here to refer to the personal Antichrist. But in what sense is the Antichrist? (Continued on page 6, column 2)

BRIEF NOTES

The Union Grove Baptist Church of Tilden, Miss., will conduct revival services May 27 to June 1. The preaching will be done by Elder T. L. Griffin, pastor of the church. The church and pastor invite all within driving distance to attend these special services at 7:30 p.m. each evening.

READY AT LAST!

We are happy to offer our readers the new release of Joe and Kathy Martinez on tape or record. Here are some songs which are true to the Word of God and sung by two people who believe the doctrines our paper has taught for many years. The songs are as follows on side 1: "Jesus Christ, the Lord of Glory," "Oh, Give Thanks Unto the Lord," "The Captain of My Soul," "Love the Lord," "The Good Shepherd," and "Vessel of Honor." On side 2 the songs are: "Gotta Get a Move On," "Until That Glorious Day," "I'll Take My Cares to Jesus," "The Gospel," and "Tis Sweet to Die."

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"God's Elect"

(Continued from Page Two)

obtain salvation. Therefore, beloved, if I had none other text than the ones that I have just read to you, I certainly would insist upon the fact that the doctrine of election is taught in the Word of God, and that there is an elect remnant spoken of within the Bible. However, I want to spend some time especially calling to your attention some things that are said relative to God's elect.

I

GOD'S ELECT ARE SUCH BY DIVINE VOLITION

The word "volition" means "choice," so that actually we can say that God's elect become such by divine choice. In other words, you are not one of the elect because you chose the Lord, but rather you are one of the elect because God chose you. We read: "Ye have not chosen me, but I HAVE CHOSEN YOU" (John 15:16).

If you were to go out among the average Baptists of today, to say nothing of the average professing Christians, and were to ask each one as to his choice of the Lord, he would be very bold in telling you that he was the one that made the choice. As long as men believe in free will, and as long as men believe that they choose the Lord, they are going to boast much about the fact that on such a day, and in such and such a place the individual chose the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. But our Lord Jesus tells us that instead of us choosing Him that He was the one who chose us, so that actually our little puny choice that we exercised the day we were saved, was merely a ratification of God Almighty's eternal choice, that He made in our behalf before the foundation of the world. I say then that God's elect are such because of divine volition. It was because God chose us that we became the elect of God.

II

GOD'S ELECT WERE CHOSEN APART FROM HUMAN MERIT.

There wasn't any human merit in us whereby that God chose us unto Himself. I am afraid that we occasionally come to the place that we think maybe the Lord chose us because He actually saw some little bit of good in us. Not so, beloved. The Word of God would very specifically lead us to believe that God does not choose us because of any human merit on our part. Listen:

"For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, NOT OF WORKS, but of him that calleth" (Rom. 9:11).

In other words, every one of God's elect were chosen apart from any human merit. That is to say, we are the elect of God not because of human merit, nor because of our works, but wholly on the part of the grace of God.

We read: "Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work" (Rom. 11:5,6).

You will notice that Paul declares you are either saved by grace or else you are saved by works, and his conclusion is that there is a remnant according to the election of grace. You can thus see that God's elect were chosen by God's volition and they were chosen apart from human merit, so that we become God's elect, wholly and entirely by the grace of God.

III

GOD'S ELECT WERE CHOSEN BEFORE TIME BEGAN.

We read: "According as he hath CHOSEN US IN HIM BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love" (Eph. 1:4).

The foundation of the world actually is a reference to time. Therefore, God chose us before time began. Ofttimes as I drive along I notice the rocks and the hills and the mountains and I wonder to myself how long they have been in existence. Of course you

recognize the fact that some people who believe in the evolutionary theory will tell us that this world has been in existence for thousands and even millions of years. I rather prefer to take what I consider a sane, sensible, Biblical view that this world has been in existence about 6000 years, but so far as I am concerned, when I consider the elect, I don't care whether it has been in existence 6000 years, or six billion years, the fact remains that before time began—before creation's dawn, I was already chosen of God in Jesus Christ.

Beloved, it blesses my heart to know that God's elect were chosen before the beginning of time itself. Before ever a clock ticked off one single second, before ever a calendar had measured one single day, before ever an hour glass had allowed a drop of sand to fall from the upper portion down into the lower part of the crucible, before ever in any wise at all time had been measured, God had already chosen us as His elect in Christ Jesus.

IV

THE ELECT WERE CHOSEN ACCORDING TO GOD'S FOREKNOWLEDGE.

We read: "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father" (I Peter 1:2).

Now lots of people who try to give us a watered down version of election will say, "Yes, I believe in election all right. I think that God foreknew everything and He looked down the avenues of time, and He saw who was going to believe, and therefore He elected you. He foreknew that you were going to believe and therefore He just elected and chose you to salvation." Now, beloved, that is "some election," isn't it? Isn't that about the most ridiculous insane, absurd statement that a preacher could make? Beloved, that is not what this passage of Scripture means. When it says that we are elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, it means something entirely different to the fact that God knew that we were going to believe.

If you will go back to the Bible you will find that the word "know" has to do with the word "relationship." For example, you read in the very first chapters of the book of Genesis that "Cain knew his wife and she conceived." Now the word "knew" there has to do with relationship, and so when you read here that we are elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, it just literally says that there was a relationship whereby that God chose us beforehand. In other words, we were foreknown in the sense of relationship, long years and centuries and eons before the foundation of the world. Beloved, it helps me to read these passages of Scripture and to note with you concerning God's elect that we are such because of a divine choice, that we are such apart from human merit, that we are such from before the foundation of this world and the beginning of time, and that we are such according to God Almighty's foreknowledge of us.

V

GOD'S ELECT ARE SECURE IN HIM.

Every once in a while I'll meet with some individual who does not believe in security. He believes that a person can be saved today and lost tomorrow. You know, that is rather a funny thing for a person to believe. The fact of the matter is, I met one recently who in one breath talked about sinless perfection and in the next breath talked about losing one's salvation. In other words, in one minute he was good enough that he was living above sin, and in the next minute he was talking in terms that he had sinned enough to lose his salvation. Beloved, I'd like to say that God's elect are secure in the Lord Jesus Christ. We read:

"Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth" (Rom. 8:33).

Here, seemingly, the Lord makes a challenge. Here apparently God puts the believer up on a pedestal. Then He points to him and tells how that he was predestinated and how that he was foreknown, and how he has been called and justified, and how that someday he is going to be glorified. God says concerning the believer



The Baptist Examiner

BIBLE STUDY LESSON

By WILLARD PYLE

Pastor — First Baptist Church of Naples Park, Florida

For May 27, 1979

I PETER 5:1-4

Intro.: Here are vital instructions concerning the characteristics and duties of the elder or bishop in relation to the flock of God over which the Holy Spirit has made them overseers (Acts 20:28). Both pastor and people should be well acquainted with these instructions in order to save misunderstanding and confusion in the churches.

VERSE 1

"The elders which are among you I exhort." Here we have a specific call to those God has placed in the church and who have been raised up to fulfill a special office. It is given through one who

in Christ, "Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect?" as if to say, "This is one of God's elect. This is one whom I foreknew, whom I predestinated, whom I called, whom I have justified, and whom one day I shall glorify, and now who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect?" In other words, this is a challenge to the Devil that he can't touch this individual who is one of the elect.

I say to you, beloved friends, in the light of Roman 8:33, God's elect are not only sure but secure in the Lord Jesus Christ.

VI

ALL OF THE ELECT WILL BE SAVED.

We read: "All that the Father giveth me SHALL COME TO me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

It burdens me sometimes when I see people that I want to see saved go on day in and day out, week in and week out, year in and year out, and never come to a knowledge of salvation. I can think right now of individuals that I have prayed for, and that I have been concerned about, individuals that I have witnessed to as many as twenty-five or thirty years ago who are still unsaved and still in their sins, and as I think of them I am saying to you, it is a burden to me when I remember that they are lost and in their sins and on the road to Hell. But, beloved, I come back to this fact, every one whom God has chosen in Christ Jesus before the foundation of the world someday shall be saved. Listen:

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

It may be that God will have to move a man from the island, of the sea someplace where there is a preacher who shall preach to him the truth. It may be that God will have to start a way whereby the population shall be shuffled. It may be that God will have to cause some catastrophe to take place whereby that person will be moved about in order that the elect shall hear the Word of God and shall be saved. I know one thing, beloved, "All the Father giveth me shall come to me." I know it is true that all the elect are going to be saved. Not one single one is going to fail to come to salvation.

Now that is a help and an encouragement to me. I don't know who the elect are, but it encourages my soul to know that as I preach the Word of God to the congregation that God enables me to preach that everyone who is God's elect is coming unto Him.

VII

GOD USES THE UNSAVED TO FURTHER THE PURPOSE OF THE ELECT.

Here is a truth that has been an exceeding great blessing to me in life. God uses the unsaved. Today and tomorrow and everyday God uses the unsaved in order to further the purposes of the saved. (Continued on page 4, column 3)

knows both by inspiration, education, and experience.

"Who am also an elder." Peter identifies himself as a co-worker and co-equal with these elders. He is neither over them nor under them. He commands no special recognition nor obedience to himself because of his supposed superiority. He was an apostle, but he recognized the purpose of this office also and knew it was only temporary, and that the office of an elder or bishop was a permanent one in the church. He never usurped authority over the elders nor over the churches. Notice Acts 6:1-6 and 15:22.

