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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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WHOLE NUMBER 2326

THE ERRORS OF HOLY ROLLERISM

By ROY MASON

"Holy Rollerism" is a term commonly used to designate a series of religious vagaries embraced in a group of so-called holiness sects to be found scattered over different parts of the country. It is a false religion that is leading many—especially the more ignorant—astray. I have called it a religion. Rather, it is a parody on true religion—a caricature, a burlesque, a farce!

Without apology and without gloves I set out to denounce and to uncover the falsity of the whole holiness movement as expressed in what is commonly termed "Holy Rollerism." A false religion and a false gospel is theirs. Paul said, "If a man preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you let him be accursed!" (Gal. 1:8). Thus I have scriptural warrant for dealing sternly with the false gospel and false teachings of "Holy

Rollerism."

What's Wrong with Holy Rollers?

FIRST, THEY ARE WRONG AS TO ORIGIN. There are various sects and so-



ROY MASON

called churches of the different Holiness groups today. Phelan's "HANDBOOK OF ALL DENOMINATIONS" which is perhaps the most authoritative book on denominations in America, lists the leading holiness "churches" as follows:

"CHURCH OF GOD," started in 1886 in Monroe County, Tenn.

"CHURCH OF GOD" (APOSTOLIC) started in 1897 at Danville, Ky.

"THE ORIGINAL CHURCH OF GOD," started

in 1886 near Birchwood, Tenn.

"CHURCH OF GOD" (headquarters at Anderson, Ind.) started about 1880 by Daniel S. Warner and others.

"CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE," made up of a union of Pentecostal missions and "churches." Union consummated in 1907 at Chicago.

(Several smaller holiness groups are also detailed, but none date back farther than 1886).

What then is wrong with the (Continued on Page 6 Column 3)

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 "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

"For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy.

"Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good.

"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (II Timothy 3:1-5).

As we come to the close of the age of grace we should each take the admonition of Paul to the Corinthians to "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith" (II Cor. 13:5).

With the aisle-walking, handshaking, card-signing techni-

ques of the church today, the devil has had little trouble in deceiving millions with a counterfeit christianity. What an awful fate is yours, my friend, if this is your condition! Here are three questions that we might examine ourselves with:

I. Is The Lord Jesus Christ Really Your Lord?

Your first reaction may be, "Yes, He is really my Lord," but calling Him Lord is not enough.

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

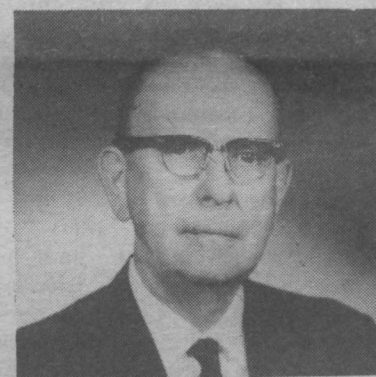
"Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out

(Continued on Page 3 Column 3)

WHY SHOULD YOU TITHE?

By: E.G. Cook
 Birmingham, Ala.

May we study the doctrine of tithing for a while. It seems



E. G. COOK

there should be no division among us on such an important subject. It seems to me that we should rejoice at the opportunity of giving back to God that which He says belongs to Him. I am

not trying to raise money. That is not my job. I realize that I may not preach on tithing as much as I should. But most of our members seem to be glad to give the Lord that which is His. So there is little need for me to harp on the subject. I am fully persuaded that if a church is doing what the Lord wants her to do, He is well able to take care of the expenses.

Now let us consider some of the Scriptures that deal with tithing. It is true that most of them are found in the Old Testament. But Paul tells us in II Timothy 3:16 that "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for

(Continued on Page 5 Column 4)

EVOLUTION AND THE BIG BANG

By ROY W. SNELL
 Charleston, W. Va.

Our afternoon paper quite frequently gives space to a columnist, likely a syndicated writer out of Washington. This gentleman's name is George F. Wills and on March 10, 1981 his editorial offering was evidently prompted by the recent "trial" in California where some fundamentalists were challenging the teaching of the theory of evolution in the schools. Being a bit interested in the outcome of such a confrontation in the courts, I followed the proceedings rather closely. Since the matter has been resolved as far as the legal action is concerned, all of the newspaper accounts have mentioned that the fundamentalist faction claims to have achieved a "moral" victory. Newspaper accounts are not historically the acme of accuracy, but if these reported results approximate the truth in this matter, then I would say that the fundamentalists did not win anything. Rather, they appeared to settle for a little sop in the way of lip service from the presiding judge and then promptly withdrew their contention, claiming a "victory" of sorts. It would seem that the evolution proponents were about to marshal up some eminent men in the field of science

(Continued on Page 5 Column 3)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A SERMON BY JOHN R. GILPIN

"JOB'S SURE KNOWLEDGE"

"For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God" (Job 19:25-26).

Job knew some things. That is not different from any child of God. There are some things that every child of God knows. I want to read you some Scriptures that you might see that the true child of God knows several things. Listen:

"And we KNOW that all things WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Rom. 8:28).

Certainly a child of God knows that everything is work-

ing together for good. I don't say that everything by itself works for good, but I say that everything works together with all other things for good.

Listen again: "For I KNOW whom I have believed, and am persuaded that HE IS ABLE TO KEEP that which I have committed unto him against that day" (II Tim. 1:12).

We are living in a day of "easy-believism." The average preacher preaches "Believe — believe — believe." You ask what to believe. "Well, just believe." In contrast, Paul says, "I know whom I have believed."

Notice another Scripture: "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be:

but we KNOW that, when he shall appear, WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM: for we shall see him as he is" (I John 3:2).

There are several things this text shows us that a child of God knows. He knows he is going to see Jesus; he knows that Jesus Christ is going to appear some of these days; he knows that when He does appear, that we shall be like Him.

Notice again: "We KNOW that we have PASSED FROM DEATH UNTO LIFE, because we love the brethren" (I John 3:14).

I say, beloved, I would rather be here in this house of God with this little group of God's children than any place else in all the world. "We know that we have passed from death unto

(Continued on Page 2 Column 1)

10 COMMANDMENTS FOR PASTOR'S WIVES

Ten commandments for ministers' wives, as presented to the Southern California Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, in annual camp meeting assembled:

I. Thou shalt have no other interests more important to thee than thy husband's.

II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any church clique or anything resembling it.

III. Thou shalt not take thy husband's name in vain.

IV. Remember thy intimate family matters, to keep them secret.

V. Honor thy husband by keeping thy place, that his years of ministry in the cause of God may be long.

VI. Thou shalt not gossip.

VII. Thou shalt not be a burden on others.

VIII. Thou shalt not appear untidy.

IX. Thou shalt not covet a taste beyond thy husband's income.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy lay sister's, or fellow minister's house, furniture, car, or whatsoever thy sister may have.

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One act of sin is as a poison and will spread through the spiritual veins of life.

The Baptist Examiner

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THE BAPTIST PEOPLE

JOHN R. GILPIN, Jr.
Acting Editor

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JOB'S

(Continued from Page 1)

life, because we love the
brethren."

Here are four verses wherein
you will find the word "know,"
and each of them would tell us
that there are some things that
the child of God knows. In addi-
tion to those things, Job says, "I
know that my redeemer liveth, and
that he shall stand at the latter day
upon the earth: And though after my
skin worms destroy this body, yet
in my flesh shall I see God."

I am sure Job knew
everything that I have read in
these four verses of Scripture,
just as we, as Christians, know;
at the same time, in addition to
that, he said, "I know that my
redeemer liveth."

JOB KNEW HE HAD A TRUE FRIEND AMID CRUEL FRIENDS.

If ever there was a man who
had cruel friends, it was Job.
We would generally say that Job
had three cruel friends —
Bildad, Zophar, and Eliphaz,
though actually there were four.
Young Elihu came at the end of
the book and said, "I have stood
back and waited. I have given
"grey hairs" an opportunity to
condemn you. You have argued
with them, and now I am not
going to hold still any longer.
Even though I am a young man,
I expect to tell you exactly where
you stand." Elihu really
blistered Job, though he posed
as a friend. Those were cruel
friends that Job had.

When I was a child, we used
to have guessing games at par-
ties. A question was asked,
"What man in the Bible suf-
fered probably greatest from the
cold weather?" The answer was
"Job, because he had three
wretched comforters."

Beloved, actually he had four
wretched comforters — Bildad,

Zophar, Eliphaz, and young
Elihu. They came to comfort
Job. These first three were so
grief-stricken over his condition
that they never said a word until
seven days passed. They started
out to be good comforters and
for seven days never uttered a
word of condemnation. Then,
when they did start, they really
"blessed Job out" for the sins of
his life. They told Job that the
suffering he was receiving was
all because of the sins of his life.
They told Job he was a
hypocrite and a sinner, and they
enumerated every sin, I think,
that could be enumerated out of
the category of sins and accused
Job of them. Surely you will say
that Job had three cruel friends.

