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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 STORY OF REPENTANCE BOTH TRUE AND FALSE

by Roy Mason
(1894-1978)

We have been asked to deal with this topic, and it should prove helpful to all, for there is much confusion and misunderstanding on this subject.

WHAT REPENTANCE IS NOT

It is not being sorry that one has been caught. In the Scriptures we read, "the sorrow of the world, worketh death." This is the sorrow people have when they are caught in their sin and crime. Probably every criminal in every penitentiary has this kind of repentance. But if turned out, they would go and do something as bad or worse.

Bawling and crying and taking on is not repentance. A lot of the altar and mourners' bench taking on is no deeper seated than the tear glands and vocal cords. We have seen this sort of thing during revivals and in a few weeks the mourners were back into their old habits. Sorrow is not repentance anyhow. The Bible says that "godly sorrow worketh repentance" (See 2 Cor. 7:8-11). Sorrow however is an element in repentance and must precede real repentance. No one repents of a thing until they are sorry it happened.

MEANING OF THE WORD REPENT

Greek word means, "to change one's mind." The

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ROY MASON

GOD'S GRACE VS. EFFECTUAL CALL

by Roy W. Snell
Charleston, W. Va.

It was nearing the close of an evangelistic service and the minister had brought an impassioned message, warning the people of the wages of sin, telling them about the wrath of God upon unrighteousness and then promising a way of escape. One gentleman, two rows from the back, had gazed intently at the preacher and seemed to be taking in every word. As the minister then began to invite the sinners to come forward and receive the Lord, this gentleman continues to listen but he made no move. A deacon and a lay

(Continued on Page 4 Column 5)

THE ORIGIN OF MORMONISM

by C. H. Shafer

In order that we may obtain an idea of the atmosphere in which Mormonism originated, let us look for a time at the life of the propagators. Let us note briefly the habits of the Smith family.

Joseph Smith, Sr., and Lucy Mack were married in Tunbridge, Vermont, January 24, 1796. From here they moved to Randolph, then back to Tunbridge, next to Royalton, then to Sharon, where Joseph, Jr. was born. Then back to Tunbridge, and from here to Royalton again. Lebanon, New Hampshire came next and then back to Norwich, Vermont. From here they moved to

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WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT SOCIAL DRINKING

GOD FORBIDS IT! Ephesians 5:18. "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit."

CHRIST CAUTIONS AGAINST IT! Luke 21:34 "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares."

IT IS A WORK OF THE FLESH! Galatians 5:21. "Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in times past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

IT IS DEBASING! Isaiah 28:7. "But they also have er-

red through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment."

IT TAKES AWAY THE HEART! Hosea 4:11. "Whoredom and wine and the new wine take away the heart."

IT INSURES POVERTY! Proverbs 21:17; 23:21. "He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich. For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and

(Continued on Page 5 Column 5)

SHOULD WE JOIN IN UNION MEETINGS

by J. A. Hulse

"A union community revival started Thursday night and will continue indefinitely at... Methodist church. Pastors of the various churches Rev..., Pentecostal church; Rev..., Baptist; Rev..., Methodist, and Rev..., Nazarene, will officiate."

The above is a clipping from the "news" of a certain small town anywhere in the U.S.A.

When we criticize Baptists (or should we say so-called Baptists) for going into such union meetings, some people will say "narrow," to which we confess—but we are just as wide as the Book.

The Lord Jesus Christ, when He was here in person established one church, and the inspired Apostle Paul bears that out in the letter to the Ephesians (chapter 4:4-5), "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of

your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism..." Now, we believe that that church was a Baptist church, not called by that name at that time, for there were no other churches, or denominations, therefore no denominational names. Yet, Jesus, when referring to John, in Matthew 11:11, called him "The Baptist."

Now the Methodist church had its very earliest beginning in 1737, too late to be the church which Jesus set up while here on the earth. The Nazarene began later, 1830 to 1840—much too late to be the church which Jesus built. And the Pentecostal? Well which one of them? There are some 29 so-called Pentecostal churches believing different doctrines.

(Continued on Page 6 Column 1)

DRUNKENNESS NOT FUNNY

Drunkenness is a tragedy, not a joke. Topsy men are not funny, and what shall we say of an intoxicated woman?

Jerome K. Jerome tells this story: "A respectable looking woman had been expelled from a public house; she was very dignified, and very drunk. The policeman requested her to move on. She gave a lurch and nearly fell. To save her, the officer put his arm around her waist. She in turn clasped him around the neck and together they spun around two or three times while, at that very moment, the piano player struck up a waltz. "Choose your partners, gentlemen, for the next dance," shouted a wag and the crowd roared with laughter.

Jerome says, "I was laughing myself for the situation was undeniably comical, and then I got sight of a child's face beneath the gas lamp. Her little white face was so full of terror that I tried to comfort her. "It is only a drunken woman," I said. "He is not going to hurt her. It is just a joke." "Please, sir," was the child's answer, "I cannot laugh. It is my mother."

—Faith and Life
(USPS 042-340)

I KINDA WONDER HOW—?

1. That God got along in New Testament Days without the high-powered publicity machines of today?

2. That Peter ever got out of jail without the help of "THE MINISTERIAL ASSASSINATION?"

3. That New Testament Churches ever made out at all without the present day "COFLOPERATIVE PROGRAM?"

4. That we ever got into this mess where "THE PROGRAM" seems to be far more important than the Souls of Men?

5. That God ever got the heart of Lydia open without the aid of some modern day women's organization?

6. That the woman of Samaria ever brought all those souls to Jesus without a modern-day B.T.U. Soul Winning Course?

7. That Saul (who became Paul) ever got his eyes opened without the aid of an Associational Committee on Ordination?

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The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by John R. Gilpin

"TOMORROW"

"Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth" (Prov. 27:1).

It is a common habit of life for people to put off until tomorrow. I am satisfied that there isn't one of you but what has many things stacked up to do tomorrow. It is a common attribute of mankind to postpone until tomorrow the things that ought to have been done today. I found a little poem sometime ago that I think illustrates this.

He was going to be all that a mortal should be

Tomorrow.

No one would be better than he

Tomorrow.

Each morning he stacked up the letters he'd write

Tomorrow.

It was too bad indeed he was too

busy to see Bill, but he promised to do it Tomorrow.

The greatest of workers this man would have been Tomorrow.

The world would have known him had he ever seen Tomorrow.

But the fact is that he died and faded from view, And all that was left when living was through

Was a mountain of things he intended

to do

Tomorrow.

This is just like a lot of folk. I speak of the ordinary things of life—forgetting now spiritual things and thinking only in terms of material things. It is surely true that the majority of folk have a tremendous habit of putting off until tomorrow.

Surely that which is true in the material world is just as true of folk in the spiritual realm, for as men put off concerning material things until tomorrow, they likewise postpone spiritual verities and spiritual realities until tomorrow.

It has often been said that the road to Hell is paved with good intentions, and I am sure that this is true of some of you. I have known some of your twenty years and you put down a new brick in the road to Hell every time you come to the house of God, saying "tomorrow." Maybe you have said, "I am going to settle the matter with my Lord the next time I come to church," or "I'll surely be saved at the next opportunity I have to receive Jesus Christ as my Saviour." Every time you have procrastinated you have added

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THE BAPTIST PEOPLE

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Acting Editor

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them, and to see the land defiled by those frogs—with the entire countryside filled with the plague of frogs which had come out of the Nile River. Finally, Pharaoh himself stood it as long as he could. He called to Moses and said, "Entreat the Lord, that these frogs might be taken from me, that I might be delivered from this plague." When he had thus spoken, Moses said, "When shall I entreat for thee? You say that if we will pray for God to remove these frogs from the land that you will let the people of God leave this land of Egypt and come out to the land of Canaan. But when will you do it?" Pharaoh answered, "Tomorrow."