"And a witness of the sufferings of Christ." Peter was an eye witness or a spectator (Acts 10:39; 22:14,15; I John 1:1; Acts 3:15). He specifies the sufferings of Christ both because of its expiatory nature and also the total sufferings of Christ as an example and an exhortation to the suffering saints, particularly the elders in the churches.

"And also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed." As we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall bear the image of the heavenly. This has a spiritual application in relation to our participating in the sufferings of Christ on this earth and in participating in the glory of Christ in glorification (John 17:21-24). We are appointed unto both.

VERSE 2

"Feed the flock of God." Having to do with the total care of the flock; not only feeding, but also guiding and guarding (John 21:15-17; Acts 20:28). We have the perfect example in the ministry of the Good Shepherd, the Lord Jesus Christ (Psalm 23; John 10:4, 11-15). There is a continued need of this; therefore, the elders are to heed the admonition in II Timothy 2:15 "to study to shew themselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Not only rightly dividing in putting each doctrine in its proper place, but also to administer it as needful to each member of the flock. Each minister should be given to prayer and to the minor-

ity of the Word (Acts 6:2-4). He is to give himself wholly to these things (I Tim. 4:15).

"Which is among you." They were among the flock and the flock was among them (vs. 1). This shows the close relationship which should exist between pastor and people.

"Taking the oversight thereof." By fulfilling the exhortation to tend the flock, you take the oversight thereof. This brings out the fact that the office of the elder and of the bishop are one and the same (Titus 1:5-7). The elder is the bishop, or overseer of the flock.

"Not by constraint, but willingly." That is, not by physical or material coercion, but gladly and voluntarily because of the love for the Saviour and a divine call to the office.

"Not for filthy lucre." Greediness should have no place in the saints of God, particularly in the case of the pastor. However, sad to say, it seemingly has much to do among many preachers of our day in time. It has a lot to do with where they preach and what they preach.

"But of a ready mind." Paul's readiness is a good example for this (Rom. 1:15; Acts 20:24). Having to do with a holy zeal which won't be dampened by adversity nor diverted by prosperity.

VERSE 3

"Neither as being lords over God's heritage." To rule the house of God is one thing (Heb. 13:17), but to over rule it like Diotrephes is another (III John 9, 10). God give us overseers who, instead of brow-beating the sheep into submission, will lead them into submission by exhortation and example. Notice we are dealing with God's heritage. The church is His possession (Acts 20:28). It is His flock which we are to care for.

"But as being examples to the flock." How blessed to be able to say with Paul, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ" (I Cor. 11:1). One of the best ways of teaching is by example. Paul exhorted Timothy to "let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (I Tim. 4:12).

VERSE 4

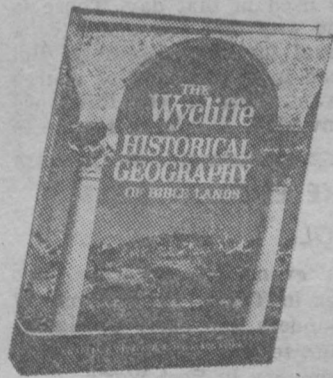
"And when the chief Shepherd." Jesus is presented in the Word of God as the Good Shepherd who laid down His life for the sheep (John 10:11). He is also the Great Shepherd who keeps the sheep (Heb. 13:20; Jude 24, 25); and here He is seen as the chief Shepherd who is over all of the under shepherds. To keep this before our eyes would not only encourage us, but also would motivate us to greater obedience.

"Shall appear." The coming of Christ in the air has a special significance for the elders. They must give account for those committed to their care (Heb. 13:17).

"Ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeeth not away." The office of an elder is an awesome responsibility, but it brings with it special blessings. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things" (Matt. 25:21). "So run, that ye may obtain" (I Cor. 9:24). The study on Bible crowns is a worthwhile study, as there are several crowns mentioned in the Word of God (I Cor. 9:25; II Tim. 4:8; Rev. 2:10; James 1:12; Rev. 3:10; etc.) Notice particularly the crowns cast at the feet of Jesus (Rev. 4:10).

Conclusion: There is no study more vital to the well being of the churches than this. May the Holy Spirit burn it into our hearts.

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

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PAGE THREE

The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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

"If a local assembly of scripturally baptized believers is sound on the way of salvation and the way of baptism and does not practice open communion but also believes in the universal, invisible church theory, are they still a true church?"—Tacoma, Washington.

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To answer the question with a question: Can a church be a true church if they are split four ways, tolerate incest, vain, proud, guilty of a number of sexual sins (they had been forgiven), guilty of going to court against each other, doctrinally and in practice of error in the setting of the Lord's Table, probably had some charismatic in the church, and, no doubt, guilty of some other things, such as their women not having a head covering, that I will not list because the list gets boring after bit. Could they be a true church and be guilty of all these things? Read I Corinthians 1:2. To add a thought: I never heard of a church which practices close communion and believes in the universal church. They are contradictory positions. Open communionists must believe in the universal church in order to have basis for their practice. If they believe in close communion and are preaching justification by faith, I think we can be tolerant of them until the Lord reveals more truth to them about the nature of the church.

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There is no way that it could be a true church. In the first place they would be inconsistent in their belief if they have closed communion. I would say that a church that practiced as you have described doesn't really know what they do believe. The universal, invisible church heresy demands open communion.

To believe the universal, invisible heresy is to completely deny the Biblical teaching of the church. The word "church" comes from the Greek word that demands a local assembly only. To make it say otherwise is to deliberately

misuse the Word of God.

The Scripture used to prove their universal idea are simply talking about the church or institution. For instance, "There is one body . . ." (Eph. 4:4).

To hold to the universal teaching is to deny the Lord's way of doing things, and this is terrible.

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This is a question I had rather someone else had to answer. Some hold that if a Baptist Church observes the ordinances properly it is a sound church. However, I must say I would have to think, not just twice but, several times before I could be happy to accept a member who had this church's baptism. I am persuaded that any Baptist Church who holds to a universal invisible church teaching does so through ignorance of the Word of our Lord and His disciples used for what we call the church.

In days gone by a church might be excusable for not knowing the fact about this word. But in this day a pastor, or any member of the church can buy, for a few dollars, a Greek English dictionary. And with it he can know the truth concerning the word they used. If you look in the Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words by W. E. Vine for the word "church" you will find on page 191 that it says "For church see assembly and congregation." Then if you turn to page 83 you will find that the word "assembly" comes from the Greek word EKKLESIA. That means that the word our Lord and His disciples used is EKKLESIA which means in our language an assembly.

There is no word in the Greek language that means church. Our word church had not been coined, or invented when the New Testament was written. And a word that came into existence since that time cannot be trusted to convey the meaning of the words used in that day. There is just no way that you can have a universal invisible assembly. But you can have any kind of church you want. That is why this word was invented. It is hard for me to

see Christ as being head over all things to a universal invisible something when it was a local assembly that He started.

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It is inconceivable to me that such an organization as is described in the question could exist. If such an organization does exist I do not see how it can function with any degree of consistency. Therefore, if they have held the view that the Lord's church is universal and invisible for an extended period of time it would, in my opinion, mean they are in a category below the status of a N. T. church. On the other hand, if they have just adopted the church destroying error mentioned above, we need to pray that they will repent of it, and immediately turn from it, or else they will lose in quick time their N.T. status that is implied in the statement, "scripturally baptized believers."

"God's Elect"

(Continued from Page Three)

We read:

"FOR JACOB MY SERVANT'S SAKE, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee though thou hast not known me" (Isa. 45:4).

Now what is this referring to? Well, God is giving a prophecy through Isaiah relative to a man named Cyrus. Cyrus hadn't even been born. Two hundred years before Cyrus ever drew his first breath, God spoke through Isaiah this forty-fifth chapter of Isaiah that bears his name. When God gave this prophecy through Isaiah, Isaiah called Cyrus by name, the very name that he was later named some two hundred years afterwards. God gives a prophecy concerning Cyrus how that He is going to subdue nations through him and how that He is going to cause him to be a blessing unto the Jews. God said, "I am going to use you for Jacob my servant's sake, and for Israel mine elect." He said, "That is the reason that I have called you. That is the reason I have surnamed thee. You haven't known me, but I have known you, and I have called and surnamed you two hundred years before you were born for the sake of mine elect." Beloved, I tell you, God uses unsaved people to further the purposes of His elect.

As we read, we are compelled to say, as I shall presently say, that God loves the elect. Certainly there could be nothing that would show us how much God loves the elect more than this passage of Scripture. Certainly there could be nothing that would reveal to us how much God loves the elect as does this passage whereby we see that God even chose an unsaved man, and surnamed him, and gave him a task two hundred years before he was born into the world, and He does it just for the sake of His elect.

I'll give you another example in the Word of God. Do you remember that there were prophecies given that the Lord Jesus Christ was to be born in Bethlehem? Listen:

"But thou, Bethlehem Ephraim, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose

goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting" (Micah 5:2).