Later on, they were joined by
young Elihu, which meant that
he had four cruel friends. But



JOHN R. GILPIN

Job knew that he had a true
friend amidst these cruel
friends. Though these cruel
friends vilely accused him, and
though they spoke very much
against him, Job had one real
friend. He said, "I know that
my redeemer liveth."

That word "redeemer," as it
appears in the Old Testament,
has three different renderings.

First of all, it is rendered
"kinsman." If we were to
translate this word "redeemer"
to mean "kinsman," then we
would say that Job had a
kinsman who was a true friend.
The Lord Jesus Christ is our
kinsman. He is kin to us. How I
love to think of that! How I love
the thought that Jesus is part of
my kinfolk!

Notice again:
"But when the fulness of
the time was come, God sent
forth his Son, MADE OF A
WOMAN, made under the
law. To redeem them that
were under the law, that we
might receive the adoption of
sons" (Gal. 4:4, 5).

You'll notice it says that He
was "made of a woman," so the
Lord Jesus Christ is truly our
kin.

Listen again:
"For both he that sanc-
tifieth and they who are sanc-
tified are all of one: for which
cause he is not ashamed to
call them BRETHREN" (Heb. 2:11).

Isn't it wonderful to know
that Jesus calls us His brethren?

We read again:
"Then said Jesus unto
them, Be not afraid: go tell
MY BRETHREN that they go
into Galilee, and there shall
they see me" (Mt. 28:10).

Notice another Scripture:
"Who shall separate us
from the love of Christ? shall
tribulation, or distress, or
persecution, or famine, or
nakedness, or peril, or
sword?" (Rom. 8:35).

Beloved, these Scriptures
show that you and I have a
kinsman in the Lord Jesus
Christ.

Isn't it wonderful to hear Job
as he says, "I know that my
redeemer liveth. I have four

cruel friends, but I have one real
friend, my redeemer." That
word "redeemer" means
"kinsman" — one that is near to
us.

That word "redeemer" is also
translated "vindicator" in the
Old Testament. Beloved, that is
what the Lord Jesus Christ is.
He is not only kin to us, but He
is our vindicator. He vindicates
us of false charges.

I might also say that He vin-
dicates us of true charges. We
are charged with our sins. Every
one of us have true charges
brought against us when it is
said that we are sinners, but the
Lord Jesus Christ not only vin-
dicates us of false charges, He
vindicates us of true charges —
the charges relative to the fact
that we are sinners in the sight
of God.

He vindicates us also from
Satan's accusations. Oh, how
many times this day, yesterday,
and every day has Satan accused
you! How many times every day
does Satan bring accusation
against us! We read:

"And the Lord said unto
Satan, The Lord rebuke thee,
O Satan; even the Lord that
hath chosen Jerusalem
rebuke thee: is not this a
brand plucked out of the
fire?" (Zech. 3:2).

He is speaking about Joshua,
and it says that the Lord turns to
Satan and says, "The Lord
rebuke thee."

I say, beloved, we have a vin-
dicator. He vindicates us from
false charges. We have plenty of
them lodged against us. He vin-
dicates us from true charges. We
have plenty of them lodged
against us by way of our sins.
He vindicates us from Satan's
accusations, for the Scripture
says, "The Lord rebuke thee, O
Satan."

That word "redeemer" also
means the individual who buys a
person out of bondage, or buys
an estate back which has been
lost perhaps through the non-
payment of taxes.

I am glad that as Job looked
at his friends, he knew they were
false friends. He knew they were
fair-weather friends. He knew
that Bildad, Zophar, Eliphaz,
and young Elihu were friends
when the going was easy.

Beloved, you have friends like
that, and I have friends like
that. I am satisfied that I know
lots of people, that as long as I
stand before them and am good
to them, that they try to be good
friends themselves. We all have
some fair-weather friends. Job
had them. In contrast, he says,
"I know that my redeemer
liveth."

Talk about sure knowledge;
Job had sure knowledge. He
knew that he had a true friend
amidst four cruel, false friends.

II JOB KNEW HE HAD REAL PROPERTY AMID AB- SOLUTE POVERTY.

By the time that Job spoke
this passage that is my text, Job
was poverty-stricken. To be
sure, in the beginning of the
book, Job is spoken of as an ex-
ceedingly rich man. It says that
Job had tremendous riches:
7,000 sheep; 3,000 camels; 500
yoke of oxen; 500 she-asses.
Then the writer says that this
man was the greatest of all the
men of the East.

Job was a man who had pack
trains going in every direction.
He did a bigger business than
any of the companies that ever
operated in the United States or
on the western frontier in the
days of the last century. Wells
Fargo, the Pony Express —
none of these did anything like

the business that Job did. He
was the greatest man of the East
so far as wealth was concerned.

But, beloved, that wealth
vanished. One day the Sabeans
swooped down upon Job's ser-
vants when they were plowing
with the oxen — 500 yoke of ox-
en, which means 1,000 oxen,
and 500 asses feeding alongside
of them. The Sabeans made a
big haul that day because they
killed all the servants but one.
One escaped. And they carried
away the 500 yoke of oxen and
the 500 she-asses. In one day's
time, Job lost a tremendous for-
tune when he lost all those
animals.

Then the Word of God tells us
how a fire came down out of
heaven and burned up Job's
sheep. If you stand and look out
over the fields that Job had, you
will see 5,000 carcasses of sheep
lying in the field rotting away,
where the fire from Heaven had
burned up these sheep. Talk
about a fortune; it left that day.

The Word of God tells us
how, within the same day, that
the Chaldeans made up three
bands and swooped down upon
Job's camels. You remember
that he had 3,000 camels. Those
were his pack animals that he
used for his pack trains all over
the country. Job had 3,000 of
these camels. One day the Chal-
deans swooped down upon them
in three bands, and each of them
took off with a great number of
those camels, to the extent that
only one servant was left to tell
the story.

There was one servant that
survived the massacre and the
theft on the part of the Sabeans
when they stole the oxen and the
asses. There was one servant
that remained as a result of the
fire that burned up the sheep.
There was one servant that re-
mained when the Chaldeans
came and took the cattle. The
camels were gone, the asses were
gone, the sheep were gone, the
cattle were gone — everything
was gone except three servants
that were left to tell the story.

Beloved, I say to you, this

man that was the greatest of all
the men of the East, was reduc-
ed to absolute poverty in one
day's time, but Job said, "I
know that my redeemer liveth."
Though he was reduced to ab-
solute poverty, at the same time,
he had real property in the Lord
Jesus Christ. "Everything is
gone: my camels, my sheep, my
oxen, my asses, but I know that
my redeemer still lives."

I can go back to the days of
the Depression, in the early thir-
ties, and I can see two in-
dividuals that were beggared of
a tremendous fortune in one
day's time. I can see one of those
individuals as he walked the
floor and literally tore the hair
from his head, and cursed with
every breath, and accused God
of unfairness. I can see another
man, as he turned to his wife
and said, "We did not have
anything when we got married.
We haven't anything now. The
Lord has had His way. Blessed
be the Name of the Lord!"

I tell you, beloved, Job, like
that man, realized that in his
Redeemer, he had real property,
though he was reduced to ab-
solute poverty.

(Continued on Page 3 Column 1)

BRIEF NOTE

The Grace Missionary Baptist
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Rivers, and the Holy Anointing Oil. Each symbol is discussed
in a chapter bringing out a characteristic of the Holy Spirit as
the Dove speaks of the Spirit's beauty and character and the
Rain designates the abundance and grace of the Spirit's sup-
ply. An excellent book.

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are dealt with in Pink's typical fashion. These materials are
gathered in book form for the first time.

You can't be religious without religion; neither can you be a Christian without Christ.

JOB'S

(Continued from Page 2)

III JOB HAD A LIVING KINSMAN AMID A DYING FAMILY

Job's family was a dying family. His boys and girls were evidently close to one another. I don't mean to say that they feasted every day here and there amongst themselves but they did feast among themselves occasionally. The Word of God says that they were eating and drinking wine in the eldest brother's home, and while they were there, a cyclone came and crushed that house, and all ten of those children of Job's died. All the servants except one died also. Just one survived to tell the story.

I can see Job as he prepares for the mass burial. Ten caskets, one after another, side by side — his seven boys and three girls. He lays them away, looking forward to that resurrection day out yonder ahead of us, yet he says, "I know that my redeemer liveth." He had a living Redeemer amid a dying family.