King Pharaoh was mortgag-



JOHN R. GILPIN

ing the future. Instead of acting today, Pharaoh spoke today for tomorrow, and thereby mortgaged the future; yet, beloved, tomorrow never came in the life of Pharaoh. Though Moses prayed for him and the plague of frogs was removed, the next day Pharaoh hardened his heart. Instead of allowing the children of Israel to leave the land of Egypt on the following day, he hardened his heart and increased their burdens and made their troubles all the greater in the land of Egypt. He thereby mortgaged his own future by promising to do tomorrow what he failed and refused to do, and tomorrow never came.

As you well know, that plague of frogs was followed by another and another until finally ten of these plagues, each increasing in severity and duration, fell upon the entire land of Egypt. Ultimately, when the whole land was devastated and the entirety of the land was completely spoiled from one end of it to the other, then it was that Pharaoh urged the people of Israel to go out from the land of Egypt toward Canaan. Even then, beloved, as they journeyed toward Canaan he hardened his heart and followed after them so that they were bottled up in a little neck of land down by the Red Sea. All night long those children of Israel marched across the Red Sea safely as the waves of the Red Sea stood up to form a wall on either side through which they passed to the other side of the water. When the Egyptians attempted to do likewise, their wagon wheels and their chariot wheels became stuck in the ground and the Lord removed the wheels from their chariots. They realized that God was fighting against them. When they made an attempt to get back on dry ground, then God allowed those waves to come back together and Pharaoh and his four hundred armed chariots, his horsemen, and all of his army that had followed down into the Red Sea, were drowned during the night's time.

When morning came Moses and his sister, Miriam, and his brother, Aaron, began to praise the Lord and to sing the Dox-

ology on the bank of the Red Sea, because Pharaoh was overthrown. I can see Miriam as she led the women in singing and dancing and praising the Lord for His goodness. I can see Moses as he took his shepherd's staff and used it as a baton to beat out the time as they sang a song of praise to the Lord for His redemption in their behalf. As they were singing, there came washing upon the shores of the Red Sea body after body of those dead Egyptians. There came chariot after chariot and horse after horse that were washed upon the sands. Then came Pharaoh's body itself. Back there sometime before, he had said "tomorrow," but tomorrow never came in the life of Pharaoh. If you were to stand and see the body of Pharaoh as it washes up on the sands, as you look at it you can say, Here lies the body of a man who mortgaged his future when he said "tomorrow."

Beloved, ere you look too long at Pharaoh, look at that man whose visage you will see in the mirror tomorrow morning and see if perchance he isn't doing the same thing that Pharaoh did. Maybe you are saying, "I don't expect to go to Hell. I expect to get right with God some of these days." Every time you speak thus, you are doing as Pharaoh did—you are saying "Tomorrow"—you are mortgaging the future. God doesn't say "tomorrow"; God's day is today. It will never pay you to plan to get right with God tomorrow. This is God's day; get right with God today.

II

Let's notice the second of these individuals who said "tomorrow" — ABSALOM'S TOMORROW. David had a spoiled son by the name of Absalom. If you will read very carefully in the book of II Samuel, you will find that Absalom was nothing more or less than the result of an indulgent father who spoiled his own child to the damnation of the child. Absalom wanted to be king. In all probability he might have been king when his father died. In fact, I think he stood next in line to have been king over Israel at David's death, yet Absalom didn't want to wait. He had in mind, like others had, that when he wanted something he wanted it right then and he didn't want to be thwarted. David never had said to him, "Why have you done thus?" The Word of God tells us that David never crossed his spoiled son, Absalom, one time in his life. Now Absalom, who has never been thwarted, decided to be king. Early every morning he would rise up and go out in the market place while his father and all his father's private counselors were still asleep. There he would see the people as they came to see the king and the king's counselors, and would say to them, "Your case is right, but there is no man deputed of the king to hear you. If I were only king, I would do something for you." For many months Absalom kept up this method of stealing the hearts of the people of Israel until one day they blew the trumpet and declared Absalom as king and David was driven from the throne.

Now notice, beloved, how Absalom said the fatal word "tomorrow." Ahithophel, who had been David's counselor and had turned traitor and was now the counselor of Absalom, said, "If you will take my advice, you will strike while the iron is hot. Pursue after David this night

and come upon him before he has had the opportunity to recuperate." However, David had a friend who pretended to be a friend to Absalom but retained his loyalty to David. His advice to Absalom was diverse to that which was offered by Ahithophel. He said to Absalom, "Your father is a mighty man. He is just waiting for you to attack tonight and if you do so, he will strike back furiously. If I were you I'd wait a few days and get together a tremendous army and march against him and you will be able to succeed thereby in his destruction." In accordance to the plan of God, Absalom listened to the counselor who was David's friend and rejected the counsel of Ahithophel, with the result that David had that night and a few days to recuperate from the terrible loss of his kingdom and to get together an army of tremendous proportions. When finally David met Absalom in battle on Mount Gilboa, David won not only the battle but regained his crown and kingdom of Israel. Why? All because Absalom said "tomorrow" instead of saying "tonight."

When Absalom saw that the battle tide had turned against him, he hurriedly leaped on a beast of burden, a donkey, to ride away. As he rides hurriedly, hoping to escape, his great bushy locks of flowing hair caught in the branches of a tree. The donkey ran out from beneath him and he was left hanging by the locks of his hair in the tree top, a target for one of David's men to strike a dart through his heart. I see Absalom as he hangs by that tree with a dart pierced through his heart, with his blood flowing out from his body, dying by hanging and by stricture of the heart, I see him thus to say, "His end was the result of a man who said 'tomorrow.'"

Sinner friend, I wonder if you know the plan of salvation. You know that Jesus Christ died for your sins. You have heard the message again and again that Jesus died for your sins and was raised again for your justification. You know that if you were to believe upon Him and receive the Son of God into your heart, you know that you would be saved—a child of God. You have heard God's Word spoken many, many times. You have heard prayers offered all around you. You have seen your friends who have been most definitely concerned about you. You have seen your own loved ones as they have pleaded to God in your behalf for your salvation. Time and time and time again you have said, "Some other time—tomorrow." Would to God that you would be warned by Absalom who fatally said "tomorrow," but tomorrow never came. That tomorrow that you are planning to get right with God, that tomorrow when you are certain that you are going to be saved—that tomorrow may never come in your own life.

III

Let's notice a third man who said "tomorrow"—FELIX'S TOMORROW. In the New Testament we have the story of a man named Felix. He was the governor at the time when the Apostle Paul was arrested for preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. When Paul had been spared of the Lord in that God had preserved him miraculously from destruction at the hands of his enemies, he was kept in the custody of this man Felix for at least two long years. Felix had

Paul come in to preach to him as a matter of diversion. Let's listen to at least a part of one of those sermons to see how it affected Felix.

"And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee" (Acts 24:24, 25).

The word "Felix" literally means "happy," but he wasn't happy. He was living in sin and no man is happy who is living in sin. It doesn't matter what the sin may be, you can't be happy inside and have sin within your heart and life. Felix wasn't happy. Just in order to get his mind away from his difficulties and troubles, Felix would have Paul brought into the courtroom, thinking that he would hear something new and would get his mind off his own morose condition. However, Paul was not just an ordinary preacher. He didn't go to church to amuse the congregation. If Paul were your pastor today, he wouldn't amuse you one particle when you came to the house of God. I feel sorry for the church that is cursed with a pastor who is a clown. I feel sorry for any congregation who has a pastor who thinks that it is his duty to play second fiddle to the theatre and try to amuse the congregation and get them to laugh. Beloved, I have but one business, and that business is not with your emotions. I don't care whether you laugh or cry. My business is with your soul - that God might save your soul.