Now, beloved, where was Jesus' mother and his foster father living just a few weeks before the birth of Jesus? If you will go to the Bible and study, you will find that they were living in the city of Nazareth, sixty miles away from Bethlehem. Mary, who is with child and soon to be delivered, is living there peacefully and quietly in the city of Nazareth, awaiting the time of her expected delivery. All of a sudden there goes forth a proclamation from the king that everybody is to be enrolled or assessed, looking forward to taxation. We read:

"And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria). And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city" (Luke 2:1-3).

Notice, this unsaved King Caesar Augustus sent forth a decree that everybody had to be assessed for taxation, and that the individual had to go back to his home city to be assessed. That meant that Joseph being from Bethlehem and Mary from Bethlehem originally, had to make that long sixty mile journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem just a few days before the birth of her expected child. Beloved, when they got there, the child was born, and the Scripture of Micah 5:2 was fulfilled. Beloved, if it hadn't been for the decree that he made, Jesus Christ would have been born in Nazareth sixty miles north of Bethlehem, and the Lord Jesus Christ would have started into this world as a sinner violating the Scriptures at the start of His life, for the Scriptures declared He would be born in the city of Bethlehem. Thus you can see how that God takes worldly minded rulers and uses them for the furtherance of the purpose of the elect.

Here are two instances that you can see how much God cares about His elect. He even looked down and chose a man named Cyrus two hundred years before Cyrus was born, surnamed him and gave him a task, and He said, "Cyrus, I am doing this for mine elect's sake." Then in this second instance He worked through Caesar Augustus to guarantee that the Lord Jesus Christ was born in the city of Bethlehem according to prophecy and the Word of God did not fail to be fulfilled. I say to you then, God uses even the unsaved to further the purpose of His elect.

VIII

GOD AVENGES HIS ELECT

"And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them" (Luke 18:7)?

Now, beloved, isn't it true that you are often tempted to take things into your own hands? Don't you often think, well, I am just going to have to settle this score myself? I am sure there isn't one of us but what have had the experience many times in life when we felt we were being abused and downtrodden, and we had thought surely that God had forgotten all about us, and that we had to settle this thing ourselves. I am sure that there isn't one of us but what has thought sometime or other, I am going to have to get vengeance myself over this mine enemy. We read:

"Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord" (Rom. 12:19).

Now, beloved, what does this verse in Romans 12:9 mean in the light of this first reference that I gave you in Luke 18:7? Simply this. You put the matter in the hands of God. You go on day by day depending upon God. You go ahead about your business serving the Lord just like you think God would have you serve Him. You wait on the Lord and let God take care of your enemies, for Luke 18:7 says, "And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?" God may make you wait a long time. God may allow you to be tried sorely and severely, but the fact remains, ultimately and eventually

God will avenge His own elect. We read:

"Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain" (Psa. 76:10).

You say, "Brother Gilpin, sometimes it just looks like I can not stand all the persecutions and all the problems and all the troubles that come to me. Well, just remember this, cry out unto God for Him to avenge you, and you will find that God will take even the wrath of man that is against you and use it for His praise, and the remainder of wrath, which is more than you can stand, God shall restrain.

I remember once in my life when it seemed to me that I had taken all that I could. I never shall forget one day that I fell on my face before God and said, "Oh, God, I can't go another step further. I can't go forward with this burden hanging over me." When I got up from my knees in prayer, I felt definitely impressed that this verse was proven true and that God would work in my behalf. From that day on, God restrained the wrath that had been poured out upon me.

Aren't you glad you are one of God's elect? Aren't you glad when somebody does something against you that you don't have to seek to get even? Aren't you glad that as one of God's elect, when somebody goes out of his way to be nasty unto you, that you can wait on the Lord and the result will be that God will avenge His own elect.

IX

THE ELECT ARE TO LIVE ABOVE THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD.

What I have said thus far may have been interesting to you, but what I say now may not be quite so interesting for your flesh may just naturally rebel. Believe me when I say that the elect are to live above the things of the world. Listen:

"Put on therefore, as THE ELECT OF GOD, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any; even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts to the which also ye are called in one body, and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Col. 3:12-17).

This is the appeal that God makes to the elect as to how we are to live. If you will go back just a few verses previous to the ones which I read you will notice that in Colossians 3:8 He said that you are to put off certain things. Then beginning with Colossians 3:12 He said that you are to put on certain things. Beloved, you ought to know the meaning of that.

We will imagine that you are getting dressed to go to church. You wouldn't come in from hard work when you have been slaving and sweating and put your clean clothes over the top of the dirty clothes without washing. Well, what are you to do? You are to put off those old clothes and put on other clothes.

Now our Lord says we are to put off certain things, and then He says we are to put on certain things. He addresses this primarily to the elect of God and He says that the elect of God, after putting off the things of the flesh and the world, are to put on kindness, humbleness, meekness, longsuffering. We are to forebear one another. We are to forgive one another. We are to put on love. The peace of God is to rule our hearts. We are to be thankful Christ is to dwell in us. We are to teach and admonish one another with psalms and hymns, and we are to do all that we do in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. I tell you, when that passage of Scripture in all of its importance came face to face with me, I realized for the first time in my life that God wants us to put off the

(Continued on page 5, column 5)

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FOR CHRISTIAN GIRLS . . .

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.

A MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE

KIMM ZAMARRON
Ashland, Kentucky

"When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: But when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as I am known" (I Cor. 13:11-12).

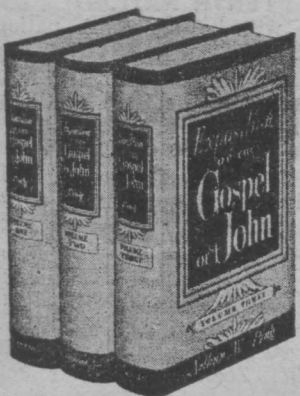
Young people, these two verses have a particular message for us to consider. Many of you, in your teens or early twenties, may be at home yet under the jurisdiction of mom and dad. Can you remember your childhood from, say three to eight years old? And how you played in the sandbox or rode your trike or bike around the house? Remember how your imagination led you to believe that cowboys that wore white were the good guys and that superman could leap over tall buildings? These former things are passed away. You don't do or believe those things you did when you were little now.

Paul said, "When I was a child, I spake . . . thought . . . and . . . understood as a child." He also went on to say, ". . . but when I became a man . . .", he recognized he was changing. He no longer did childish things. Can you see how you changed from little people to young people? The next verse is one of importance that we need to examine closely. There is a present tense in the first phrase: "For now . . ." In the second phrase there is a future tense: ". . . but then . . ." The third phrase is present and the fourth future tense.

When you were little did you ever wonder how voices and music came out of such a small box called a radio? How about why that guy, who is called your uncle, and his wife and kids came over so much? When we were little we had very little understanding if any then. But through the years we began to fit the pieces together and make sense out of the

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mysteries of life. We will know later what adults know now from experience. As we learn and understand we will know mostly in full. It is impossible to know everything, but to know enough to make our own decisions, figure out solutions to our own problems, and think on our own. Paul, in verse 11, uses natural understanding as an example to show us how we acquire spiritual understanding by the same methods.

We will attempt to cover our home life and some dangers out in this world that are aimed at young people. As young people we need to empty our hearts and minds of any outside influence and condition to consider our place in the home and the warnings against worldly involvement. You hear a lot about the woman's place in the home, the man's place in the home, but not much on young people's position and disposition. We hear of how we should obey and honor our parents which is great. But what we need is an admonition on how we should live in Christ, walk with God, and become better involved in family matters while at home. We must also see what dangers there are waiting to deceitfully overwhelm us out in this world. Dangers that will take us away from God and home, parents and friends, and righteous and happy living.

OUR STANDING WITH OUR PARENTS

Our parents are the most important factor in our life. If you are still living at home, how do you stand with your parents? When we were little and very dependent on them, they were a refuge to us. They helped us solve those monumental problems we thought were impossible. They spent their time with us and gave us a meaningful past. They helped develop and coordinate our personality and individuality. How have they developed us in this way? Remember how we used to ape our parents by doing what they did and saying what they said? And even doing it the way they did? After entering your teens you become semi-dependent in thought and action. Up to that point you had to have assistance in figuring out things. From your teens and up you acquire the hang of figuring out things for yourself.

"Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law" (Prov. 4:1-2). Mom and dad may seem to interfere with your more independent motivations that you wish to do on your own. Sometimes you may attempt to do something in your own way, but get suggestions on how to do it. Most of the time you end up doing it their way or else, if it has to do with family participation. When we encounter this difference let us read and remember Proverbs 4:4, 10-11, 20-22. Regard mom and dad's saying as life and health.

I myself have been intruded on in my teenage years by my parents. But I look back on it all now and I wouldn't trade my past for anything. If my parents didn't interfere or intervene back then, after it was all said and done, there would have been more said than done. Or worse. But my father (now in glory) helped me do more than I could have ever said. You heard the saying "father knows best" or "mother knows best." Well, I can say that they have the better judgment.

"And when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6). This is a frequently used reference on the subject of child training. This part of the verse is interesting to

compare to our learning from our parents. Day after day I started remembering what my dad taught me and showed me. His ways and means. I find myself doing what he taught me years ago when I was growing up. Today I still basically do what he did, his methods and procedures. All I have done was modified and improved them to my own taste. Look at your own lives and see if the sayings "like father like son" and "like mother like daughter" aren't true. Our parents know the environment and conditions around us and teach us with this in mind. You can think of things that fit your circumstances to show you how your parents not only show you the way but even how to survive the world outside once on your own.