That wasn't the only part of his family that was dying. A little later, his wife looked at Job as he is suffering with boils from the crown of his head to the soles of his feet, and she said, "If that were the kind of God I had, I would curse God and die!" The word for "curse" is the word for "renounce." Literally, she said, "I would wave God goodbye. I wouldn't serve a God like that."

Job said, "Wife, you sound like a foolish woman, an impious woman, an unsaved woman." That's exactly what she sounds like. Anyone that complains about what God does talks like a fool, an impious person, an unsaved person.

Job's wife was still living, but she might as well have been dead. She might as well, from Job's standpoint, have been the eleventh of the caskets. Job looked at those children of his, who had all died, and he looked at that wife, who was in a dying spiritual condition, and old Job turned his eyes toward God and said, "I know that my redeemer liveth. I have a living Redeemer amid a dying family."

I am glad that we have a living Redeemer. I am glad that the Lord Jesus Christ is alive. It helps me to know that we preach a Christ that is alive.

The modernist doesn't have a living Christ. He has a Christ who went into a grave and is still there. He has a Christ who never came forth by way of the resurrection.

I think of others of like nature. Take the church of Rome; they don't have a living Christ. They just have a piece of biscuit that they worship. They have a dead Christ to offer to the world.

Or take the Unitarians. They don't have a living Christ. They have no Christ at all. They say there is one God — no room for Christ, and no room for the Holy Spirit. For the Unitarian, Christ is a departed one.

The Campbellites don't have a living Christ. They themselves will say that you don't even find Christ until you meet Him in the water. They don't have a living Christ to offer to anyone.

The Methodists and the Holy Rollers don't have a living Christ to offer. They tell you that you have a Christ so long as you walk with Him, but when you cease to live faithfully and perfectly, then it is that you no longer have a living Christ.

We read:

"Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an ENDLESS life" (Heb. 7:16).

Notice, Christ lives. How long? Today? Yes. Tomorrow? Yes. How long? An "endless life."

Beloved, I say to you, Job had a living kinsman amid a dying family, and I, too, have a living kinsman in the Lord Jesus Christ.

IV. JOB HAD AN ABSOLUTE CERTAINTY AMID UNCERTAIN AFFAIRS

Affairs are mighty uncertain with Job. He has lost his property. His wife has turned her back upon him. His friends have turned against him. His health is gone. What else could he lose? I would say there wasn't anything else that Job had to lose but his life. All he could do then was die. We would say then that things were mighty uncertain so far as Job was concerned, but notice this, he said, "I know that my redeemer liveth." He had an absolute certainty amid uncertain affairs. Everything else was questionable.

Beloved, isn't that true of you and me? Everything out before us is mighty questionable. What do you have that you can say is certain? You don't even know if you'll get home this evening. It is not even certain that you will be alive tomorrow. The future is surely shrouded in darkness as far as you and I are concerned. We don't know what is out before us, but thank God, we know who is out before us.

So, like Job, I can say, "I know." Job had an absolute certainty amid uncertain affairs. I thank God that that is true of you and me — that every one of us have an absolute certainty in the Lord Jesus Christ.

CONCLUSION

I have given you four thoughts: Job had a true friend amid cruel friends. He had real property amid poverty. He had a living kinsman among a dying family. He had absolute certainty amid uncertain affairs.

Isn't that precious? Isn't that wonderful! I feel so blessed of Him, to know that you and I are just like Job. We have some sure knowledge that the world knows nothing about. How I thank God for this truth, and I pray as you leave this place, that you might go out with the same sure knowledge that Job had, that tomorrow will be a blessed day for you in the service of the Lord.

May God bless you!



The Baptist Examiner

BIBLE STUDY LESSON

By WILLARD PYLE

Pastor — First Baptist Church of Naples Park, Florida

Psalms 1:1-3

Intro. to the Book: The Psalms beautifully and magnificently set forth in song and poetry the divine truths of the Word of God. They were written as a medium for God's people to worship and praise the Lord. They are therefore included with hymns and spiritual songs by the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 5:19 to be used by the Spirit-filled saints. The Psalms historically set forth the experiences and expressions of the Old Testament saints; both their joys and their sorrows; however, they are also prophetic in nature. They are both doctrinal and practical. The value of them is clearly seen in the reference in the New Testament (Luke

24:44). They most assuredly are a part of "in the volume of the Book it is written of Me" (Hebrew 10:7). May the Spirit of God open our understanding (Luke 24:45) as we reverently study a portion of these Psalms.

Intro. to Psalm 1: The Book of Psalms begins with the reference to the "blessed man" similar to the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-12). It therefore sets the stage for all that is to follow. It also brings before us a great contrast which is brought out throughout the entirety of the Word of God — the great distinction between saint and sinner.

VERSE 1

"Blessed." Blessed is a very expressive word describing the position and condition of a particular class of individuals. It is plural and could be either adjective or substantive, so it carries with it the fulness of the blessings belonging to its recipient. (Read also Eph. 1:3; Philip. 4:19; Rom. 8:31,32).

"Is the man." We would have to say that the only man this could fully and perfectly describe would be the Lord Jesus Christ (Philip. 2:5-8; Heb. 4:15; Heb. 7:26) but, thank God, it can also be applied to those who have been made blessed by the operation of the God-Head. So the believer is described as blessed (Psalm 2:12; Acts 3:26; Gal. 3:9; Rom. 4:5-8). The saint is blessed positionally in Christ and practically by serving Christ faithfully.

"That walketh not." God sets forth the blessed man both negatively and positively; therefore the "not's" of the Word of God are just as important as the "do's." So the blessed man doesn't do some things. A saved man is to break fellowship and friendship with the world (Eph. 2:2,3; I Cor. 6:11; Eph. 5:7). He is not to love the world (I John 2:15). In fact, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3). One mark of salvation on the positive side is, "My sheep hear My voice and I know them, and they follow Me" (John 10:27).

"In the counsel of the ungodly." The counsel of the ungodly started in the Garden of Eden when the serpent tempted Eve (Gen. 3:16). An unsaved person who doesn't know God's Word is unable to really give the right kind of advice, and yet, many people, even professed Christians, are following the advice of unsaved men. The counsel of the ungodly and the traditions of man have flooded our country and infiltrated our churches.

"Nor standeth in the way of sinners." The next step for one who heeds the counsel of the ungodly is to stand in the way of sinners. Well does the Bible say in Proverbs 14:12, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Standing has to do with companionship and fellowship. A blessed contrast to standing in the way of sinners is found when we find the lame man who was healed, standing with the apostles (Acts 4:14).

"Nor sitteth in the seat of

the scornful." From walking to standing, to now sitting in the seat of the scornful. This signifies a position taken and to teaching that position. Please take note, this can happen to individual professing Christians and churches.

VERSE 2

"But." A great and blessed contrast is found in the lives of many. This contrast is a result of the truth expounded in Ephesians 2:4-10.

"His delight is in the law of the Lord." So instead of relishing the counsel of the ungodly, the truly saved man is like Job, "I have esteemed the words of His mouth more than my necessary food" (Job 23:12), and like the Psalmist, "Thy Word have I hid in my heart" (Psalm 119:11).

"And in His law doth he meditate day and night." John, in Revelation 1:3, states the fact very well when he says, "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein." To be our best day and night, we need to always keep God's Word before us.

VERSE 3

"And." As a result of what has preceded.

"Like a tree planted." The saints are the plantings of God, having been chosen and properly cultivated. Every tree which God has not planted shall be rooted up (Matt. 15:13); every tree which He has planted shall be rooted down, or established. The child of God has been planted with Christ, which is symbolized in baptism (Rom. 6:5).

"By the rivers of water." Signifying the sources God supplies for the being and well-being of the saints. God supplied rivers in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 2:10). We find a river in Revelation 22:1. In this life, we are like the Psalmist (Psalm 23:2).

"That bringeth forth his fruit in his season." The fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22) is outwardly evidenced in the words and deeds of the child of God as he is rightly related to the Word of God, regardless of the different seasons he experiences in this life.

"His leaf also shall not wither." As one has well said, "he shall neither lose his beauty, nor his fruitfulness."

"And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." Prosperity in the eyes of God and in the eyes of man, many times, is at a variance. The Word of God will not return void (Isa. 55:11), neither will the servants of God.

Conclusion: The truths in these verses are manifested, both in the lives of the people of the world, as far as sin is concerned, and in the lives of God's people. How is it in your life?

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you would like to write to Bro. Pyle expressing your appreciation for the lessons or ask him questions about his exposition of the Scripture his address is Rt. 22, 17400, Missouri Rd., S.E., Ft. Myers, Fla. 33908.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
MAY 23, 1981
PAGE THREE

CHRISTIANITY

(Continued from Page 1)

devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?" (Matthew 7:21-23).