When Paul was brought into the presence of Felix, he didn't dally with them. I might say that Felix's life was a life of notorious, outbroken sin. History says that there has never been a man who was more notorious in his sin than Felix. As for his wife, Drusilla, the least that could be said about her would be the best for her reputation. Paul was brought into their presence. Without a moment's hesitation he began leveling his sights, not at somebody on the outside that he might preach against them, but at Felix and Drusilla, the pair of sinners that was just before him. He preached of righteousness which neither of them possessed. He preached of temperance and neither of them had ever known anything of temperance within their lives. He preached of the judgment to come, that they might know that some day they were going to have to stand in the presence of God. He made it clear to those two individuals that the day was coming when they would stand before God to be judged for their sin. I don't know what else Paul would have preached if Felix had kept still, but Felix interrupted the sermon, and said, "Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." Literally, he said, Paul, that is all I want to hear today, I'll call you tomorrow, or the next day, or some other time, whenever I have a convenient season."

Beloved, tomorrow never came in the life of Felix. The Word of God says that he sent for Paul quite often but never did he have the wooing of the Spirit in his heart. A short time later, so history says, when a

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TOMORROW

(Continued from Page 1)

another brick to the pavement on the roadway to Hell. My text was spoken just to you: "Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

I'd like for you to notice with me some four individuals in the Bible who did the same thing as you; that is, who said, "Not today, but tomorrow."

I

First of all, I'd like for you to notice PHARAOH'S TOMORROW. In the early chapters of the book of Exodus, when Moses was delivering the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt, he did so against and over the protest of Pharaoh, the king. When he came to Pharaoh and made a demand for the release of the children of Israel, Pharaoh made a promise by saying "tomorrow." Listen:

"Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron, and said, Entreat the Lord, that he may take away the frogs from me, and from my people; and I will let the people go, that they may do sacrifice unto the Lord. And Moses said unto Pharaoh, Glory over me: when shall I entreat for thee, and for thy servants, and for thy people, to destroy the frogs from thee and thy houses, that they may remain in the river only? And he said, TOMORROW" (Ex. 8:8-10).

This, as you well know, had to do with the plague of the frogs when through the power of God at the intervention of Moses, frogs overran the entire land of Egypt. Everywhere you looked there were frogs. It was not only a nuisance, it was a plague that would be impossible to describe. You and I couldn't imagine what a plague it was to hear those frogs croaking day and night, to have to step upon

TOMORROW

(Continued from Page 2)

mountain of lava erupted, Felix and his wife Drusilla were covered with hot molten lava and their bodies were petrified into stone. I don't know whether their bodies could be found today, but if those petrified, lava bodies of Felix and Drusilla could be found today, I would like to have them to hold up before you that I might say, "Here is mute evidence that it doesn't pay for any man to say tomorrow."

IV

Let's notice the fourth man who said "tomorrow" - **THE RICH FOOL'S TOMORROW.** When our Lord Jesus as in the days of His flesh, He told of a man who was rich, who didn't think in terms of today, but thought in terms of tomorrow. Here is Jesus' own story:

"And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down MY barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all MY fruits and MY goods. And I will say to MY soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" (Luke 12:16-20).

Here is a man who thought in terms of tomorrow. Here is a man who provided not for today, but tomorrow, and who said, "Soul, you have much goods laid up for many years. You don't have to worry about a coming depression. You will never have to be bothered when the wolf scratches the paint from the other fellow's door. Soul, you will never have to know what it is to have material hardships when others are suffering thereby. You are well fixed. Take your ease." I imagine, beloved, if you had pressed him about spiritual matters that he would have gone out into the future and said, "Well, tomorrow. Sometime, I'll think in terms of spiritual things." Just about the time that this man thought he had everything fixed for the future, just about the time that he thought he had all his plans made to take care of himself for all the days to come, the Lord stepped in and said to this man, "Thou fool. Not tomorrow, but this night thy soul shall be required of thee." Here was a man who was planning for tomorrow. Here was a man who was making his plans for the future when God said there would be no future. Here is a man who was thinking in terms of years to come when God said "now" is the time. Here is a man who had not thought of eternity. However, God said he was not to consider time, but eternity now.

I am wondering if there are some of you who, like this rich fool, are saying, "Not now, some other time," or "Not now, tomorrow," or "Not now, next Sunday." If so, may God in His mercy cause you to procrastinate no longer. May God help you to receive Christ and become a child of God saved by grace now.

Live as if Christ died yesterday, rose this morning, and is coming back tomorrow.

Maybe you are saying "tomorrow," but that is man's word. God has a different word. Listen:

"Choose you **THIS DAY** whom ye will serve" (Joshua 25:15).

"Behold, how is the accepted time; behold, **NOW IS THE DAY OF SALVATION**" (II Cor. 6:2).

"Wherefore, as the Holy Spirit saith, **TODAY** if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts" (Heb. 3:7, 8).

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, **NOW IS THE** been saying "tomorrow" and who have been saying, "I am going to be saved sometime" may the Spirit of God move upon your heart and save your soul today.

Don't misunderstand me in the least. No man can ever be saved unless the Spirit of God deals with him. No man can ever be saved unless God has foreordained for your salvation; may you in this hour receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour. Don't play the fool's part like these individuals who said "tomorrow," but today receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour. May God bless you!

REPENTANCE

(Continued from Page 1)

thought of sorrow and change of purpose is in the word. We might express it like this: "Repentance of sin is such a sorrow for sin and abhorrence of sin — such a change of mind about it, as leads the sinner to turn away from it with all his heart." Let us note some usages of the word. (Job 42:5, 6; Luke 10:13; I Thess. 1:9; Acts 26:20).

REPENTANCE ON PART OF UNSAVED SINNER

The sinner must in every case repent of his sin. He must with changed mind and attitude, turn from his rejection of Christ, his attempts to save himself, his wrong doings. And - he must turn unto Christ, receiving Him as the One who died to pay his sin debt. For involved in salvation is turning from and turning unto. (See I Thess. 1:9). Genuine repentance and saving faith always go together - like the two sides of a coin.

REPENTANCE OF A SAVED SINNER

When a person turns to Christ, then Christ assumes that person's sin debt, and settles it—past, present, future. "Our Saviour Jesus Christ who gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from ALL iniquity." How many have a warped conception of this, and assume that Christ pays for our past sins, but that we must take care of the ones committed following conversion. This is a strange mixture of justification by Christ plus works. The truth is, Christ becomes the surety for all our sins that we have or ever shall commit.

Those who don't see this think that for every sin the Christian commits, he must get individual forgiveness for, or else be lost. And some assume that if a person commits some great offense and gets struck down before it is repented of, that he goes on to torment. What a perversion of the plan of salvation! That puts our safety up to us and conditions it upon our repenting separately for every sin. The truth is, the blood of Christ covers every offense that we shall ever commit, if we trust to it. Every sin is already



The Baptist Examiner

BIBLE STUDY LESSON

By WILLARD PYLE

Pastor — First Baptist Church of Naples Park, Florida

Psalm 10:7-18

Intro.: The inward corruption of the sinner channels its way out through the mouth, hands, and feet, and therefore is seen in the words, the works, and the walk of the ungodly. We see, also, in this Psalm the end of the wicked in the prayers and prophecy of the Psalmist, as well as a contrast in God's gracious dealings with the afflicted saints.

VERSE 7

"His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud." The common language of the sinner is foul and filthy, and yet, he can use smooth words to obtain his greedy purposes. The dirty air of the lungs is constantly pumped into the mouth and is breathed forth in cursing, deceit, and fraud. In fact, there is no room in his mouth for anything really pure.