"Do all things without murmurings and disputings" (Phil. 2:14). There may be disagreements between you and them. It should be on our part to minimize any differences by doing what we are told. Our parents can be wrong too. They are fallible like us. When we are told to do something, let us do it without any question. When we do their bidding the more pleasant life with our parents will be. If we are prevented from doing what we would like to do, forget it. There will be another time. Then if there isn't another time that you will be able to do what you would like to do, explain it to mom and dad. It can usually be worked out. Something you should remember is that your method of approach or willingness to do something helps in your behalf. Don't get excited and climb the walls if you don't get your way about something. It could be that they are checking your maturity and patience among other things.

OUR HOME

In a Christian home there is a declining rank. By that, God is first, your father next, your mother under him, and you the children. If this is the order of priority your family follows, then your home has a sound foundation. The home is the family haven, the refuge from the world outside. It is a place where your dad can come to unwind from the day's rat race of the business world. It is a place where you can retreat to and get out of the complicated world that throw rules and regulations, do's and don'ts and what seems like merciless studies at you in school. Home is a place where you can flop down and rest for 15 to 20 minutes and not be accused of loitering. You can appreciate the home for the restraint it puts on the outside world to enjoy the peace, quiet, and comfort that it is intended to bring. Our cooperation with our parents makes the home this way. Let us not forget to put God first in our lives. As we obey His Word, in our part in the home and family, God will bless us with a happy and enjoyable home life.

SUSCEPTIBLE AND VULNERABLE LIVES

While growing up we are susceptible to programming. Our interests are caught up very easily. New things and ideas are grabbed up by young people faster than by older people. Changing hair styles, dress, talk, and behavior are attracting the young people. These may be harmless but prove the point that we are taken up in many things. We are vulnerable to people and their ideas. During these formative years we are very inquisitive, curious about what goes on, and finding out how, what and why things are. With this known about young people, many groups, organizations, and especially the cults, aim for the young people. These people know that young people are easily swayed and persuaded. This is why our parents restrict our outside activities. They will often warn us about people, places, and things to stay away from when they do allow us to get out. Heed their instruction for they know what is good and what is bad for us. Days are getting worse and worse and people becoming more deceptive.

Many of you, in school yet or that work, have friends you hang around with. In talking to some young people, they tell me their friends they had for years have

now gone mostly over to drugs. There are social centers that you and I go to that give you a so-called education—schools and colleges. I went to one semester of college last fall and never went back. In one class I had, you studied profanity and various uses of foul language. You could call them chicken coop institutes. I saw schools changing up to the last year I was in school in 1971. I only know of the things I was exposed to back then in school. Things are changing rapidly and you that are in school can see what is changing. From what I hear young people still in school say things have really gotten worse. Schools are becoming unfit for the more decent young people.

The real danger that is pulling in young people are the extremist cults. They look good from the outside but degrading to the members once in. These groups are basically the same in practice. They lure you in by subtle means that look very pleasing and seem to have a definite answer to any question. They tell you that you must leave home and move in with them. You sign all your possessions and your life over to them. You are kept away from any outside contacts you have. This means your parents, friends, relatives, and so on.

Most of the young people in this world are to the point that they don't like their parents over them, thus making these cults look like the perfect getaway. This is exactly what it amounts to. A getaway from family and friends, happiness and freedom, God and security. You have no power over your mind and constantly pushed for the cause. You are totally brainwashed and programmed to their way. They come to you with the Bible and quote Scripture, but only in a deceitful way. "Who changed the truth of God into a lie" (Rom. 1:25). Seek no other advice but your parent's, pastor's, trustworthy friend's, and the Lord's. Be concerned about your condition and build up your resistance against these false ways and false truths by reading God's true Word.

OUR IDEAL STATE

Now with ever changing times, technology, and the like, our parents may wonder what is the right thing to teach us. Each family member can enjoy life better if they are willing to cooperate in the home. Everything starts with mom and dad. They are to set an example of Christian living for us kids. In the book of James we can find a good ground of truth to start and stand on. But there are many other books in the Bible for us. If we are brought up right we will have been brought up on the "Holy Scriptures" from a child (II Tim. 3:15). This makes us "wise unto salvation" and perfect. By perfect, I would point out that we may be mature. Titus gives mom and dad good advice to set an example for us, showing themselves a "pattern of good works" (Titus 2:7).

"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples; and they are written for our admonition" (I Cor. 10:11). Looking at the types and examples in the Old and New Testaments and Christ's teachings we have a lot to apply to our lives. The time you are at home you are like a disciple. You are taught and shown many things by mom and dad just as Christ taught His disciples when He was here. Then as you get out on your own and establish a family you become a teacher. We won't have our parents to help us out or talk to all the time. We will be gone from them and out to fend for ourselves somewhere else. There are differences in parental guidance and teaching. Methods I was brought up on are different than what you are under. There are regional, environmental conditions, and traditions that shape our thoughts and minds. These also require different teaching methods.

"One God and father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all" (Eph. 4:6). With all these differences we still have the same God our heavenly Father. His teaching is altogether the same for one person as it is for the other. Let us honor our parents while we still have them with us

and while we are living at home, even those of us that are out on our own as well. Your respect and obedience to them will make their efforts of bringing you up much easier. In Ephesians 4:32, we are admonished to be kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving. This reference is to everyone of God's people. Young people are also His own.

Proverbs is a book for young people in particular. It is a book of wisdom that will instruct us in the right way. Many chapters and verses start out with "My son . . ." Read every verse and practice the instruction in your life. We speak to God in prayer, and He speaks to us in His Word the Bible. He has a message for the young people.



"God's Elect"

(Continued from page four)

flesh, and put on the things that go with the new nature we have inherited. Beloved, that is an appeal that is made only to the elect of God. I say then that the elect of God are charged to live above the things of this world. We are charged to put off the things of the world and put on these new things that characterize the new nature of God's child.

X

THE ELECT CANNOT BE DECEIVED.

We read:

"For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall show signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect" (Mark 13:22).

Notice, he says that false Christs and false prophets will attempt to seduce, if it were possible, the elect. Beloved, the fact remains, it is not possible to seduce the elect of God.

I think there is an awful lot of deception going on in the religious realm. I think that National Council of Churches is doing a lot of deceiving. I am sure that even among Baptists, both Northern Baptists and Southern Baptists, that there is a tremendous amount of deception that is taking place. People are being taught if they support the Cooperative Program put out by the Convention that everything will be perfectly all right. A generation has been developed and produced and has grown to maturity thinking that all they need to do is just support the program, and that the program is as hallowed and sacred as is the Word of God itself.

Sometime ago there was an article in THE BAPTIST EXAMINER of one fellow who said that the Cooperative Program is just as scriptural as is the Word of God. Beloved, you can deceive a lot of folk with words like that. You can deceive a lot of hellions with words like that. You can deceive church members with statements like that, but you can't deceive the elect of God. I tell you, beloved, God's elect cannot be deceived.

I turn to the Word of God and I read how we are definitely taught that the elect are not going to be deceived. Listen:

"He that is of God heareth God's words" (John 8:47).

Beloved, the man who won't hear the Word of God just proves he isn't of God. It just proves he is not one of God's elect. It just proves that he has never been saved. He is still an unsaved man. Beloved, listen to me, the man that is of God hears what God has to say. If a man doesn't hear the Word of God, and is deceived by what people have to say, and is allowed to be led captive by all false whims and the silly religious inventions that come along, it just proves that he is not one of God's elect. God's elect cannot be deceived.

XI

THE ELECT SHALL ALL BE GARNERED IN AT THE SECOND COMING OF THE LORD JESUS.

We read:

"And then shall he send his angels, and shall GATHER TOGETHER HIS ELECT from the" (Continued on page 8, column 1)

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The "Spectre"

(Continued from page one)
the responsibilities of Christian manhood we cannot deal in pretense for ours is a solemn task. If I hurt my brethren by the following I must apologize in advance but it must be said. I believe that my good friends of the "priesthood" genre are still playing "Let's Pretend."

Most of the Bible epistles were not written to churches and surely the brethren realize this but they are saying "let's pretend they were." God deals differently with born again sons than with the nation of Israel but my brethren are saying "let's pretend He doesn't." There were many godly people in the New Testament that were not recorded as being church members but my brethren are saying, "let's pretend that all saints and disciples were in the church." Levi's priesthood was distinct from Christ's but my brother and author of the book is saying "let's pretend that Christ inherited Levi's birthright and priesthood." LET'S PRETEND. I could list a score of things but I will chronicle them in due course where my friends are pretending a meaning where none exists. They have built a structure over raging water and it must surely fall for it is built on the tremulous little peaks of "let's pretend."

If you think that I am being unduly critical then follow with me into these areas of pretense. In the brother's book we are told that Satan is not really terribly upset with saints of God as individuals but as He finds them "in church capacity." We are referred to Acts 8:1-3, I Corinthians 15:9, Galatians 1:13.

In another place in the book we are told that such words and phrases as "disciples," "saints," "of this way" mean those who are "in church capacity." We are referred to Acts 9:1-13, 21; 22:4, 19; 26:10; I Corinthians 15:9; Galatians 1:13; Philippians 3:6; Revelation 13:7.