According to verse 22 there are not a few who are deceived into thinking and saying that He is their Lord, but MANY. Among them were those who had prophesied, cast out devils, and done many wonderful works.

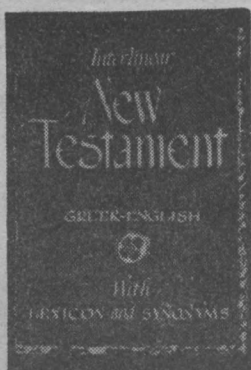
There will be those who have walked the aisle, shaken the preacher's hand, been baptized, sung in the choir, taught Sunday School, preached sermons, gone to church every service, and yet hear the awful sentence of doom in verse 23, "I never knew you; depart from me."

If the Lord Jesus Christ is really your Lord, then He is the One you REALLY OBEY.

When the Apostle Paul was converted on the Damascus road, the first cry that issued from his new-born heart was, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6).

His will was completely broken. He had no concern as to what the Pharisees back at Jerusalem would think or do when they found out he was preaching the faith he once destroyed. His only concern was "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

Is this the constant cry of your
(Continued on Page 5 Column 1)



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Does the Bible teach against the practice of birth control (prevention) among Christian couples?

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The Bible teaches that children are a gift of God. "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate" (Psa. 127:3-5).

When God created man and woman, He gave them this commandment: "...be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth..." (Gen. 1:28). The same commandment was given to Noah in Genesis 9:1 after the flood. I Samuel chapter 1 tells us how heartbroken Hannah was because she had not borne children.

From these examples of Scripture we see that birth control is not to be considered as acceptable. I would not say that artificial means of birth control could not be used occasionally, but not all the time. Surgery should not be considered at all.

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We find in Psalm 127:3-5 that, "Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate." Also, in Psalm 128:3, we are told that, "Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: they children like olive plants round about thy table." Again, in Proverbs 17:6, "Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers."

From these Scriptures we see that children are of the Lord and are to be considered a joy to those who have them, yet no where in the Bible does it teach that birth control is not to be practiced. There may be reasons why control may be advisable such as health of the mother or that of the child if conceived, the

financial status of the family, the environment in which the child would be reared, etc. Each husband and wife would have to consider their own situation and seek the leadership of the Lord.

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At the outset, it need be said, there is sharp line of demarcation between abortion, and the prevention of conception. Abortion often leads to the death of the mother, as well as, to certain death of the child. While judiciously planned parenthood can be made to serve the honour of God and the good of the family. The question is a mooted one, and when all the best Christian minds have formulated their opinions and made them public, the controversy will yet remain unresolved. Nevertheless, I venture herein a few of my thoughts on the matter.

The questioner has ask that his inquiry be answered from the Bible, and I find that the Bible does not have a lot to say on the subject. On the other hand, I am confident the questioner would not be satisfied with arguments from logic and statistics. So, let us consider some Scriptures which I believe do have some bearing on the subject of birth control.

It is the duty of mankind to multiply, or produce offsprings by procreation. To Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden God commanded, "Be fruitful, and multiply and replenish the earth" (Gen. 1:28). After the flood God gave the same command to Noah and his descendants (Gen. 9:1), but in neither instance was the number of children to be born specified. We find in the Bible large families and small families. The Bible gives no set pattern or uniform law to determine how many children a marriage should have. Jacob had twelve sons, while Joseph had only two; and some families had even a larger number of children, while some had no children at all. Some Bible families had children soon after marriage, while some waited many years for their first born. The Bible does not tell us, how many children, but its language is clear in stating that one of the reasons for marriage is to bear children, but the building of a family is to be done with all due consideration scripturally warranted. Some parents bring children into the world without a thought of the responsibility divinely enjoined to the rearing of children. Some of the strongest language in Scripture has to do with parental responsibility toward their children: "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those

of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel" (I Tim. 5:8). The husband and father is to provide proper supervision for every child he brings into the world. Of course, his wife shares in this awesome duty, but the father is the head of the family, and the responsibility is primarily his. Children are a sacred trust, and those parents who are entrusted with children, had better pay the strictest heed to their God-given responsibility, lest they deny the faith and become worse than any infidel.

Children need to be educated, and this financial burden should be considered beforehand. Children need to be socially trained, and this calls for unvarying love and strict discipline. Above all, and much more important, children need a home where God is honored, where a spiritual atmosphere is constant and where they are trained according to the Word of God. God says to all parents, regarding children, "...Bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4), anything less leans toward infidelity. While parents are commanded by God to bring children into the world, they are at the same time, and by the same God, commanded to provide for the physical and spiritual welfare of the children they bring into the world. The two commands and responsibilities go together and the command to procreate is to be considered in light of the command to provide adequately for the children, lest in a haphazard and reckless manner children are brought into the world. With God, half obedience to His commands amounts to disobedience (I Sam. 15), and to have children without first considering whether or not proper care can be provided for them is, at best, half obedience, i. e. disobedience.

God's all-wise and beneficent providence over His children has made the womb of some women incapable of bearing children, while others may have many children. God has, at the same time, made some families capable of providing for the needs of many children, while leaving another family destitute of the ability to care for the first child. But, in both cases, we can rest assured God knew what He was doing.

God said to Adam and Eve, and through them to all marriages, Procreate. And when marriage is entered into it should be with the thought of having children for the glory of God. Children are to come through marriage, every other child-begetting-bed is defiled (Heb. 13:4). A marriage that is entered into with love one for another, and a desire to glorify God in the marriage, has come a long way in meeting the Divine prerequisites for having children. When the Bible says, "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord... Happy is the man that hath his quiver full" (Ps. 127:3-5), it does not mean, we are to throw up our hands and say, "O well, let nature take

its course." Going on this premise, many women from the age of puberty to the age of forty or menopause, could have twenty or more children. Now, you may, but I do not know any family who could, adequately provide for so many children. So, I am convinced there must be some measure of family planning or parenthood, in order to meet the conditions fixed by God for rearing children. Each set of parents are the best judges of their own abilities, and know better than anyone else their own circumstances, and if they have one child, two, ten or more, I am not going to be critical of them or judge them, and say they should have more or they should not have as many as they do have. I leave that between them and their God. I believe there are some Biblical grounds upon which some measure of birth control is justified in God's sight.

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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." I use this Scripture which is on every issue of TBE to head my answer to this question. We should always be careful to speak the Word of God and not our logical inferences from some teaching of the Bible (we think), or our own opinions about matters. I have tried to approach the task of answering Forum questions with a good attitude, seeking to be true to the Bible and to be helpful to others.

The Bible does not teach against the practice of birth control among Christian married couples. I assume the question refers to married couples. I know many of the brethren think otherwise on this matter. But I have never seen any Scriptural proof on their position.

I have heard some almost equate birth control with abortion. Abortion is the murder of a life that is already in existence and is most assuredly wrong, sinful, and contrary to God's Word. But you cannot kill that which does not exist. So birth control has no relation whatsoever to abortion.

Of course, sex between folk not married to one another is always wrong, and the question of birth control does not enter into such a sinful relationship.

As to methods of birth control, the matter of whether or not such is harmful to health should be considered, as it is wrong to do that which is knowingly harmful to one's health. Wow! what all could we discuss here. But again, the Bible does

not teach against birth control by married couples.

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TEACHER
and
WRITER



I do not find anything in the Bible either for or against the practice of birth control among anybody; no, not even as a special privilege among Christian married couples, as presently advocated. I have often heard that silence gives assent; but, not so, in the Bible.

Nevertheless I do find much information toward the correct solution of this problem, which I will gladly share on a limited scale for such advocates whom I wish to help, since all true Christians have bodies that are temples of the Holy Spirit.

This being true, we have a "hope (that) maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit Who is given unto us" (Rom. 5:5).

Hence the question: "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit Who is in you, Whom ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's" (I Cor. 6:19, 20).

Speaking of this same residing Spirit, Paul said: "The Spirit (Himself) beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God" (Rom. 8:16).

So, then, with this as our position in Christ Jesus, we have a sure and pure basis of operation for the correct solution of any problem, even the make-believe problem of birth control.

Hence Paul admonishes: "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things" (Phil. 4:8). Then Paul adds: "Those things... do, and the God of peace shall be with you" (Phil. 4:9).

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CHRISTIANITY

(Continued from Page 3)

heart—to know His will for every hour of your life? Are you willing to do His will should He reveal it to you? If not, you are still the servant of sin.

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Romans 6:16).

"And why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46).

II. Is the Holy Spirit Really Your Leader?

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Romans 8:14).