"Under his tongue is mischief and vanity." The most deadly poison in this world is not found in rattlesnakes or black widow spiders, but in the mouth of sinners. Man's tongue stretched forth has caused more pain, more destruction, and

paid for. This raises an important question:

Why should a saved person repent? Because the new nature, and the indwelling Spirit of God will impel him to. And in order that he may be restored to fellowship with God. Sin in the life of a saved person does not destroy relationship but it does destroy fellowship. Your child can disobey you and still remain your child, but such disobedience injures your fellowship with that child. The child repents and asks forgiveness - not in order to be reinstated as a child, but to get back on right terms with you. Only as a Christian lives with no known sin unconfessed and unrepented of can that Christian have a life of full blessing and happiness. Every truly born-again person knows the unhappiness of God's frown. "Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus but to trust and obey."

HOW—?

(Continued from Page 1)

8. That Jesus was ever able to find Zacchaeus and Matthew without first taking a religious census in their town?

9. That most churches of today are satisfied with a "SHALLOW DECISION" by men rather than a deep "INCISION" by the Spirit of God?

10. That Jesus and Paul ever drew a crowd to hear them preach without the aid of a so-called "Religious-Movie"?

We do not need new "Tricks-of-the-trade," but a simple old-fashioned dependence upon God, The Holy Spirit! — from Treasures of Grace and Glory.

more death than any other thing (James 3:5-11).

VERSE 8

"He sitteth in the lurking places of the villages." The sinner finds the most advantageous place or position to carry on his business; the place where he can detect without being detected; the place where he can strike and withdraw quickly. He hides under cover of a false front and a false appearance of beauty.

"In the secret places doth he murder the innocent." Having attracted or enticed the unsuspecting into an unknown spot, he carries out his fiendish plot to rob, and rid himself of the evidence by silencing them.

"His eyes are privily against the poor." He chooses those who will be least likely to offer resistance, and in another sense, he makes it appear he is trying to help them. When we see the poor exploited by the rich, because the poor can't defend or help themselves, it makes our hearts bleed. Many programs, both religious and political are started, supposedly to help the poor, when in reality they feather the nest of the sponsors.

VERSE 9

"He lieth in wait secretly as lion in his den." Fallen man, like the Devil, is described as a lion. In I Peter 5:8, the Devil is said to walk about "as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." Here, man is said to be content for a time, as a lion waiting on his prey to come to him.

"He lieth in wait to catch the poor: he doth catch the poor." The poor is seen falling into the grasp of the wicked, unaware of the danger or design he has for him.

"When he draweth him into his net." What he uses for bait, we are not told, but it is evident it is appealing. Not only do individual Christians fall prey, but so do churches. The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life are still effectual (Gen. 3:1-6; I John 2:16).

VERSE 10

"He croucheth, and humbleth himself, that the poor may fall by his strong ones." The Devil and his cohorts are as strong as lions and as sly as foxes. When false humility is needful, they are masters at it. If they can trip or trap the saints, they will stoop to wash their feet! They can feign a need for help and when the poor stop to help, they find the Devil's helpers in the shadows waiting for them.

VERSE 11

"He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: He hideth His face; He will never see it." If God is not entirely set aside, He is seen as weak and forgetful. He is pictured as unable, or unwilling to intervene. He neither has power to save or to punish. Even so-called churches preach this kind of God.

VERSE 12

"Arise, O Lord; O God, lift up Thine hand." The Psalmist longs for God to manifest His

presence and His power, in which case the enemy will be banished from his lofty nest he has built. The Psalmist wants God to merely raise His hand and brush away the wicked as dust.

"Forget not the humble." In spite of the Psalmist's faith, he still expresses doubt. How many times we must cry, "I believe, help Thou my unbelief."

VERSE 13

"Wherefore doth the wicked condemn God? he hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require it." The wicked's arrogance and open ridicule of God is a puzzlement to the Psalmist. There are so many ways God has manifested His hatred of sin, man is without excuse (Rom. 1:20).

VERSE 14

"Thou hast seen it; for Thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite it with Thy hand." The Psalmist reminds the wicked that God is an all-wise, all-seeing, and present everywhere God, Who presently deals with and will finally punish sin altogether.

"The poor committeth himself unto Thee." How glorious to be able to say with Paul, "For I know Whom I have believed, and am able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (II Tim. 1:12).

"Thou art the Helper of the fatherless." Jesus said in John 14:18: "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." We can truly say, "Our Father, which art in Heaven."

VERSE 15

"Break Thou the arm of the wicked and the evil man: seek out his wickedness till thou find none." One day every evidence of sin and wickedness will be removed; every enemy shall be banished.

VERSE 16

"The Lord is King for ever and ever: the heathen are perished out of His land." He is King on the throne now, and will reign on the earth as King when He comes on a white horse (Rev. 19:11-16).

VERSE 17

"Lord, Thou hast heard the desire of the humble: Thou wilt prepare their heart, Thou wilt cause their ear to hear." All prayers of faith will be answered, and the saints will be prepared to reign with Christ.

VERSE 18

"To judge the fatherless and the oppressed, that the man of the earth may no more oppress." Again one day the many anti-christs which exist now, and the anti-christ which is to come, will oppress no more.

Conclusion: May our hearts be strengthened as we cherish this Psalm, and may sinners flee from the wrath to come.

(EDITORS 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, Box 1198, Fort Myers, Fla. 33908).

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AUGUST 15, 1981
PAGE THREE

The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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

Can a Baptist Mission having won to our Lord some 10 adults for membership be organized into an Independent Baptist Church without the cooperation of their mother church?

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There are a couple of things in your question that bothers me quite a bit. What do you mean "won to our Lord"? Are you talking about salvation by grace or are you talking about some sort of a raffle? We don't "win" people to the Lord. In fact, we don't have anything to do with their salvation other than being the instrument God uses to bring the message of hope to them. Paul said, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Rom. 1:16). Jesus said, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:44). Salvation is by grace through faith which is the gift of God. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8, 9).

If one of our missions should use such terminology as that I would hesitate to recommend organization because I would be afraid their theology is too arminianism. It sounds too much like the Jack Hiles method.

As for your question about organization without the cooperation of the mother church, certainly not. If you plan to go against the mother church you would be in rebellion against that church and subject to exclusion. You would then be a church made up of excluded members and could not be recognized.

Biblical example shows the mother church working with the young group. When the church at Jerusalem heard of the people in Antioch that had been saved they sent Barnabas to them. Barnabas organized them and subsequently joined the church and was sent out by them as a missionary (see Acts 11:22-13:4). The church at Antioch recognized Jerusalem as the mother church and when they had questions they couldn't answer they sought advice from them (see Acts 15: 1-3, 22-31).

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Under ideal conditions, the organization of such an independent Baptist Church would seek the co-operation of the "mother

church," which, I presume, sponsored the mission for that purpose. Yes, I do not understand why a minimum quorum of "some ten adults" should be chosen to constitute the proper number in order to be organized as a local church. Also, in the organization of such a local church, it is often advisable to invite other independent Baptist Churches of like precious faith and order to officiate. This is common procedure.

However, hypothetically, in the case of the development of a schism in the "mother church" of such a nature as to be contrary to the known will of God in respect to compromise in complicity with evil, as being in conformity with unbelief. This is well exemplified by apostle Paul, who admonished thus: "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?... wherefore, come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord... and I will receive you" (2 Cor. 6:11-18).

So, in consideration with this advice, would not the "mother church" be disqualified to officiate in the organization of such a church, as beginning "some ten adults"? Too, in such an event, should not a Baptist Mission refuse to ask the "mother church" to so co-operate? Then, further, in such an undertaking to establish a sound Baptist local church assembly, would it not be scripturally logical for the Baptist Mission to invite other scripturally constituted independent Baptist Churches to co-operate (instead of the mother church) in the organization of such a church?

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"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matt. 28:19).