By this pretense our brother clumsily attempts to show us that only those "in church capacity" were the ones that generated anger and persecution by Satan, Paul and others.

In my simplistic ignorance I have always thought that the word "saint" meant a saint and the word "disciple" meant a disciple. I am now told that these words mean a church (or a church member). I won't bore you with the Greek but I assure you that the words saint, disciple and church are different.

In the references our brother gives (which I hope you read) there is no qualifying information to make the words saint, disciple, of this way mean anything else other than what they always mean. I am just simple enough to understand that when God is speaking of a saint He means a saint, when He speaks of a disciple He means a disciple and when He speaks of a church He means a church. This isn't hard to understand and it assuredly isn't difficult to believe.

Is Satan's rage restricted to children of God only as he finds them "in church capacity"? Did Paul only persecute saints or disciples as he found them "in church capacity"? Am I to understand that Satan's wrath is diminished toward a child of God simply because he's not a member of the church? This is what my brethren tell me. Can you believe that Satan's rage is that capricious and whimsical?

I don't have any difficulty in believing that Paul persecuted the people of God in whatever capacity he found them. If he found them in the mountains or the valleys, in the barn or on the roof, he persecuted them. He persecuted them singly, in family groups, in church assemblies or walking down the street. He persecuted them in the markets, the deserts, the cities and the hamlets. On the roads or the by-paths he delivered them up.

Did Paul only persecute church members? Am I to believe that he was that selective? Was his

wrath so benign and his ire so mellow that he would not persecute a single acknowledged believer in Jesus Christ if he came upon him? If Paul found a believer or a family of believers (who were not church members) would he have let them go? Was Saul of Tarsus this discriminating?

We are fast approaching the area of lunacy. Listen friends, what qualification did a believer have to possess in order to be eligible for persecution by Paul? What were the prerequisites? They are simple and I feel like I am lecturing a kindergarten class to even mention them. For Paul to harm you, you simply had to be a known believer in Jesus Christ. From that instant forward you were as qualified as you ever needed to be.

Saint / disciple / of this way = church. Fascinating linkage. I failed math in the 9th grade but I have enough mathematical discernment to know that this equation is false. This type of thinking is unworthy of intelligent brethren.

If I were to tell the brethren that I drove a car, drove a mule, or drove someone crazy would they assume that I was speaking of the same thing? If I told them that I threw a ball, threw a party or threw a tantrum would they assume that I was speaking of the same thing? If I told them that I ran a race, ran amok, or ran out of sugar would they assume that I was speaking of the same thing? Of course not. Yet, they tell me quite blandly that when God speaks of a saint, a disciple, of

(Continued on page 7, column 3)

Roman Empire . . .

(Continued from Page Two)
exist, then cease to exist, and finally reappear? We find in Revelation 13:3 that one of the seven heads of the beast received a deadly wound. The Greek text suggests this head was slain. This means the physical death of Antichrist, probably about the middle of the seven years. Then his deadly wound is suddenly healed. The result is that "all the world wondered after the beast." This throws light upon Revelation 17:11. The seventh head dies and is revived. This is how he can be said to be "of the seven," and "is the eighth."

Perhaps the greatest sign and wonder of Satan in the middle of the seven-year tribulation is his imitation of the resurrection of Christ. This will probably happen when Satan is cast out of Heaven (Rev. 12:7-9). Being expelled from Heaven, he literally possesses the body of the fatally wounded Antichrist, just as he did Judas Iscariot (Luke 23:3). This accounts for the great change in Antichrist who will become Satanic the last three and a half years of Rome's hellish revival. He will break the seven-year covenant with the Jews in Jerusalem (Dan. 9:27) and desecrate the rebuilt temple in Jerusalem with an idol of himself (Matt. 24: 15; Rev. 13:13-15).

THE TEN KINGS AGAIN

In verses 12 to 13 of Revelation 17 the ten kings mentioned already by John in chapter 13 and by Daniel in chapters two and seven are seen again: "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast." Please note that these ten kings shall be contemporaneous with the beast in contradistinction to the seven heads which were successive. There are ten of them in number but they are co-existent with the reign of Antichrist. They receive authority as kings with the beast, and they are subordinate to him. This is seen in the words: "These have one mind, and give their power and strength unto the beast." The prophecy here demands the existence of a Roman Emperor and ten separate yet federated kingdoms, the latter subservient to the former.

The reign of the Beast and the ten kingdoms in the land area of the old Roman Empire is to be terminated by the kingdom of Christ and the saints. The angel goes on to tell John: "These shall



Question:

WHEN DID WOMEN GIVE UP THEIR BRASS MIRRORS TO MAKE A BATHTUB FOR MEN?

Answer: — At the time of the furnishing of the tabernacle, Exodus 38:8 and 40:30-31 RV—"And he made the laver of brass, and the base thereof of brass, of the mirrors of the ministering women . . . And he set the laver between the tent of meeting and the altar, and put water therein, wherewith to wash. And Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet thereat."

make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings; and they that are with him are called, chosen, and faithful" (Rev. 17:14).

A more detailed account of this battle between Christ and Antichrist is found in Revelation 19:19-20. John says: "And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone."

Daniel the prophet gives the ultimate end of Antichrist as follows: "I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame" (Dan. 7:11). The Apostle Paul mentioned this time to the Thessalonians by saying: "And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders" (II Thess. 2:8-9).

A SUMMARY OF THESE FOUR PASSAGES

Putting all the information of John and Daniel together we see these truths. First, there will arise ten kings in the old Roman Empire. Then the Antichrist will arise and federate these nations under his authority. Second, the King of the revived Roman Empire will be destroyed by Christ and His Millennial Kingdom.

I also ascertain from these four texts that the Roman Empire will go through three stages. First, there will appear a confederacy of nations within the land areas of the old Roman Empire. Second, a strong man will appear and take control of these ten kingdoms. Third, the Roman Empire will then extend its power to the whole world. Daniel 7:23 says this empire "shall devour the whole earth." John says that the king of Rome has power over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations (Rev. 13:7). Rebellion will break out against the Roman ruler as it did in the days of the old Roman Empire. During this conflict Christ will come and end the whole affair by establishing the kingdom of Heaven on earth.

PAST ATTEMPTS TO REVIVE ROME

Men in history have made attempts to put together the old Roman Empire. Charlemagne tried this in A.D. 800. Napoleon tried to establish his own Roman Empire. Hitler tried it also. But these famous conquerors throughout the ages have always failed in their attempts to revive the Roman Empire. None of these men brought into being the ten-nation confederacy of which Daniel and John wrote. But there is yet to arise a future fuhrer who will be instrumental in the rebirth of Rom-

an rule over the world. He is Antichrist.

THE COMING ROMAN EMPEROR

I have already shown in my comments upon Daniel 7 that the Antichrist will come to power after the federation of the ten kings. The little horn will come to power by subduing three of the ten kings and securing the loyalty of the other seven. Daniel describes this little horn as a man. His eyes are like the eyes of a man. He speaks with his mouth as a man.

There are two very good reasons for believing the little horn is the king of Rome. First, the little horn will rule the Roman Empire of the last days. This makes him the king of Rome. The second is the prophecy of Daniel 9:26. Part of that prophecy reads: "And the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary." Anyone knows that the people who destroyed the city of Jerusalem and the Jewish temple were the Romans in A.D. 70. But who is "the prince that shall come"? He is Antichrist, and since the Romans are his people he must be a Roman. He is called a "prince" by Daniel because a prince is a king in preparation.

The prince that shall come or the king of Rome will make a covenant with the Jews in Palestine, according to Daniel 9:27. The King of Rome will break this covenant with the Jews after three and a half years and demand that he be worshipped as God (Matt. 26:15; II Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13: 4, 8, 12-18). The Emperor of Rome will once again be worshiped as Dominus et Deus—Lord and God.

Students of prophecy have long ago predicted the revival of the Roman Empire and the rise of a Roman Emperor. Premillennialists have been preaching this for years in spite of the laughter of non-millennialists. Yet in our time the laughter of non-millennialists has been silenced by the events in Europe.

THE REVIVAL OF ROME

The renewal of the Roman Empire did not seem probable fifty years ago. A political unity among European nations has heretofore posed more problems than could be solved. But today we are seeing significant movements of European nations which suggest there is soon to be a United States of Europe. The stage is set for the appearance of the ten-kingdom form of the Roman Empire.

The dream of a United States of Europe is old. Years ago Sir Winston Churchill was impressed with the idea. He said in a speech at Zurich in 1948: "We must build a kind of United States of Europe."

On May 9, 1950, French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman outlined a plan by which France, West Germany, and other European countries would pool their coal and steel. During 1950 France, West Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, and Luxembourg officially accepted the Schuman plan. These six nations signed the European Coal and Steel Community treaty on April 18, 1951. In Rome on May 25, 1956, the six approved the Treaty of Rome, setting up the European Economic Community (Common Market) and the European Atomic Energy Community. The contents of this treaty proves that the ultimate aim of these nations is political unity.

In the declaration which in 1950 projected the European Coal and Steel Community, Robert Schuman called it "the first concrete foundation of a European federation." Jean Monnet, the so-called father of the Common Market, in his memoirs (recently completed) said the objective of his life's work remains the same today as it has been all along: The creation of "The United States of Europe."