This verse is crystal clear with no room for misunderstanding. If you are not led by the Holy Spirit you are not God's child.

Have you ever known the convicting power of the Spirit of God? You used to hear those who claimed to be Christians tell of their convictions. You would hear statements like this:

"The Lord convicted me it is wrong to use tobacco."

"The Lord convicted me of wearing shorts, slacks, short dresses, tight dresses."

"The Lord convicted me that T.V. is evil and wrong."

Have you ever been convicted that there are some things wrong in this world?

If you fit right into this lukewarm, half-hearted, fleshly, worldly, immodest, flippant, compromising churchianity of today and find yourself satisfied with it, you are still dead and destitute of the Spirit of God.

The child of God can't help but cry out, "Where is the exalted Christ?"

The burning desire of every child of God is to know more about his Lord and Savior. The work of the Holy Spirit is to take of the things of Christ and show them unto you.

"He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you" (John 16:14).

In the vast majority of church services and activities everything is exalted except Christ—the preacher, the program, the convention, the fellowship, the denomination, the world, the flesh, the devil.

III. Is The Glory of God Really Your Objective in Every Thing?

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"

"For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

The child of God has one supreme motivating purpose for life, and that purpose is to glorify God. There are to be no regions of our life where this command is not binding. There are to be no recesses or moments of escape from this heart-searching question, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost?"

Then the reminding statement, "...and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price..."

Then God's command is pressed upon us: "...therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

Is this your main purpose in life? Do you eat your meals to glorify God? Do you wear your clothes to glorify God? Do you spend your money to glorify God? Or do you really give God a thought?

The demands of Christianity are not met by simply going once or twice a week to a building that has a steeple, a piano, a choir, and a preacher. Every day is a holy day with a Christian, and every thought, every word, every deed is to be done for the glory of God.

Every word, every deed, every thought, every recreation, every employment that is not for the glory of God is to be abandoned immediately. Earnestly seek the leadership of the Holy Spirit as to how you can glorify God.

How is it with you, dear reader? Are you a genuine Christian, or have you been putting on a front? Has your will been broken? Is Christ really your Lord? Do you know the leadership of the Holy Spirit? Is He really your Guide? Is knowing and doing God's will the supreme objective of your life? Do you really long to glorify Him?

Do you know the Lord Jesus Christ, or do you just know OF Him?

"...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep

that which I have committed unto him against that day" (II Timothy 1:12).

If you do not know Him, you may. If you will repent of your sins and by faith call upon Him to forgive you. He WILL forgive you, will come into your heart, and you will be born again.

"...Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3).

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12).

If you would be born again, it is imperative that you repent and believe the Gospel.

"...how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

"And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures;" (I Corinthians 15:3-4).

EVOLUTION

(Continued from Page 1)

in order to bolster their position, which may have created a scare.

It is the introduction of science into the matter which called my attention to the article by our Mr. Wills. He evidently is attempting to be all things to all men and to play on both teams. He makes the foolish statement that "reasonable faith receives no injury from the theory of evolution." First of all, faith is a gift of God bestowed upon His elect children, and such faith is not "reasonable" to the natural man. If it were reasonable it would no longer be pure faith.

Mr. Wills further states that "faith can receive sustenance from astronomy". For emphasis allow me to reiterate—Faith is a gift from God and needs no telescope. For a little more of this man's muddled mind on spiritual matters, listen to this: "Darwin's theories are compatible with the idea that the Universe and all of its parts, including man, are the result of Divine Purpose rather than of randomness".

Little children, listen to God; "Who is this that darkeneth council by words without knowledge? Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? (Job 38:2 & 4).

I personally have short patience with the Christian who feels that he must or can prove Divine creation by applying science, so-called. Our sovereign Lord is a spirit and His operations, be they creation of the universe or the salvation of one of his foreordained and elect children, are all accomplished in the supernatural realm. When one of the Lord's own has been quickened by the Holy Spirit he no longer has need of a science textbook which may be filled with presumptions, conjectures and ponderables. Such a one can go directly to our infallible textbook, the Word of the Lord and read this sublime statement; "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth". If you are not sure just when this "beginning" was it needs not trouble you.

Our erudite acquaintances in the scientific field like to expound on the theory of a "Big Bang" cataclysm somewhere in the aeons of eternity past which brought our universe into being. I do not mind listening to this theory so much if they will listen to me when I say that I know who purposed, planned, pro-

IF ONLY

Seraphim and Cherubim,
His glorious throne, surround;
All mortals who ever see Him
Fall prostrate to the ground!

Thrice-Holy God is He,
Burning in His holiness;
Creatures of the clay are we,
Filled with unrighteousness.

If only sinful men could know
This Holy God, with whom they must deal;
If only they, in repentance, would go
And before Him humbly kneel!

If only they, by faith, could see
God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ;
And know that He, and only He,
Can give eternal life.

See Him there at Calvary,
Suff'ring, dying in their place,
To Him they would quickly flee,
And receive Him by God's grace.

Today God's mercy is extended,
Who-so-ever will may come;
Some day His mercy will be ended,
For those who reject His Son.

For if they die without Him,
No matter what they say,
As their Judge, they'll meet Him
On that awful judgment day!

moted and performed this "Bang". Our universe defies even man's imagination in its size and scope and if my God caused a great explosion when He brought this mind-boggling system of galaxies into being and order, then that is perfectly all right with me. When He finally says "enough" both the heavens and the earth are going to undergo radical changes and you can be assured that these things will not be accomplished quietly either. So you have your "Bang" and I will settle for Who caused it.

A closing quote by the writer Wills, "The evidence — if such it is — that the Universe had a "Big Bang" moment of creation should induce a sort of awe that can be the beginning of a religious sensibility." Now get this; "Certainly modern science does more than religion's anti-scientific "defenders" do to instill that sensibility". Once more listen to the Word of the Lord; "Keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called" (I Timothy 6:20).

TITHE

(Continued from Page 1)

doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness". So if the Old Testament consists of Scriptures, then let us consider it as God-inspired. If the Old Testament is made up of Scriptures, Paul was talking about the Old as well as the New Testament. In fact, our Lord during His earthly ministry, and His early disciples had only the Old Testament.

In Leviticus 27:30 we are told that the tithe is the Lord's. And let us notice it does not say provided you are a Jew. In Luke 11:42 our Lord told some people that they should tithe. And the Book of Luke is part of the New Testament. Can anyone find one Scripture in the New Testament that discourages tithing in any way? In I Corinthians 16:2 the word tithe is not found. But it says, "Upon the first day of

the week let every one of you lay by him in store, AS GOD HATH PROSPERED HIM, that there be no gatherings when I come". Pray tell me how these people could give as God had prospered them unless each one gave the same per cent.

Now what does our Lord say about our using His tithe for something else? That should be an unthought of thing. But, believe it or not, some of our Lord's precious saints do that very thing. But in Leviticus 27:31 God says, "And if a man will at all redeem ought of his tithes, he shall add thereto the fifth part thereof". Our Lord means business when He says, "The tithe is the Lord's". This word "redeem" comes from the Hebrew word Goal, and it simply means to redeem. If a man fails to pay his taxes, and his property is sold for the tax, he has a certain length of time in which he can redeem that property by his paying the tax plus interest. That is what the Scripture before us means. If we use the Lord's tithes for something else, He says we can redeem the tithe by paying it plus 20 per cent interest on it. And if we fail to redeem the Lord's tithe plus 20 per cent interest, He gets it anyway. And He has more ways of collecting it than you or I could ever think of. Have you ever heard a man say, I have more problems than I can handle? I would not say that it is always the case, but it just may be that our Lord is doing some collecting. He does not hold that man up and collect His tithe. He may just make him roll and tumble all night. He can collect His tithe in any way He chooses to do it. Would it not be better to gladly give God His tithes and receive all those wonderful blessings that He promises to those who bring it all to Him?

Some years ago a dear, beloved Brother told me that several years before he had really hated for pay day to come. He said his money just would not permit

(Continued on Page 6 Column 1)

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It did not take the Lord long to get the people out of Egypt, but it took forty years to get Egypt out of the people.

TITHE

(Continued from Page 5)

him to pay all of his bills when they came due. He would have to pay some of them this time and let the others wait until next pay day. He said his wife would always say we ought to start tithing. He said, all right, we cannot meet our bills anyway, so take out the tithe and we will pay what we can. Then he said, Brother Cook, it was no time until we had our bills under control, paying them when they were due. Then he added, I am afraid not to tithe, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom", Psalm 111:10. O, that more of us might learn to fear Him!