This Scripture is a part of the great commission. This commission was not given to individual believers as such. It was not given to any unorganized or self-organized group of believers. This commission was given by our Lord to His church and it is transmitted to all true and properly organized churches. When a true church organized another church, the new church possesses the same authority as the Mother church.

The members of a mission are members of the church authorizing the mission. They have their votes in the church of which they are members. They have no authority as being members of the mission. A mission has absolutely no authority of its own to do anything. They are authorized by the church to do whatever that church may authorize them to do, except that that church cannot authorize them to do what only a church can do. The mission cannot — and the church cannot authorize them to baptize or to observe the Lord's Supper. The mission cannot call a pastor. The mission cannot Scripturally invite others to preach for them in regular services or otherwise. All authority resides in the church, and the mission is to work and function only in accord with the authority of its Mother Church. Really she is not its Mother for it is not yet a church.

A mission absolutely cannot organize itself into a church. It would be no more a church if it attempted this than if it had not been organized by a false church.

Now, I do believe that some churches hold on to a mission too long — after it should already be an independent church. But all this is under the authority of the church, and the mission has no authority of its own. Members of a mission are members of the church authorizing the mission, and have a vote in that church and are under the authority of that church as much as members of the church who are not in the mission.

Brethren, we err greatly and are headed for trouble whenever we depart a hair's breadth from the believing and practicing of "Church Authority."

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The question is tantamount to asking, Can a baby be born into the world without the help of the mother? A Baptist Mission can be organized into a Baptist Church with little cooperation from the originating church, but I cannot conceive a Mission being organized into a Church without some help from the parent church. In a given situation, such as extreme distance between the home church and the Mission, or when at the set date for organization a condition exists in the originating church which demands the attention of the Pastor and leading men, or some other kind of insurmountable handicap, the Mission may, with a letter of authority and direction from the home church, be organized. While such organization would not be erroneous, it would be irregular, and it would be a show of

wisdom for the home church to postpone the organization date of the Mission until at what time they could give the proper measure of help toward the organization of the Mission.

The Mission needs to ever be aware that the organizational authority lies with the home church, that the decision of the home church is binding on the Mission, and for the Mission to usurp that authority would be to defy God.

The organization of a Mission into a N.T. church is usually a time of exceptional joy, and this joy is the fruit of the cooperation between the parent church and the Mission which began on the day of conception, and was perpetuated unto the hour of organizational birth. In every case, may it ever be so!

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From a study of God's Word, we can see that all missionary work, to be approved of God must be through the church. Paul and Barnabas were sent out as missionaries from the church at Antioch, "As they ministered to the Lord, the Holy Spirit said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away" (Acts 13:2, 3). When the church at Jerusalem heard that Philip had preached the gospel to the people of Samaria, Peter and John were sent to see about the work. "Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the Word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John" (Acts 8:14). Even Peter was called on the carpet by the church at Jerusalem for preaching to Cornelius, a Gentile, we are told in Acts 11.

From these examples taken from the Word we see that the churches back in New Testament times kept very close control of the mission work being done. A missionary must get his authority to do mission work from the church that sends him out. The church must give him authority to baptize and receive members into the church. In order for members of the mission to be scripturally organized into a church they must receive permission to organize from the church of which they are members.

For members of a mission to organize without the authority of the church of which they are members is just another work started, without any connection back to the first church started by Christ Himself, as recorded in Matthew 16:18. This kind of organization has a foundation of sand (human) instead of the Rock of Matthew 16:18.

The details of how the authority is given to organize may vary with the church and the circumstances of each situation. For example, when the Macedonia Baptist Church of Chicago sent Brother Fred Halliman to New Guinea as a missionary, he was given the authority to preach, to baptize, and to organize churches as the need arose. Later, Brother

Halliman moved his membership to Calvary Baptist Church and the mission work was, also, transferred to Calvary. Calvary gave him the same authority as Macedonia. In spite of recent FALSE reports otherwise, the mission work in New Guinea is and has always been under complete control of either the Macedonia Baptist Church or Calvary Baptist Church.

Another example is when the First Baptist Church of Independence, Ky. sent Brother Ron Crisp to the New Orleans area (La' Place, La.) as a missionary, he was given authority to preach, baptize, and to receive members by letters from sister churches. When it comes time to organize the mission into a church, First Baptist will give permission to do so, and letters will be granted for the members of the mission to become charter members of the new church.

From these two examples we see that regardless of whether the new church is in New Guinea or in Louisiana, it has a connection that goes all the way to the first church at Jerusalem. It has as its foundation the Rock of Matthew 16:18, the chief corner stone of Ephesians 2:20.

GOD'S CALL

(Continued from Page 1)

member who were acquainted with the man moved quietly to the rear of the church behind him. There the deacon waited while the good layman stepped down and began to deal with this one about his eternal destiny. As he talked you could see that the sinner was gripping the back of the pew until his knuckles turned white and all the while shaking his head negatively. In a few minutes the layman gave up and moved away and the deacon took his place and intreated the gentleman to make a move toward the front. The man remained gripping the back of the pew with his arms rigid and the muscles around his jaws became prominent as he seemed to be resisting some powerful force. The intreaty was to no avail and finally the pastor said that if everybody is satisfied you are dismissed. The adamant man then walked slowly out of the door. The news came the next morning that he had stopped at a bar on the way home, became engaged in an altercation and was shot to death. How many of you Baptists have heard some variation of this story in some revival meeting and the evangelist said that the man resisted the Holy Spirit? How many of you believe that this is possible? I hope not many. Beloved, our entire teachings are predicated upon the fact that our Lord is absolutely sovereign and that He chose some far back in the aeons of eternity to be saved in time. So go to Romans 8:30 and let the Word of God tell you that no sinner can resist the convicting power of the Holy spirit and finally be lost.

This fact is proclaimed, not only in Romans but in a multitude of Scripture references. However, I am going to look ahead and foresee a possible charge being brought against this precious truth.

There are persons who do not only read their Bibles but they study the word and meditate upon it and some of these discerning ones may refer me to Acts

(Continued on Page 3 Column 1)

Loving kindness has converted more sinners than either zeal, eloquence or learning.

GOD'S CALL

(Continued from Page 4)

7:51 where Stephen says, "Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost..." At first glance, this may seem to cancel out the effectual power which we see inherent in the Spirit, but if we employ a little home grown hermeneutics we can see this passage in a different light. In this case, we need to note who is doing the speaking, who he is speaking to, and what has gone before.

Stephen had been preaching with power to certain members of the synagogue and they became quite angry and disputed him, but "They were not able to refute or resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spake" (Acts 6:10). However, they did succeed in bringing him before the Jewish Council and Stephen then preached a masterpiece. Beginning with Abraham he confronted them with their own Scriptures and in a beautiful exegesis he proceeded to bring them face to face with that "Just One whom ye have murdered." Remember these were Jews who had no experiential knowledge of our Lord Jesus as Messiah and were adamantly set in their hearts and minds against even learning of Him, so when Stephen called them betrayers with murderers they were filled Lord constituted a denial of the Holy Spirit, because in essence they are one and the same. It was this manner of denial which prompted Stephen to charge them with resisting the Holy Ghost as a nation and a group. It certainly was not a matter of the Holy Spirit convicting an individual. Beloved, rest assured that if such had been the case, then a member or members of that Council would have come trembling and saying, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do."

MORMONISM

(Continued from Page 1)

Palmyra, N.Y., in 1816. Joseph, Jr., was then past ten years old.

Much may be said as to the Father Smith's occupation during these twenty years. One question, however, will suffice: County Judge Daniel Woodward of Winsor, Vermont says that while living near there the elder Smith was engaged in hunting for "Captain Kidd's treasure, and that he also became implicated with one Jack Downing in counterfeiting money, but turned state's evidence and escaped the penalty."