Commenting upon the shifting scenes in Europe former Secretary of State Dean Rusk said: "Powerful forces are moving in the European Community toward political integration as well. Survival and growth force the nations of Europe to forget their historic antagonisms and unite. Through the pooling of the resources and efforts a mighty new entity is growing out of the chaos left by national rivalries and world wars."

Although the component organizations date back to the 1950s, a coordinated structure for the communities went into effect July 1,

1967. A Council of Ministers, an expert Commission, a European Parliament and a Court of Justice comprised the permanent structure. In 1971 we were told that Britain, Norway, Denmark and Ireland were to be admitted as members. This would have added four new nations to the already existing six, thus giving us ten, the very number given in the prophecies of Daniel and John. On January 1, 1973 Britain, Ireland and Denmark were added to the original six members of the Common Market. Norway had applied but in a referendum voted to stay out. Thus at present there are nine nations in the Common Market: Belgium, Denmark, France, West Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

A 1975 agreement provided that direct elections for the European Parliament would be held in member countries in 1978, and that a uniform Western European passport would be issued in that year. It now seems that ECU is to replace the U.S. dollar in Europe. ECU is the initials for European Currency Unit.

WHY EUROPE MUST UNITE

There is much to indicate that the trend toward the unification of Europe may well be the beginning of the ten-nation confederacy predicted by Daniel and John. First, Europe must unite because of the threat of Russia. As long as they remain divided they will be no match for the Soviet Union and Red China. Together they can better resist the Communists.

Second, Europe must consolidate because of the economic threat of the United States. Europeans know that divided they cannot survive the industrial might of the Americans. They can best respond to the technology of the United States by becoming the United States of Europe. I feel soon Europe will have a ten-nation economic entity whose industrial might will far surpass the Americans and Russians.

Third, there must be a ten-nation confederacy in Europe because of the weakness of the United States to resist Communism. The struggle of the U.S. in southeast Asia and Africa confirms this statement. Europe knows they cannot count on us in a showdown.

Fourth, the ten-nation confederacy will carry such a network of interests and involvements across the world as to be a world power second to none. All of these conditions now exist. Europe is ripe for unification. Only one thing is lacking. The revival of the Roman Empire awaits the appearance of a strong man who can bring the great fusion of all economic, military, and political communities into the United States of Europe. He is Antichrist, the evil future fuhrer.

WHO WILL BE THE TENTH NATION?

Who will be the tenth nation? Probably the nation of Israel. Palestine was a province of the Roman Empire in the time of Christ. This makes it probable that it will be again before Christ comes the second time. The nation of Israel already has some trade agreements with the Common Market nations.

The prophetic Scriptures seem to indicate the Antichrist, the future coming Roman Emperor, will be Israel's king (John 5:43; Ezek. 21:25-27; Zech. 11:16-17; I John 2:22). This makes sense only if you view Palestine as one of the ten federated kingdoms of the coming Roman Empire. This also aids in understanding those Scriptures which make the Beast the king of Rome and the king of the Jews. Nevertheless, these verses may show merely that Palestine will be ruled by the Roman Empire, as will the rest of the world in the final stage of the Roman rule.

I am not dogmatic in any of these conclusions. I would not say that the present nine nations will be the ones mentioned in Bible prophecy. But I do believe they are and that Palestine will soon become the tenth nation. If I am right in this, time will tell. I believe in the light of God's prophetic Word that there is soon to be this ten-kingdom revived Roman Empire. Then there will arise a strong man to rule over these nations and finally the whole world.

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

BOSTON (EP)—Homosexuality is not a genetic disorder or illness, but a "learned behavior" that can be "unlearned" by many homosexuals seeking a change, according to a new study by sex researchers Dr. William H. Masters and Virginia E. Johnson.

"The current concept that the sexuality dysfunctional or dissatisfied homosexual male or female cannot be treated without an 80 or 90 per cent overall failure rate is simply erroneous," Dr. Masters and Mrs. Johnson said.

CHICAGO (EP)—The Moody Institute of Science recently announced that two of its films, **WINDOW TO THE UNIVERSE** and **WATER: THE COMMON NECESSITY**, have been previewed and purchased by Chinese educators for use in their school system. The films were taken into the People's Republic of China last October by a film import-export company operating out of Southeast Asia.

MOSCOW (EP)—Handel's majestic "Messiah," with its ringing affirmation of Christian faith and hope, was presented at the Conservatory, Moscow's most important concert hall, on two consecutive nights. The performance (April 13 and 14) was thought to be the first such in the Soviet Union since the Communist took over in 1917.

The program notes tried to underplay the religious significance of the work, presented as it was as the Russian Orthodox prepared to celebrate Easter on April 22. "The 'Messiah,'" said the text, "is a hymn to the people, not to the Lord. In fact, the people themselves become their own messiah."

NYACK, N.Y. (EP)—Louis L. King, president of The Christian and Missionary Alliance headquartered here, announced today that this evangelical denomination is establishing a China office in Hong Kong. This new mission center, an extension of Alliance ministries in Hong Kong, will make Bibles and evangelistic tracts available to lay Christians who enter the People's Republic of China as tourists. It will also provide information on employment opportunities for those who desire to work in mainland China.

SALT LAKE CITY (EP)—The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) has prepared a discussion guide for missionary work among Jews. The Church has prepared a flip chart, five tracts, a "Missionary Training Manual for Use in the Jewish Proselytizing Program," and a pamphlet containing testimony of Jews who have joined the Mormon Church.

DENVER (EP)—Maurice Gordon vows he's going to "use the methods of the American revolution" to get prayer and Bible reading back into the public schools.

The pastor of the Lovingway Inner-city United Pentecostal Church said he might court arrest by going into a school and reading a Bible to initiate a legal test of ban. Mr. Gordon is also recruiting volunteers to pass out Bibles to public school students and teachers. Advertisements for donations of King James Version Bibles he ran in the Denver Post got him 1,000 copies, he said.

Mr. Gordon contends that the absence of prayers and Bible reading has produced "such a negative attitude in the school system that the school system is rapidly becoming public enemy number 1. The schools are full of drugs, sexual perversion and witchcraft teaching. In 17 years (since the Supreme Court ruling), things have literally gone to pot," said Mr. Gordon. "If coke (cocaine) is being sold to fourth and fifth graders, then, we can pass out Bibles to them."

Mr. Gordon said he has 200 volunteers to help him pass out the

Bibles. He said there are 69,073 students in the 120 Denver schools, including elementary, junior high and high school. So he figures he'll need about 100,000 for the entire metro area.

BONN (EP)—Protestant ministers have the longest life expectancy in West Germany according to a recent report by the Federation of Life Insurance Companies.

Protestant ministers live an average of 77 years, the report said, while pubkeepers, at the bottom of the list, have a life expectancy of only 58 years.

ST. LOUIS (EP)—Membership figures for 1978 in The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod indicate a decline, but far less than in 1977.

In 1978, baptized membership declined by 24,645, to 2,742,313. The number of total congregations at year's end 1978 was 6,023, down by 28. This compares to losses of over 83,000 members and 152 congregations in 1977, the year that most losses occurred as a result of the Synod's recent doctrinal controversy. On the "plus" side, total contributions from throughout the church amounted to an all-time high of \$397,621,267, nearly \$31 million over 1977, for an 8.5 per cent increase.

KHAM PUT, Thailand (EP)—Khun Poat, a 19-year-old girl, escaped the Khmer Rouge rule in Cambodia after an arduous journey with 100 others through miles of jungle, canals, mountains and rivers. Standing between them and freedom were Communist soldiers, the elements, and a stretch of jungle ground covered with thorns. Most of the escapees either were barefoot or wore flimsy thongs.

A midnight-like darkness hampered the struggling group as it crossed a valley between two high mountain ranges. "We could see absolutely nothing," Poat later told missionary Maxine Stewart. "We didn't even know where to step."

Suddenly hundreds of fireflies swarmed into view. Their glow made enough light for the people to see the path. The refugees reached the next mountain by "firefly light" said Mrs. Stewart in the April issue of The Commission magazine.

After Poat was transferred to Kham Put refugee camp, she was invited to a Christian meeting. "I know that old man," she exclaimed at a picture on the wall of the chapel. "He is the one who led us and showed us the way to Thailand and freedom."

She was pointing to a picture of Jesus.

Justification . . .

(Continued from page one)
lieved me: for he wrote of me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?" (John 5:45-47). Then law sat down.

Moses called forth Paul. Paul said: "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." For the wages of sin is death. As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one. "For death passed upon all men for all have sinned." Paul sat down.

Peter stood up to bear witness. "The face of the Lord is against them that do evil. For if the righteous scarcely be saved where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear."

Justice stood up and cried out with a loud voice and demanded that the soul that sinned should die. Truth cried out, "Cursed is he that continueth not in all things." Conscience cried out and said, "I shew the words of the law written in their hearts, for I also bear witness to their thoughts, and condemn their very soul." Out of Revelation 12:10 came Satan sticking his accusing finger.

The man trembling said, "I have

only offended in one point." Moses called upon James, the Lord's brother, to answer. James stood up and said, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."

But the man said, "I have done my best, I'm basically good." Paul stood up and said, "There is none that doeth good, no not one." In a whisper, the man said, "I'm just as good as that Christian. I have done many good works."