This Brother's testimony reminds me so much of that sweet and precious promise in Malachi 3:10 where we read, "Bring ye ALL THE TITHES into the storehouse, that there may be meat in my house, and PROVE ME now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of Heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it". The word "storehouse" here comes from Outsor which means a place to keep it until it is put to use. And the word "meat" comes from Tereph which means provisions. Let us take a close look at this precious promise. First, we see that it says ALL the tithes. We cannot lay claim to this promise unless we give the Lord all of the tithes. My wife and I are on retirement income. The hospital and doctor insurance premiums are taken out before the checks are sent to us. The question is, does the insurance premium need to be counted as income? Let us put it this way, if all of our income is sent to us, and we have to mail the premium in, there is no problem about our knowing how much should be counted as income. My wife and I are so eager to receive that wonderful blessing promised to us that we gladly tithe the insurance premiums along with what we actually get in our checks.

Then our Lord says, "Prove me". He was really saying try me, that is, put me to the test and see if I am telling the truth. I know by my own personal experience that He will do just exactly what He says He will do. How can any born again Christian even think of being afraid to put Him to the test? In Isaiah 46:11 He says, "I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass". In Isaiah 40:8 Isaiah says, "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the Word of our God shall stand for ever". Can you and I have as much confidence in God's Word as Isaiah had? If not, why not? In Matthew 24:35, Mark 13:31 our Lord says, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my Word shall not pass away". It will stand for ever, so let us put our faith in it. When God says a thing, it becomes His responsibility to see that it comes to pass. Still, so many of His dear saints seem to be afraid to trust Him when He says He will open the windows of Heaven and pour us out a blessing that we will not have room enough to receive it. I believe it so strongly, that I would not be afraid to say I will repay you your tithe if

you bring it all to Him just because He says to do it, if He fails to do what He has promised.

It is pathetic to hear preachers say that Malachi 3:10 applies only to the Jews. But it seems to me that this precious promise was written at a strange time if it were written only for the Jews in Old Testament times. More than three thousand years of Old Testament history had already come and gone. The great majority of those Jews had already died, and, therefore, they could not profit from that promise. Only some four hundred years of the Old Testament era remained. So, to me, it just does not sound right when someone says it was written just for the Jews in Old Testament times. Most of those Jews of that time had been dead for a long time, and, therefore, could not profit from that precious promise. I am persuaded that if this promise had been given only for the benefit of the Jews our Lord would have had Moses to include it in the Pentateuch in order that all the Jews would have had the benefit from it. He did not make a mistake when He had Malachi put it in the last Book of the Old Testament after the Old Testament period of history was practically over. So it was written for you and me. If you have not already tried it, I challenge you to do so. I assure you God will not let you down if you do it because He says so.

I rejoice greatly when I see most of our members voluntarily bringing, or sending the Lord's tithe to His house. He could do quite well without our giving Him our tithe. But we all need that wonderful blessing so much. I realize that we have a few young women in the church here whose husbands are not members of the church. Their husbands work and draw a pay check, and without the husbands consent they cannot tithe what he makes. It is the men who are working and getting the pay check that God is looking to for His tithes. And if He gets all of it, He is ready and eager to pour out that wonderful blessing. It is strictly up to us.

His telling us to bring Him His tithes should be all the reason we should need for us to bring it. But if that does not get results let us consider another good reason for doing it. Before our Lord left the wonderful joys of Heaven to come down to this old sin-crust earth He says in Haggai 2:8, "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine saith the Lord of hosts". Then in Psalm 24:1 we read, "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein." He owned the whole earth along with everything in it, and everything on it. He could not lie down on someone else's property, because it all belonged to Him. But in II Corinthians 8:9 we read, "Though He was RICH, yet for YOUR SAKES He became poor, that ye through His POVERTY might be RICH". The Greeks have two main words for poor. One is PENES, and the PENES man is one who is so poor he has to work for his living. The other one is PTOCHEUO, and the PTOCHEUO man is one who is actually a pauper. That is the word used in II Corinthians 8:9. Our dear Lord actually became a pauper in order that you and I might be spiritual millionaires. In Matthew 8:20 He says, "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where



QUESTION:—What two lawyers are mentioned by name?

ANSWER:—Gamaliel and Zenas, Acts 5:34 — "...A Pharisee, named Gamaliel, a doctor of the law..." Titus 3:13. — "Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently..."

to lay His head". Since He suffered poverty for us, how can we afford to not give Him his tithes? In Deuteronomy 8:18 we read, "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God, for it is He who giveth thee power to get wealth". If He were to withhold that power, what would be our lot? If His ways were our ways, what would happen to those who are too greedy to give Him His tithes?

Then when our dear Lord came to Gethsemane we are told that He sweat as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. O, beloved, this was the result of God's wrath that was justly ours falling upon our dear substitute, literally forcing some of His precious blood out through the pores of His skin. And then when He came to that awful mock trial, they placed that awful crown of thorns upon His precious head causing some of His blood to run down over His face. Thy beat His back to a pulp. And when they nailed Him to that awful pole we hear Him saying "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me"? He did not do all of that suffering for Himself. Rather He did it for us. And if we fail to give Him all of His tithes, He really gets cheated in the deal. Did He suffer enough for Him to deserve all of His tithes? If He did, why do we not give it to Him? If we can really and truly consider what He has done for us, and still keep His tithes, we might as well take it and buy popcorn and candy. He can get along just fine without it. But what about us? Do we need that wonderful blessing? If we do need it, then meet His requirement for it.

ERRORS

(Continued from Page 1)

origin of the Holy Rollers? Simply this: Their so-called churches came into existence—were brought into existence by human founders eighteen hundred or more years after Jesus Christ set up His church on earth. Hence, they are false churches—rivals to the one that He started—and with no authority from Heaven for their existence.

Jesus said in Matthew 16:18: "I (not some man) will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Holy Roller "churches" started by men, eighteen centuries and more after Christ, cannot possibly be identified with the church which Jesus started during the days of His personal ministry and which He promised to perpetuate in the

world. (Same thing holds good with reference to any so-called church started by a human founder this side of Christ).

But not only is Holy Rollerism wrong as to origin, it is likewise wrong as to its teaching. This shall I set forth as briefly as possible.

The vagaries of Holy Rollerism are so numerous and so varied that it would be very difficult to catalogue all of them. They are all split up and divided among themselves as to belief. For instance, the writer of these lines once lived in a town where there were two separate bands of Holy Rollers. They had divided over the question of the millennium; one group declaring that we were at that time living in the Millennial era! But while differing widely, there are certain teachings that characterize practically all of them. I shall call attention to some of these, and shall seek to show the fallacy or unscripturalness of them. Let us keep in mind that if space permitted, the number of points on which Holy Rollers are in error could be extended almost indefinitely. However, I take time and space to enumerate only a few of these. I begin by saying that Holy Rollers are:

WRONG ON SALVATION

1. They make salvation a process, instead of an instantaneous act of faith on man's part, associated with instantaneous, supernatural, regeneration brought about by divine power. Their way is to go to the "altar" and "pray through." The process they go through at the "altar" is really a form of penance. The idea seems to be that when they whoop and howl and weep and pray enough that God finally is appeased and they "come through." Their practice in the matter of salvation is a departure from the simplicity of the way of salvation as given by Paul when he said in Acts 16:31: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

2. They teach apostasy, which is the doctrine of salvation partly by works. For certainly there is no essential difference between working to BE saved and in working to KEEP saved. In either case, it is dependence upon human effort. This doctrine is also the doctrine of the devil. The first preacher of apostasy was the devil. In what is probably the oldest book in the Bible, the Book of Job, the devil preached that lie. In Job 1:11 and 2:4-5 Satan told God that he could make Job apostatize. God told him to try it. He tried and failed.

3. They teach that salvation is not complete without a second work of grace, or "second blessing" as they term it. In this second blessing they claim that the Adam nature is completely eradicated, and that they are completely sanctified. But the Bible teaches that "by grace are ye saved through faith" (Ephes. 2:8). The salvation here spoken of is not presented in the Bible as an incomplete salvation, but saved means saved, and when one is saved he is just as saved as he will ever be in this life. This baptism of the Holy Spirit that they prate about is not taught in the New Testament as something to be received by believers in this age. Such a baptism occurred on Pentecost, and was repeated later when the gospel was first carried to the Gentiles, but nowhere in the epistles is there indication that people of the many churches ever experienced it.

Holding as they do wrong views as to salvation, most Holy Rollers have never really looked to Jesus Christ for salvation. They have never come as lost, helpless sinners to Him depending wholly upon Him and the merits of His shed blood for salvation, hence they are lost. Lost sinners most of them are, while claiming to be sinless. They justify themselves, while at the same time they have never been "justified by faith" (Rom. 5:1). "Going about to establish their own righteousness they have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God" (Rom. 10:3).