Mother Smith's family were, also, very efficient in the art of having visions. Her father,

Solomon Mack, while suffering with rheumatism, "saw a bright light" and thought he heard a voice calling to him. Her elder brother, Jason, became a "seeker," who in those days believed that a devout person could obtain all the gifts granted in Christ's and the apostles' days. She tells us that when she was very ill, she promised God that she would serve Him if she was restored to health. She then heard a voice telling her that her prayer would be answered, and the next morning she was better. Again, she prayed for her husband's soul and saw a vision of his real conversion. Her sister, after being an invalid for two years, was "borne away to the world of spirits," where she met the Saviour and was delivered a message from Him to be delivered to some of her friends. She was also healed.

The history of Joseph, Jr., the prophet, pertaining to his early life, contains, in the main, recitals of his indolence. This can be best set forth in the words of Mr. Tucker, a man who knew him at this time, in his book "Origin, Rise and Progress of Mormonism," page 16: "At this period in the life and career of Joseph Smith, Jr., or 'Joe Smith' as he was universally named, and the Smith family, were popularly regarded as an illiterate, whiskey-drinking, shiftless, irreligious race of people - the first named, the chief subject of this biography, being unanimously voted the laziest and most worthless of the generation. From the age of twelve to twenty years he is distinctly remembered as a dull-eyed, flazen-haired, prevaricating boy, noted only for his indolent and vagabondish character, and his habits of exaggeration and untruthfulness. Taciturnity was among his characteristic idiosyncrasies, and he seldom spoke to anyone outside of his intimate associates, except when first addressed by another; and then, by reason of his extravagances of statement, his word was received with the least confidence by those who knew him best. He could utter the most palpable exaggeration or marvelous absurdity with the most apparent gravity. He nevertheless evidenced the rapid development of a thinking, plodding, evil-brewing mental composition, largely given to inventions of low cunning, schemes of mischief and disception, and false and mysterious pretensions."

It was during the time described here that "Joe Smith" became quite famous with his "peekstone" or "crystal-gazing." Of this his father had this to say: "Joseph happened to be where a man was looking into a dark stone, and telling people therefrom where to dig for money and other things. Joseph requested the privilege of looking into a stone, which he did by putting his face into the hat where the stone was. It proved to be not the right stone for him; but he could see some things, and among them he saw the stone, and where it was, in which he could see whatever he wished to see...The place where he saw the stone was not far from their house, and under pretense of digging a well, they found water and the stone at a depth of twenty or twenty-two feet. After this, Joseph spent about two years looking into this stone, telling fortunes, where to find lost things, and where to dig for money and other hidden

treasures."

There are many stories of his escapades with this and other "stones" that I cannot repeat here. One paragraph from "The Story of the Mormons," by Linn, will be instructive. "Certain ceremonies were always connected with these money digging operations. Midnight was the favorite hour, a full moon was helpful, and Good Friday was the best date. Joe would sometimes stand by, directing the digging with a wand. The utmost silence was necessary to success. More than once, when the digging proved a failure, Joe explained to his associates that, just as the treasure was about to be reached, someone, tempted by the Devil, spoke, causing the wished-for riches to disappear...Joe even tried on his New York victims the Pennsylvania device of requiring the sacrifice of a black sheep to overcome the evil spirit that guarded the treasure. William Stafford opportunely owned such an animal, and, as he puts it, 'to gratify my curiosity,' he let the Smiths have it. But some new 'mistake in the process' again resulted in disappointment. 'This, I believe,' remarks the contributor of the sheep, 'is the only time they ever made money-digging a profitable business. The Smiths ate the sheep.'

Mr. Tucker closes his chapter regarding this stone with the statement that the origin of Mormonism can be traced to this insignificant little stone. In the affidavit of Willard Chase, the man from whom Joe got this stone, he relates that he was the second one that Joe approached about his discovery of the Gold Bible. He says that Joe told him that the discovery was due to the "peekstone," making no mention whatever of an angel's visit.

The evidence along this line seems to be conclusive to any open-minded person who is willing to investigate. To sum it up, one must decide that Joe Smith, previous to the pretended discovery of the Golden Plates, was a "crystal-gazing treasure hunter," being commonly known as the laziest man in the community, with his veracity questioned by everyone.

According to Smith's story, he saw and talked face to face with God the Father and the Son in 1820—he talked face to face with Moroni, an angel from Heaven four different times on September 21, 1823. It was here that he was told of the "Plates," and he visited the spot where they were buried and saw them the following day he visited this spot and talked with this heavenly messenger once each year until 1827 when he was permitted to take the "Plates" home with him. During these talks on September 21, 1823, the angel quoted a great deal of Scripture, most of it different than it is written. It was from his quoting of the fourth chapter of Malachi that Smith learned that vs. 5, 6 referred to "Our Day," and that the reference to "Elijah" was to be fulfilled in himself. It seems to me that one upon whom Heaven was placing so much attention would have lived a careful life instead of the kind of a life we have found Joseph living. In history above referred to, he tells us that in 1825 he hired with a man named Staal, to search for a silver mine that some Spaniards had somehow lost. Mother Smith, in her account, tells us that Staal came to count, tells us that Staal came to Joseph because he had heard of his ability to "discern

"THE BRIDE OF CHRIST"

The religious world looks down upon
Our Lord's churches, so small;
But they, the victory have won,
For He loves them one and all.

For them He suffered, so forlorn,
For them; His life has given;
And soon will take them home to join
His first-born church in Heaven.

His church, complete, will be ready then,
To become His glorious Bride;
For true and faithful she had been,
And His Word has not denied.

She bought the truth and sold it not,
She labored to expel all leaven;
And will appear without blemish or spot,
To take her place in Heaven.

The marriage of the Lamb shall come,
And there will be His Bride,
Dressed in spotless righteousness,
Standing by His side.

No more shall she be martyred,
No more shall she be scorned,
But she shall be rewarded,
For all that she has borne.

Oh, it shall be her destiny,
To rule and reign with Him;
Then live with Him eternally,
In the New Jerusalem!

Mrs. Frank Parrish
Courtland, Virginia

DRINKING

(Continued from Page 1)

certain things invisible to the naked eye" Staal had several men employed—one can readily see, from the place Smith held, something of his fame as a "gazer."

In closing I wish to give two statements. The first was signed and published by eleven of the most prominent citizens of Manchester, N.Y. "We, the undersigned, being personally acquainted with the family of Joseph Smith, Sr., with whom the Gold Bible, so-called, originated, state: 'That they were not only a lazy, indolent set of men, but also intemperate, and their word was not to be depended upon; and that we are truly glad to dispense with their society.' The second was signed and published by sixty-two of the residents of Palmyra, N.Y., (the Smiths lived in both these towns): 'We, the undersigned, have been acquainted with the Smith family for a number of years, while they resided near this place, and we have no hesitation in saying that we consider them destitute of that moral character which ought to entitle them to the confidence of any community. They were particularly famous for visionary projects: spent much of their time in digging for money which they pretended was hid in the earth and to this day large excavations may be seen in the earth, not far from their residence, where they used to spend their time in digging for hidden treasures. Joseph Smith, Sr., and his son, Joseph, were, in particular, considered entirely destitute of moral character and addicted to vicious habits.'

I have tried to present briefly the character of the man who founded this great heresy, yes, blasphemy, known as the Mormon Church.

drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags."

IT LEADS TO STRIVE!
Proverbs 23:29-21. "Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright."

IT LEADS TO SCORNING!
Hosea 7:5. "In the days of our king the princes have made him sick with bottles of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorners."

IT LEADS TO RIOTING AND WANTONNESS!
Romans 13:13. "Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying."

SHOULD AVOID THOSE GIVEN TO IT! I Corinthians 5:11. "But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat."