Both Paul and Matthew stood up. Paul said, "Thou art inexcusable, O man for thou condemnest thyself. For the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then, they that are in the flesh cannot please God."

Then Matthew stood up and said, "The Judge will say, I never knew you; depart from me ye that work iniquity."

The man couldn't lift up his eyes, but fell upon the mercies of the court crying, "I'm guilty, I'm guilty, I'm guilty." Our great Lawyer stepped forth, great Advocate, Propitiation for our sins, Justifier of many, great Provider, great Preserver and Sin-bearer, the Great I Am, that has all wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, redemption, cried out, "He is mine; I own him. My payment to court was for him. He is part of my beloved. I come to answer the accusations of this man. I shall answer the law first. I have redeemed my child from the curse of the law, being made a curse for him. I came made of a woman, made under the law to redeem them that were under condemnation of the law. I am the fulfillment of the law to all those that believe.

Secondly, I shall answer Justice. The question this day is; How can a man be clean that is born of a woman? I say, through my finished work for I am the appointer, approver, imputer of it. Whereby I have justified freely because of my redemption. I justified freely because of my propitiation which is my blood payment. I conclude this man is justified without the deeds of the law. Furthermore, I state the law isn't void, but I have established it. For my works of the law shall no man be justified, but this man stands justified because of my works.

Thirdly, I shall answer Truth. I am fulfilled of all truth. You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man can be justified in the sight of my Father, but through me.

Fourthly, I shall answer Conscience. I shall give a clear conscience, forgive all thine iniquities. I shall separate them as far as the East is from the West. Lastly to Satan, this man is perfect in me. Because of my righteousness; I have become his righteousness."

You could hear his tender voice as he bowed down to the man. You could hear him say, "Come my beloved." He embraced him with a kiss of grace. He embraced him with everlasting arms and tender mercies. The Father said, "Forgiven." Then he blotted out the handwriting of the ordinances that was against him. The clerk read, "the King therefore justified this man because of the merits of Christ. He is clean, perfect in the sight of the King because of the righteousness of the Son." The clerk stepped forth and handed the man a legal title to Heaven. The clerk put his seal upon the document and said, "Unto the day of Redemption."

The "Spectre"

(Continued from page six)
 this way that these expressions automatically mean a church. I have seldom encountered word mutations to this degree before.

We are told that there is a "pure priestly perpetuity" and that Paul labored and worked in order to maintain his position in the priesthood. I had always understood that Paul labored for Jesus but now I am informed that his labor was addressed to sustaining himself in the priesthood. Fascinating.

What about Paul's fear of losing his status in the priesthood that the brother lays before us as a Biblical fact? Is it true? Our brother says that Paul did what he did for the priesthood. Now he is no doubt more intimately acquainted with the mind and motives of Paul than I am. However, this generates a question in my mind (a point based on silence if you please). If the priesthood so occupied Paul's labor and motives, if this was the impetus behind his service, if being a priest (and maintaining this) was his goal, WHY THEN IN ALL OF HIS WRITINGS DID HE NOT ONCE, NOT ONCE, NOT ONCE, EVEN USE THE WORD PRIEST OR PRIESTHOOD? WHY?

Now I see my brethren rise up in their chairs and say, "PAUL WROTE HEBREWS." Did he? If anyone knows this for a certainty let him step forth and receive the plaudits of the scholarly world for knowing what no one else on earth knows with certainty. Let him step forth.

However, let us be charitably polemic and say just for discussion that Paul wrote Hebrews. However, in conceding this we really concede nothing. Even if Paul wrote Hebrews why is he silent on the priesthood everywhere else? Why?

If the Bible says something once that is sufficient to establish the fact or the doctrine. . . . I realize this. But as usual I am left with a question. Didn't the Galatians, the Ephesians, the Romans and all those other outlying Gentiles need to know something that so vitally affected their lives before God? Yet, Paul seems to have slighted them. Even the Corinthians who were in pretty bad shape even for Baptists, should have been told something about the "priesthood" but Paul apparently failed them. Perhaps the reason the Corinthians were so disorderly was because they didn't understand about the "priesthood."

I wouldn't blame you if you rejected my comments on this subject of Paul and the priesthood. In your place I would probably do the same. I repeat that points based on silence do not deserve much consideration. I only wish that I could find one statement that says Paul wanted to maintain his place in the priesthood and that this was the reason he labored and suffered so. Just one reference. Ah, well we are lost in "let's pretend" once again.

We are told that God works the same way in all ages of time and that He does it according to an operational imperative called "gospel order." I don't have any idea what "gospel order" means but it must mean something to my brethren for they use it so often. Is God mutable? Certainly not. Does God change? Certainly not. Does God use different methods of working out His will in different points of time? Certainly He does. If you don't know this you are testifying that you have never read the Bible with any care.

There is an order of operation that our Lord utilizes but it is not always the same method. Did God deal with Adam, Noah, Israel the man, Israel the nation, and the church and the individual believer the same identical way? Of course not. Does this mean that God changes? No, it merely shows the outworking of His eternal will and purpose in different points of time.

The reason I mention all this is because our brethren think you are disloyal to God if you do not believe that God rubber stamps all His acts and redos the same deeds without adding to or taking away. They tell me that the way God put His name upon His nation and people in the Old Testament is the same way He does it in the New Testament. In the book, Deuteronomy 17:8-13 and Matthew 18:15-18 are linked and said to be "almost . . . identical." I smile at our brother's concept of similarities. Through his book he insists that the church functions as a priest. In the Deuteronomy reference the people of Israel are instructed to go to the priests, "if there arise a matter too hard for them in Judgment." There the priests were to teach them "ac-

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cording to the sentence of the law." It further says that if a man will not harken to the priest that "even that man shall die." Please contrast this with Matthew 18:15-18.

In Deuteronomy the priests judge those who are not priests. Our brother says the church is a priest. He further says that the two references are almost identical. "Almost" is not quite good enough because if the church is a priest our brother had the priest judging part of the priest whereas in Deuteronomy they judged the people who were not priests. How can you sub-divide a priest this way? The priests in Deuteronomy had one function while the church in Matthew has a totally distinct function. If the church is a priest it is PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE to make a correlation between the two Scriptures. This is not the only inconsistency. The sentence upon the man who acted presumptuously was that "man shall die." Is this almost identical with Matthew 18? How long has it been since a Baptist church executed anyone and used Matthew 18 as a justification?

When Paul says "as also saith the law" (1 Cor. 14:34), I know that he has reference to a principle in the New that was viable in the Old. When this type of qualification is absent there is every reason to believe that the particular commandment is original to the church or the disciples of God so that they might carry out their unique ministry under their High Priest.

Unique is the key word in the above sentence because the church is unique and distinct from every other operation of God. Why do my good brethren insist on making Christ's church just a neo-Israel and having her operate under the impossible restrictions of Israel? We have a spiritual ministry not a physical one. The disparity between Israel and Christ's church is so great that it can only be reckoned by God. When I say this do not accuse me of saying that our Sovereign God changes. HE DOES NOT. HE FULFILLS HIS PURPOSE IN THE MANNER HE DETERMINES BEST. In this age He is fulfilling His purpose through His church and HIS CHURCH IS NOT ISRAEL.

In the book our brother says that since God honored and upheld the decisions of the priests (Continued on page 8, column 3)

"God's Elect"

(Continued from page five)
four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven" (Mark 13:27).

When you read about the four winds, beloved, this is speaking about all four directions—north, east, south, and west. It says in this Scripture that from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven God is going to gather in His elect.

Isn't that going to be a glorious day? Can you imagine anything any more wonderful? Can you imagine anything any greater than for the elect of God to come in one day's time? Over yonder in Europe and in some remote spot of Asia there is an individual who has heard the Word of God, that Jesus Christ died for all of his sins, and he has been saved and has proven by the fact that he was saved he is one of God's elect. Maybe out yonder in the isles of the sea there is an individual who has made his calling and election sure. Maybe there was some soldier boy on one of those islands that left a Bible and a native picked it up, and read it, and thereby became a child of God. Beloved, one of these days, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of Heaven, however the four winds may blow, God is going to garner in His elect unto Himself.

Out in the West they have what they call roundup time and all the cattle are brought in from all parts of the range. The strays are all herded together, and all the cattle are brought in. The time of marketing has come. Roundup time is the time that they look forward to all during the year, as they anticipate the fact that next month or two or three months from now we are going to have a roundup. We are going to round up all the cattle and send them to the market. It will be a time of money. It will be a time of happiness. It will be a time when we have something to show for what we have done.

TUNE IN TO THE INDEPENDENT BAPTIST HOUR				
Station	Time	Dial:	Watts:	
WCAK, Catsbrg., 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.	101.7	3000	FM
KAWS, Hamphill, Tex.	Sun.—7:30-8:00 a.m.	1530	1000	AM
*KYHM, Gilmer, Tex.	Sun.—1:00-1:30 p.m.	1060	10000	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				

Beloved, God is going to have a roundup some of these days. Some of these days God is going to round up all of His elect from all quarters of the earth. What a glorious day is in store for the child of God!

XII GOD LOVES HIS ELECT

If God didn't love His elect He wouldn't have done anything for us that He has done. I can go back to the very first thought that I offered you, how that God's elect become such because of divine volition. In other words, we become God's elect because of His divine choice. I might go back there and say that shows God loves us. Everything that I have said ought to prove that God loves His elect. However, God's Word tells us that God does love His elect. Listen:

"And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened" (Matt. 24:22).