WRONG ON SIN

People who are wrong on the sin question are quite likely to be wrong on just about everything else. Holy Rollers claim to reach the place where they are "wholly sanctified," and live above and without sin. The chief trouble with their claim is that it simply is not so. They warp, twist, distort, and pervert the word "sanctify" as used in the Bible. It is willful ignorance that seeks to inject into the world "sanctify" the idea of sinless perfection, for the word as used in the Bible means nothing of the sort. "Sanctify" means to "set apart." Sanctification pertains unto every true believer in Christ. Sanctification means to be set apart to the service and glory of Christ, and the gradual development of the new life principle planted in the soul in regeneration. Try reading the Holy Roller meaning of sinless perfection into the different passages in which the word sanctify occurs and see what an absurd mess you have. Try it on I Peter 3:15 and John 17:19.

To be perfect as the Holy Rollers claim to be, one would have to be as good as Jesus Christ was, one would have to be as good and perfect as God Almighty on His throne. There is no escape. If any Holy Roller falls short of absolute perfection or absolute sinlessness, he is both imperfect and a sinner. If any measure up to the point of absolute perfection then they are equal with God in holiness. Is any Holy Roller as good as God? What impiety for anyone to claim such a thing!

I have talked with Holy Rollers and have asked them, "Do you claim that you always do everything the Lord wants you to do, just as He wants it done? Do you claim that you never have an evil thought; never make a mis-step of any kind?" Before such questions they usually begin to stammer and hesitate and finally to say, "Oh I sometimes make a mistake, but that isn't sin." The trouble with such Holy Rollers is they don't know what sin is in God's sight. They have a dulled, warped twisted sense of sin. God's Word says, "ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS IS SIN" (I Jn. 5:17). All so-called mistakes constitute unrighteousness and consequently SIN! My experience has been that the moment one denies the doctrine of sinlessness the average Holy Roller shows his sinful nature and practice right there on the spot by immediately getting fighting mad!

When Holy Rollers profess to be without sin, they according to the Bible, do at least six things:

1. THEY DECEIVE THEMSELVES. "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves" (I John 1:8).
2. THEY LIE. "If we say we have no sin... the truth is not

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Prayer will make a man cease from sin - or sin will make a man cease from prayer.

"WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD TODAY"

WASHINGTON (EP)—In the aftermath of the March 30 assassination attempt on President Reagan by a lone gunman armed with a .22-caliber "Saturday night special," a Baptist constitutional expert says that contrary to arguments by the gun lobby, the U.S. Constitution does not forbid Congress from controlling the right to keep and bear arms. John W. Baker, general counsel to the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs here, makes his case in a legal analysis of the Second Amendment in the May, 1981 issue of Report from the

Capital, the monthly publication of the Washington-based agency.

According to the veteran attorney and political scientist, the Second Amendment "as originally drafted emphasized the relationship of the militia to the bearing of arms." The Second Amendment reads: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

The lavishly financed gun lobby, spearheaded by the National Rifle Association, has persistently contended that the amendment gives every citizen the constitutional right to own and use guns without any government interference.

Baker's analysis expresses the opposite view. "The Second Amendment guarantees a collective rather than an individual right," he says. His argument is based on the admittedly small volume of federal case law relating to the volatile subject of the power of Congress and state legislatures to control, even ban, firearms. Baker notes that in its only decision dealing with that precise subject, the Supreme Court in 1939 "affirmed that the right to keep and bear arms is dependent on involvement with the militia." The ruling upheld a section of the National Firearms Act requiring the registration of sawed-off shotguns. Baker points out that since the 1939 ruling Congress has adopted numerous laws placing stricter limitations on the receipt, possession and transportation of firearms and has repeatedly entertained proposals for national registration and outright banning of their ownership.

FORT WORTH, Texas (EP)—Jimmy Allen, concerned that President Reagan's budget trimming would hamper alcohol research, education and treatment, has urged a House budget committee to "resist a stampede toward indiscriminate lumping of human assistance programs." Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, testified at a hearing in Fort Worth that research into the causes and treatment of alcoholism needs to be done nationally and shared with states. A clearing house of information on drug abuse, he said, should not be duplicated 50 times.

Citing the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Allen said in the past decade NIAAA has opened initiatives on a national level that could be devastated by a strategy of block grants and cuts. Allen said NIAAA proposals to use radio and television to inform the general public of the many health consequences of drinking would be wiped out by current proposed block grants to states. Allen urged that budget cuts be made selectively and wisely. "Recovery of initiative destroyed by indiscriminate slashing of budget in simplified ways of block grants could be difficult and costly to the nation in the long run," he said.

NEW YORK, (EP)—The

Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the Southern Baptist Convention have established a joint committee to develop a five-point communications program involving pastor-rabbi institutes, radio and TV programs and academic seminars to improve Baptist-Jewish relations. Mr. Bailey E. Smith, SBC president, and Rabbi Ronald B. Sobel, chairman of ADL's national Program Committee, will co-chair the joint committee of Jewish and Baptist leaders.

According to Rabbi Sobel, senior rabbi to Temple Emanuel in New York, establishment of the committee implements a ADL-SBC agreement to develop "a working relationship in which Baptists and Jews can improve methods of communication to further mutual respect and understanding." The agreement stemmed from discussions last December following a controversial and widely publicized theological statement about Jews by Mr. Smith.

Rabbi Sobel said that in the formative stage are pastor-rabbi institutes which will focus on such topics as faith, anti-Semitism, Israel, Zionism, church-state issues and religious freedom. He went on to say that "a promising working relationship" has already been established as the result of several meetings that have been held since December by representatives of both groups. "This relationship can only deepen as we continue to work together," Rabbi Sobel added.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (EP)—A 43-year-old woman secretary for the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission filed a \$3 million lawsuit April 9 in federal court in Memphis against the commission, three of its executives, and the Southern Baptist Convention, charging sexual harassment and defamation of reputation. Barbara (Mrs. Robert) Minor, a nine-year employee of the Brotherhood Commission, also named as defendants James H. Smith, commission executive director; Norman Godfrey, associate executive director, and David Haney, director of the Baptist men's division.

As an employee of the Baptist men's division, Minor contended Haney declined to promote her to division level secretary last summer after she refused to respond to what she described as a request for sexual favors on behalf of a friend. The suit contends Haney, Godfrey and Smith made public statements questioning Minor's mental stability and morality, causing her grave embarrassment and humiliation. Speaking for the commission, Smith denied the charges, explaining that he, his staff and trustees had tried for six months to corroborate the sexual harassment claim but found no basis.

KANSAS CITY (EP)—The American Festival of Evangelism, to be held in this Missouri city from July 27 to 30, will offer local church leaders an unprecedented number of seminars and workshops from which to choose. The expected 20,000 participants will be faced with an array of 200 choices. In addition to the wide variety of seminars and workshops, the Festival will feature addresses by major Christian leaders, including Billy Graham, Luis Palan, Harold Carter, Jill Briscoe, Tom Zimmerman, and Jerry Kirk. The aim of the event, according to Benjamin, is

to focus attention on the estimated 156 million unchurched Americans and to encourage and suggest strategy to the country's evangelical congregations in reaching that major segment.

SAN FRANCISCO (EP)—The United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, issued a written decision this week on a free speech issue concerning Jews for Jesus. The Court decided that airport authorities may not require pre-identification or pre-registering of persons wishing to exercise free speech activities, such as the distribution of religious literature.

Moishe Rosen, executive director of Jews for Jesus, brought this appeal after the District Court of Oregon upheld an ordinance by Portland International Airport for distributing gospel literature without first registering. He maintained that its First and Fourteenth Amendment rights were violated by the Portland ordinance. Circuit Judge Reinhardt reversed the lower court decision.

Moishe Rosen, commenting on the decision said: "We went to court not only for our own right to preach the gospel, but in order that free speech might be protected for all peoples who desire to make a statement. The requirements set forth by Portland International Airport, as well as many other airports across the country, are designed to intimidate evangelical Christians and others who desire to make their views known... It's our hope that other Christians will be encouraged to share their faith through gospel literature distribution, knowing that they are protected by the United States Constitution."

AKRON, PA. (EP)—European Mennonites, a Swiss mission which has worked closely with Italian and U.S. Mennonites in planning a reconstruction effort in the Italian village of Volturara, Avellino region. A devastating earthquake struck a mountainous, traditionally poor area of southern Italy last November 23, killing some 3,000 people and leaving more than 200,000 homeless. Volturara is a village of 6,000 people in which 400 families are now living in emergency shelters of tents, metal sheds and house trailers. MCC Europe Secretary Walter Sawatsky reports that some prefabricated shelters will be erected by autumn, "but the more major need is to enable people to repair or rebuild permanent structures."