IS A MAN WISE TO BE DECEIVED BY IT? Proverbs 20:1: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging and

(Continued on Page 6 Column 1)

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By H. B. TAYLOR, SR.

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PAGE FIVE

DRINKING

(Continued from Page 5)

whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

GOD DENOUNCES THOSE GIVEN TO IT! Isaiah 28:11. "But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat."

IS A MAN WISE TO BE DECEIVED BY IT? Proverbs 20:1. "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

GOD DENOUNCES THOSE GIVEN TO IT! Isaiah 28:1. "Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, which are on the head of the fat valleys of them that are overcome with wine!"

GOD DENOUNCES THOSE WHO ENCOURAGE IT! Habakkuk 2:15. "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that putteth his bottle to him, and maketh him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!"

IT EXCLUDES FROM HEAVEN! I Corinthians 6:10. "Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."

A DRUNKEN SON WAS PUNISHED! Deuteronomy 21:20, 21. And they shall say unto the elders of this city. This our son is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard. And all the men of his city shall stone him

(Continued on Page 8 Column 1)

UNION

(Continued from Page 1)

They can't all be right. But the oldest of the Pentecostal churches had its beginning in 1880, lacking some 1850 years being old enough to be the bride of Christ. Then it makes me sick to think that some people, who call themselves "Baptists" would say by their action, "That's all right, we know you are too young to be the bride of Christ, but we will play like you are—it really doesn't make any difference. We know that some of your doctrine isn't Scriptural, but we know you are sincere and we must all love each other; for, after all, we are all going to the same place."

Now, friends, that thing isn't right. Jesus Christ established one church. I believe it is now called Baptist. It is either Baptist or Catholic—and none of the others, for history proves that Baptists were here 1530 years before any other except the Catholic, and was here 250 years before the Catholics ever had a Pope.

Of course, somebody will immediately say, "But don't you believe that there are Christians in other churches, or denominations?" To be sure I do. People would be foolish to say otherwise, but we are talking about Baptist Churches, which we believe to have been established by Christ while He was here in person, and which He has perpetuated down through these 1900 years, giving away to these

"Flappers" and saying that either or all of them, are just as much the bride of Christ as we are.

Do Baptists have proof that they have been here in all ages? Yes, and we quote from Ray's Baptist Succession, eighteenth edition, published in 1890. Beginning on page 443, we quote in part:

"In the foregoing work we found that the objections urged against the antiquity of the Baptists as a denomination are wholly without foundation. No point in history has yet been found, this side of the days of Jesus Christ, where the Baptist denomination had its origin. Notwithstanding all the efforts of bitter foes, no break has yet been discovered in the chain of Baptist succession. There has been no point of time since the apostolic age, when it can be said, in truth, there were no witnesses for Christ on earth holding the faith and practice of Baptists. Every other professed Christian denomination, either admits a human origin in modern times, or claims its succession through the Romish apostasy. But as the Roman succession is the succession of Antichrist, therefore those churches whose history is identified with the Church of Rome, can lay no claim whatever to the true succession. The Baptists are the only people on earth who claim a succession from the apostolic age, independent of the Church of Rome; and as Jesus Christ has a church against which the gates of hell have never prevailed, which has existed independent of the Romish hierarchy, therefore the Baptists are really the only claimants to this succession. All others, by their own acknowledgements, have no just claims to be the church established by Jesus Christ Himself, which has been perpetuated to the present time. We take it for granted that every denomination is competent to give the leading facts of its own history. Even the most depraved denominations, except the Catholics, have sufficient candor and honesty to give a correct account of their own origin. The Romish Church herself confesses that many of her rites and ceremonies have been introduced since the apostolic age. She acknowledges that she has changed the ordinances of Jesus Christ on the supposed authority of the keys. Even Rome herself with her present rites and ceremonies does not claim an apostolic origin. The Lutheran Church claims its origin from Martin Luther about the year 1525. It has no succession beyond the sixteenth century, unless it was the Romish succession. And though the Church of England claims apostolic succession thru Rome herself, yet she is compelled to look to King Henry VIII, about the year 1530, for her origin from the Romish jurisdiction. The Presbyterian Church boldly claims the "goldly-learned" man, John Calvin, as its founder. Its succession extends no further back in history than the year 1541. The various branches of Presbyterians are of still more recent date. The Methodist Church glories in John Wesley as her founder and head. She cannot go beyond the year 1729 for the germ of that system of ecclesiasticism known as Methodism. And it was not until the year 1784 that Methodism was rent from the Episcopal Church. "The Cumberland Presbyterian Church claims its origin from the fourth day of February,

1810. It has Messrs. Ewing, King, and McAdown as its founders. The Campbellite society, which makes higher pretensions than all the modern sects combined, boasts of Alexander Campbell of Bethany, Va., as head of their religious movement. They claim the year 1827 as the date of their origin as an organized ecclesiastical body. After all their claims to be the Christ Church, and their noise about Pentecost, they are forced to admit the humiliating fact that as an organization, they are not yet 200 years old; and that they fall short of the day of Pentecost nearly 1800 years. But the Baptists boldly claim Jesus Christ as their founder and head, and a continued succession through succeeding ages from the apostles to the present time. And if the Baptists do not give a correct statement of their own origin, they are the only denomination outside of the Church of Rome too dishonest to give the truth of their own history. But if Baptists are too dishonest to tell the truth as to their origin, then other denominations ought not to desire religious correspondence with them; but if their claims are true, then they are the only people who possess the true church succession. All who have not embraced skeptical views in regard to the perpetuity of the kingdom of Christ, admit that that Kingdom has been preserved to the present time; therefore, there is now on earth one church, or kingdom, which has continued all the time in existence, from the apostolic age down to the present, but as all other churches, except the Baptist Church, are known to have originated in uninspired wisdom, long since the apostolic age, therefore the Baptist Church has continued from the apostolic age to the present time.

"As stated at the beginning of this work, no Baptist has ever attempted to locate the origin of the Baptist denomination since the days of Christ and the apostles. In chapter one, we have the testimony of Benedict the historian, Dr. Howell, and J. L. Waller, in favor of Baptist succession—all claiming the perpetuity of the church from the time of Jesus Christ. Mr. Orchard, the historian, says, "I have demonstrated, so far as human testimony is allowed to prove any fact, that THE BAPTIST CHURCH, as the Church of Christ, has existed from the day of Pentecost to the privileged period."



QUESTION:—Who prophesied that the Lord would kill a sea-dragon "with his sore, and great, and strong sword"?

ANSWER:—Isaiah, Isaiah 27:1—"In that day the Lord with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea."

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"Mr. Benedict says that "The Welch Baptist have the fullest

confidence that their sentiments have always lived in their mountain retreats, from the apostolic age to the present time, although the people were not always congregated in churches. Their country, in their estimation, was another Piedmont, where the witnesses for the truth found shelter and concealment in times of universal darkness and superstition." Again, we have the testimony of the American Baptist Publication Society, endorsing the language of Mr. Pengilly, as follows: "Our principles are as old as Christianity. We acknowledge no founder but Christ. With enthusiasts in Germany, or in any age or country, we have no connection, and our forefathers never had. Enthusiasts may be designated by the same name, but that proves nothing. Persons holding our distinctive principles—i.e., the baptism of believers only—have appeared in all ages of the Christian era. From Christ to nearly the end of the second century, there were NO OTHERS; at least, it there were any, their history is a blank."