This is speaking about the great tribulation. This is talking about that period that is going to transpire between the rapture and the revelation—between the time that Christ comes in the air and catches the saints away and the time that Christ comes back to this earth and sets up His kingdom. Beloved, it says that God shortens the days of the tribulation period for the elect's sake.

There wouldn't be a single person that would survive the tribulation period if it weren't that God loves His elect. The Bible says in

that period of the tribulation that there is going to be 144,000 Jews saved, and besides this, a great multitude of Gentiles out of every kindred and nation and tongue under Heaven—so great a number that no man will be able to number them. There are going to be many people saved in the tribulation period. And why is it that God doesn't allow that tribulation period to drag on indefinitely? I'll tell you, beloved, God loves His elect. For the elect's sake, God shortens the days of the tribulation.

God loves His elect. If you are saved, then you are one of His elect. If you are one of God's elect, then you can have this assurance that God truly loves you. I rejoice because of it, and I am happy that God loves His elect.

I go back and read that parable of the wheat field that was oversown with tares and I find it tells me how much God loves the elect. A servant says, "Master, somebody has oversown the wheat field with tares and the tares have come up alongside of the wheat. How about us going out and rooting up the tares and getting rid of them?" The master says, "No, don't do it, for if you did, you might destroy the wheat. Let them both grow together until the time of the harvest and then we will separate them." Beloved, God loves His elect too much to take a chance on allowing the destruction of even one of His elect. I thank God that He loves His elect.

I know that there are those individuals who tell you that John 3:16 means that God loves every individual within this world without exception. I know there are individuals who tell you that God loves everybody indiscriminately. No, no, beloved. When God speaks in John 3:6, He is not talking about everybody in an indiscriminate manner, but He is talking about how He loves the elect. He loved His elect so much that He gave His Son to die for our sins.

Are you one of His elect? If you are, you ought to thank God for the exalted privilege and position. You ought to thank God for the position that you occupy as one of His elect. Oh, may God help you to realize how wonderful is your position in Christ. If you are not one of God's elect, may God save you and make you to realize that He died for you. May you now make your calling and election sure.

May God bless you!

The "Spectre"

(Continued from page 7)
in the Old Testament and since He honors and upholds the decisions of His church that this makes the church a priest. With this level of logic I can see us drifting back into the murky dark ages of Biblical ignorance. Did God honor and uphold the decisions of His prophets? Were they priests? No. Did God honor and uphold the decisions of Gentile nations upon occasion? Were they priests? No. Did God honor and uphold the decisions of lost people upon occasion? Were they priests? Of course not. Did God honor and uphold decisions made by David, Solomon and the judges? Were they priests? Of course not. Please spare us anymore of this twilight logic. I don't think I can stand another dose.

The above is bad but what follows is dangerous. We are told in the book that the word "saints" means those people who are saved and in "church capacity" because

no one else is thus addressed in the New Testament. Incredible? Yes, very incredible. What our brother has said is that only Baptists are saved. Has he not said this? Run a reference on the word "saint" and see if it always refers to those in "church capacity." Start with Matthew 27:52 and see for yourself.

The Greek word for "saint" means holy or sanctified. Does our brother believe that a child of God is in no way holy or sanctified until he is a church member? Yes, he does. By his usage of the word "saint" he does. In colloquial English he is saying, "Only Baptists are saved." If he is not saying this then pray tell just what is he saying?

Our brother fashions a type out of Deuteronomy 26:1-10 and he tells us that these requirements have to be met by the Christian believer. He then says that the only place they can be met is in the church which is a priest. He attempts to place a guilt syndrome upon us by saying "how can these requirements be met by the believer?" I have a question, "WHO SAYS THAT THESE REQUIREMENTS IN DEUTERONOMY HAVE TO BE MET BY THE CHRISTIAN BELIEVER?" Who says so? Our brother says so and the reason he does is that they are "according to the type." Who established the type? Who do you think. The Christian must surely make his conversion known but not according to Deuteronomy 26:1-10.

God has placed His name in His nation, in His tabernacle, in His Temple and in His church. Our brother points this out to us. HE FURTHER TELLS US THAT THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN GET GOD'S NAME PLACED UPON YOU IS IN BAPTISM AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP. He says this is clear, precise words and in saying it he insults every free-born child of God. I only wish that I could give you the exact quotation from the book without fear of litigation.

God has placed His name in these places our brother mentions but has He not placed His name somewhere else? Do not His children bear His name? If you do not have your father's name what does that make you?

By his callous statement our brother has unwittingly degraded us all. I am a son of God and I bear His name AND I DIDN'T HAVE TO BE BAPTIZED TO GET IT. It was mine by right of birth. When does a son acquire his father's name, at birth or when he reaches a man's estate? In his passion to establish a spurious priesthood our dear brother has said by inference that we were all illegitimate until we were baptized. My Father's name is Jehovah and my blood brother's name is Christ, the eternal Son of Jehovah, and my name is Ray, son of Jehovah. I didn't acquire this name in a Baptist church. My brother has overstepped himself and placed himself on fighting ground by his unethical transfer of other functions into the church. He has dishonored God and demeaned the brotherhood.

It is a right of birth to be called by your Father's name unless you are illegitimate. Read Ephesians 2:15, II Timothy 2:19 or I John 3:1. I have never read such tactless prattle in my life as when our brother says you only get God's name at baptism.

You can be casual and academically polemic in other things, but not in this. IF YOU SAY A MAN DOESN'T HAVE HIS FATHER'S NAME YOU CALL INTO QUESTION THE LEGITIMACY OF HIS BIRTH.

I have traveled over most of this globe and I have seen heathen cultures in the raw and pagans of every caste. I have exchanged compliments and insults with English gentlemen and heathen Chinese. In most places in the world you can walk unmolested if you behave decently and wear a smile of good will.

Some cultures and castes are hard to insult and you can wipe your feet on them. Others are like the French Creoles of New Orleans in the 18th and 19th centuries who would smell an insult a mile away, and then you had to meet your man under the oaks with sword or gun.

Insults are variable with time, place, cult and caste. You may insult the color of a man's hair or the shape of his nose in many places of the world and emerge with a whole skin. You may question his children's intelligence or his wife's virtue and perhaps escape. You may debase his honor, deface his property or displace his money and he might smile. BUT, IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD I HAVE TRAVELED IN IF YOU QUESTION THE LEGITIMACY OF A MAN'S BIRTH YOU HAD BETTER BE PREPARED TO DEFEND YOUR OPINION WITH WEAPONRY.

I personally resent our brother's unthought, unwise, unseemly, unnecessary, unmitigated, unconfessionable and unheard of statement that you only receive God's name at baptism. He has questioned the legitimacy of my spiritual birth and of every son of God outside the church. I AM A BAPTIST BY GRACE . . . THANK GOD. BUT I WAS A SON BEFORE I WAS A BAPTIST AND I HAD MY FATHER'S NAME. I was also a priest before I was a Baptist and so was every other child of God that He has placed in His church. The only people who are qualified for church membership are those who have been made priests in the blood of Jesus.

The good people of Eastern Kentucky are by and large the most polite and well mannered people it has been my honor to meet. They have their share of hardheads and bores like anyplace else but the ratio is smaller. I have lived and traveled in hollows where the National Guard and State Police did not go and have been treated with kindness. When strangers say stupid and unthoughtful things the people are forbearing. However, some words go beyond the bounds of the laws of hospitality and become "fightin' words." When a man calls into question the legitimacy of my spiritual birth I am just enough of a Kentuckian to say "those are fightin' words." A man might insult my earthly mother and father and I hope that I would have the grace as a Christian to walk away. There are many crass people in the world and God's people are not to be brawlers. However, my spiritual birth is a very serious and solemn subject with me and should be with each child of God. I will brook no insult in this area.

This instance reminds me of the untutored young man who was invited to a formal dinner. He drank the water in the finger bowl, ate his neighbor's salad, ate his soup with a fork, told cheap and racuous jokes, compared the dinner ware to what his sister once bought at a garage sale, slapped his hostess on the back, casually demeaned his host and then went smilingly on his way, not once realizing that he had grossly insulted the entire company.

I cannot believe that the author meant to insult his kinsmen but intended or not the insult is there. In my younger days I used to deal in cattle and horses and sometime we would encounter a wild horse that didn't want to be loaded in the truck. We usually got him loaded but in the process we broke so many ropes, got ourselves so muddy and soiled, destroyed so much property and injured ourselves and the horse so grievously we often wondered if it was really worth it for just a few dollars profit.

The priesthood is so tangled up with ropes its adherents have cast on it to buoy it up, it is so soiled, it has caused so much injury, it is so tangled up, it has destroyed so much in fellowship and the upbuilding of God's kingdom, it has torn down so many walls and frightened so many people that I am surprised that someone hasn't begun to wonder if it is really worth it just to receive a little scholarly adoration. I well remember some wild horses that I would release after a little struggle because I knew that the loading would be so expensive that it wasn't worth the effort. In attempting to load the "priesthood of the church" on our backs our brethren are ripping asunder the work of God. All this in order to tame a wild doctrine that will not be tamed.

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