SAN BERNARDINO, CALIF. (EP)—Some of the nation's leading Christian youth speakers and contemporary entertainers are scheduled for this year's National High School Conference June 21-28 in the Rocky Mountains sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ International. Now in its third year, the Rocky Mountain Getaway will be held near Estes Park, Colo., at the YMCA of the Rockies.

Pat Hurley, one of the nation's best known youth speakers, is among those who will help to challenge students to "Living for the Lord While There is Still Time," as part of the conference's overall theme, "First Century Countdown." Col. Heath "Bo" Bottomly, who became a Christian near the close of a near-legendary Air Force career, will describe his own life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ as he gives a

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TAMPA, FLA. (EP)—Receipts from the 1980 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering reached a record \$41,467,719 with more than six weeks remaining before books are closed on Southern Baptists' annual special offering for foreign missions. The figure represents 92.2 percent of the \$45 million goal.

Because of increasing financial pressures, the board this year budgeted the entire \$45 million Lottie Moon goal with \$38 million of it designated for overseas operating needs. The other \$7 million was budgeted for overseas capital needs, such as churches, missionary homes and cars, and other special projects.

PASADENA, CALIF. (EP)—The first International Conference ever held for Christian teachers in public schools will convene in Durham, England, August 20-25, 1981, on the Durham University campus. Christian teachers of the United States are uniting with their English peers in staging this event.

The sponsoring agent in America is the National Educators Fellowship which is the only national professional organization for Christian educators in America's public schools. The host organization in England is The Association of Christian Teachers which is the British equivalent. Top speakers at the Washington conference will be Phillip Keller and Don Petry. Phillip Keller is a popular lecturer, naturalist, minister and author of 18 books including the best-seller, "A Shepherd Looks At Psalm 23." Don Petry is the Vice President, Administration, at CBN University, Virginia Beach, VA.

ERRORS

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in us" (I John 1:8). 3. THEY MAKE GOD OUT A LIAR. "If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us" (I John 1:10). 4. THEY PROVE THEMSELVES TO BE FILTHY WITH SIN. "There is a generation that is pure in their own eyes and yet is not washed from their own filthiness" (Prov. 30:12). 5. THEY PROVE THEIR OWN BLINDNESS. "Who is blind as he that is perfect" (Isa. 42:19). 6. THEY DECLARE THEMSELVES TO BE SPIRITUAL BASTARDS. "If ye be without chastisement, then are ye bastards, and not sons" (Heb. 12:8). If God chastises Holy Rollers that proves that they sin, for He does not chastise any without cause. If He doesn't chastise them, it is no proof that they are sinless; it is proof that they are spiritual bastards; that they call God Father when they are not His sons. No escape from this.

These are terribly plain things to say, but they are the teaching of God's Word. Before any jury that reverences the Word of God, Holy Rollers must stand condemned as having a false religion.

WRONG ON TONGUES

Holy Rollers claim the gift of tongues, and as pretended proof they jabber and chatter worse than a troop of monkeys. In many of their assemblies the exercise of "tongues" is the most prominent feature. I offer a few remarks on this delusion: There is no similarity between meaningless gibberish of a Holy Roller meeting, and the tongues of Pentecost. At Pentecost the tongues were real languages; languages that were spoken by those present at Jerusalem! Acts 2:8-11 makes this clear. The gift of tongues was given to meet a real need of the gift of tongues in a land where all speak the same language! Holy Rollers don't in their pretended gift of tongues, speak a real language. Never was a Holy Roller known to have supernaturally imparted the knowledge of a real language such as to enable him to converse with people of that language. Proof? I served for a time as missionary to Brazil. There are Holy Roller missionaries in Brazil, but they have to learn to speak Portuguese in the same laborious manner as the rest of the mis-

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Never heard anything about the resolution of the apostles, but I have read a good deal about the acts of the apostles.

TUNE IN TO THE CALL TO CALVARY

Station	Time	Dial	Watts
WEMM, Huntgn., W. Va.	Sun.—7:30-8:00 a.m.	107.9	50000 FM
WCAK, Catlsbrg., Ky.	Sun.—8:30-9:00 a.m.	92.7	3000 FM

ERRORS

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sionaries. If they could secure the gift of tongues such as the Bible refers to, would they spend months studying a language?

The same arguments given above are applicable to the teachings concerning tongues in I Corinthians. It might be well to point out, however, that Holy Rollers don't pretend to conform to the restrictions that Paul lays down in I Corinthians 14:27-28.

Besides all this Paul by the Spirit foretells that the gift of tongues shall cease. (I Cor. 13:8). They HAVE ceased, and Holy Roller "tongues" are but a cheap counterfeit!

WRONG ON HEALING

In the manner of divine healing they substitute credulity for faith. They practically demand God to heal apart from any means. They refuse medicine and doctors and often neglect to properly minister to the sick. In a church of which I was once pastor was a doctor who told me that he had lost many cases, especially children, because the Holy Rollers refused to send for him until the disease had progressed beyond all power to cure. While I was pastor of the same church I learned of one instance in which they sought to raise the dead. They kept the body of a child until putrefaction began and then authorities

had to force the burial of it. WRONG AS TO DISORDER

Holy Roller assemblies are confusion worse confounded. The racket is terrible. This in itself proves that God is not the author of their way of doing. The Bible says as much. "For God is not the author of confusion" (I Cor. 14:33). Not only are they disorderly but often they are vulgar in their manner. I have seen women supposedly "under the power" as they call it, lying around on the platform disheveled, their hair streaming down on the floor and the preacher ranting up and down tramping it beneath his feet. Add to this scene the picture of men and women down on the floor rolling around in the dirt and you will have a picture of the extremes to which they go, and a justification of my charge that they are sometimes vulgar in the things they do.

THE FRUIT AND DESTINY OF HOLY ROLLERISM

An evil tree cannot bear good fruit, hence the fruit of Holy Rollerism is only and continually evil. Note some of the things that it produces:

1. **DELUDED SOULS.** Some in their ignorance of true worship, are deluded into thinking that this caricature of religion with its fleshly emotionalism, is genuine Christianity. Such reach the place where it is almost impossible to reach them with the truth. All religious services conducted along the same scriptural lines are too tame in contrast with the

emotional hullabaloo that they have grown accustomed to.

2. **MENTAL AND PHYSICAL INJURY.** Indulgence in an orgy of emotionalism night after night is highly injurious to the individual both mentally and physically. People get so they crave the excitement just as a dope fiend craves his drug. I can usually tell a Holy Roller if he is one who indulges frequently in emotional excesses as soon as I see him. There is a peculiar look that they come to have. Nor am I exaggerating in this; I have spotted them time and again. Physicians have told me of attending persons who had gotten into a condition analogous to Saint Vitus dance as a result of indulgence in their emotional orgies.

3. **IGNORANCE.** Holy Rollerism is a product of ignorance—particularly of the Bible—and at the same time it is productive of ignorance. They disparage education, and express their contempt for an educated ministry. Education and enlightenment—above all, intelligent study of the Bible is fatal to Holy Rollerism. It thrives in the soil of ignorance, and its fruit partakes of the characteristics of the soil from which it springs.

4. **SHIFTLESSNESS.** As a rule Holy Rollerism and shiftlessness go together. They are usually extremely poor citizens. "By their fruits ye shall know them" applies to religions as well as to individuals. The true religion of the Lord Jesus Christ lifts up, exalts, and fills with ambition to be something worth while. A missionary to Argentina told me of working among the lower classes of that land, and he testified that in twenty years' experience he had never seen a case in which genuine conversion did not so change the life that the person converted did not soon change his environment. Holy Rollerism does not manifest this power. They generally disparage the building of nice places of worship. They are not ambitious for their own homes, and the kind of lives they live do not speak well for their religion.

ITS DESTINY

I can but express what I believe concerning the destiny of those who follow this false religion in the words of Paul as expressed in Philippians 3:18-19: "I tell you... that they are enemies of the cross of Christ: WHOSE END IS DESTRUCTION."

Those who follow a false faith will end where all false things end—even in the selfsame place "where the beast and the false prophet are." In the Old Testament those who departed for false religions were charged by the true faith and went off after Jehovah with having gone into spiritual adultery. Terrible were the punishments that befell such. Can we believe that God looks any more leniently upon those who follow in the way of false religious today? Holy Rollerism has been shown on the evidence of the Word of God to be a false religion. Let all beware of it. It cannot be a New Testament religion, for it was not heard of for centuries after the birth of Christianity. It is anti-Biblical in its influence.

To use words of Scripture II Timothy 3:5, "FROM SUCH TURN AWAY!"

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