"If the truth of religion," said Cardinal Hosius, President of the Council of Trent in 1555, "were to be judged of by the readiness and cheerfulness which a man of any sect shows in suffering, then the opinions and persuasions of no sect can be truer or surer than those of the Anabaptists (Baptists); since there have been none of these 1200 years past that have been more grievously punished." Yet Pope Pius II confessed in 1460, "Neither the decrees of Popes, nor armies of Christians could extirpate them." "All sorts of people," said Seisselius, Archbishop of Turin in 1470, "have repeatedly endeavored, but in vain, to root out; for even yet, contrary to the opinion of all men, they still remain conquerors, or at least wholly invincible." Such are the concessions of illustrious Romanists to the long, unbroken line of our meek martyr witnesses. Thus, we have the admission of Catholics themselves, that they have never been able to succeed in breaking the line of Baptist succession. Time would fail to introduce the testimonies of all Baptist writers who claim the church succession from the apostolic age. We conclude, the list with the testimony of J. Newton Brown, the learned author of the Religious Encyclopedias, as follows: "The Baptists have no difficulty whatever, in tracing up their principles and their churches to the apostolic age. It has been often said by our enemies, that we originated in the German city of Munster in 1534. Lamentable must be the weakness and ignorance of such an assertion, come from whom it may. It were easy to cite eminent Pedobaptist historians to refute this calumny—especially Linborch and Mosheim of the last century."

Again, Mr. Brown remarks, that, "The Baptists—though for the most part of the poor of the world, rich in faith only, and unknown to fame, as were the primitive Christians—have yet, in almost all ages, had of their number, men of the most eminent learning and ability, who died as martyrs to the faith. From the time of Navatian, indeed, it has been customary with their adversaries to call the whole body by the name of its most distinguished leader, as if they were a new sect, of which he was the originator. Thus, the Cathari were called Novatians—the Paulicians—then Arnoldists, Waldenses, Lollards,

Mennonites; nor were they permitted to bear their present names of Baptists until after legal toleration in England in 1688. Yet to them, as we have seen, belong all the inspired writers of the New Testament—the sources of our Christian literature—Matthew, Mark, Luke, John James, Jude, Peter and Paul himself, the accomplished pupil of Gamaliel." In fact the whole Baptist family look to Jesus Christ as their founder and head, claim the succession or perpetuity of the church from the apostolic age to the present time. The host of Baptist martyrs in past ages, who sealed their testimony with their blood, claim the succession or perpetuity of the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

Now, you may continue to say, "It doesn't make any difference." It may not to some, yet, I love the Lord and His church, not some man-made church on the same level with the Lord's church.

During the war a lot of young men went to war. Suppose one of these young men was your son—or suppose he was even you, yourself. This young man is returning home thinking of settling down in a home of his own. He hasn't seen his affianced bride for some three years, and now, as his train nears the home railroad station, which is crowded with young women looking for their friends to return, he is more and more anxious to see her. He is standing at the door, waiting for the train to stop, his heart throbbing, for he loved his sweetheart, and then somebody says, "Ah, it really doesn't make any difference which one." Do you think you could make that young man believe that? Then go ahead and call him "narrow."

BRIEF NOTES

The First Missionary Baptist Church of Honolulu, Hawaii, an Independent New Testament Church is in need of a pastor.

Some of their basic beliefs are: 1) that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, 2) Complete immersion for Baptism, 3) Closed Communion, 4) Salvation by grace, 5) Post-tribulation, pre-millennial second coming of Christ.

Please send any inquiries to: First Missionary Baptist Church, 95-155 Paoa Place, Milliani, Hawaii 96789.

The Grace Missionary Baptist Church of 861 East "J" Street and Pastor Clyde F. Hancock of Ontario, California would like to announce they will have a revival meeting August 24-30, 1981.

The guest evangelist will be Elder Berlin Hise, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Harrison, Ohio.

The church and pastor would like to invite all within driving distance to come and worship with them during these special days of revival. For further information call Pastor Hancock at 714-984-8110.

The Sovereign Grace Baptist Church of Marshall, Michigan is in need of a pastor. Elder Steve Hamilton, resigned as of Sunday, July 26, 1981 and this small group are earnestly praying that God will send them someone soon.

Please address all correspondence to Mr. George E. Scott, 21770 - 17½ Mile Road, Olivet, Michigan 49076, or phone 616/781-8012 for further details.

It is better to say a good thing about a bad fellow than to say a bad thing about a good fellow.

"WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD TODAY"

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (EP)—The United States should work to ban nuclear weapons even if it has to start by unilaterally disarming, the 13th General Synod of the 1.8 million-member United Church of Christ says. The synod also reaffirmed the church's liberal outlook on such issues as abortion and federal spending before adjourning July 8.

The 705 voting delegates—among 2,000 people attending from around the world—decided to make "peace" and "family life" top priorities of church activity during the next four years. "We need to cry out for peace and stay on the peace case," said Avery Post, who was re-elected to a second term as president of the church.

Delegates turned aside a motion calling for "a strong, trained and equipped military" and supported a resolution that nuclear disarmament start "even if this process must begin with unilateral initiative on the part of the United States." Some delegates opposed abortion but their motions for the church to go on record favoring family planning and adoption were rejected. Instead of stressing traditional values in family life, delegates voted to minister "to all persons regardless of family patterns."

Post expressed concern that the church—a 1957 union of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Congregational Christian Churches—suffered its 16th straight year of membership losses in 1980.

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif. (EP)—Workers serving with the Summer Institute of Linguistics in Panama were to leave the country Monday, July 7, according to Jerry Elder, Latin America area director.

Elder noted that the Panamanian government had not renewed its contract with SIL, sister organization of Wycliffe Bible Translators, but through the cooperation of various agencies, work has continued for about two years.

He said SIL had been notified May 17 that visas would not be renewed. Word was received the end of June calling for 22 SIL personnel to leave within ten days. Elder said alternate plans are being studied for completion of Scripture translation for five Panamanian language groups.

PEKING (EP)—The Chinese Communist Party has turned to religion to help build popularity for its modernization policies, and the result has been "renewed vitality" for religious groups throughout China, a New York-based delegation of American religious leaders said here July 7.

The party's tolerance of religious practice during the past few years, a reversal of policies followed before 1976, has resulted in an upsurge of religious activity not only among older Chinese believers but also among a younger generation denied exposure to religion since the communist takeover in 1949, the group reported to the New York Times News Service.

The delegation represents the Appeal of Conscience Founda-

tion, founded in 1965 to support religious freedom, especially in communist countries. The foundation also announced it would sponsor two fellows next year from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences to study religious life in the United States. Both communist and non-communist diplomats have said in recent days that they believe the Communist Party's new religious tolerance is motivated by two factors. First, the party needs to curry favor with as many sectors of Chinese society as possible to rebuild its sunken prestige. Second, the party needs to use churches, temples and other religious institutions as tourist attractions for earning foreign exchange.

MONROVIA, Calif. (EP)—Life threatening crises in four African nations has prompted response by World Vision. Dr. Tony Atkins, director of relief and rehabilitation, announced that World Vision is responding to emergencies in Uganda, Upper Volta, Kenya and Zaire with aid totaling \$227,000.

"In many areas of Africa, drought and the continuing stream of refugees due to a variety of circumstances have combined to create tragedies that demand international attention," Atkins said. "World Vision is cooperating with seven other Christian groups to take immediate comprehensive action to assist an estimated 112,000 people in these four nations."

OSLO (EP)—Norway's parliament, the Storting, recently voted to give the (Lutheran) Church of Norway more independence within the existing state church system. Under the new plan, church councils on all levels will be strengthened and given more power, there will be an annual church assembly with authority to decide on certain matters (such as liturgy), and diocesan councils will be able to appoint most clergy. (Bishops and deans will remain civil servants appointed by the government.)

Although many see the measure as one of the most important steps in a long discussion of modifying the state church system, debate on the plan was an "anti-climax," according to the church news service. "There were only scattered attempts to debate the principles of the state church system," it reported, "and only a handful of the members of the Storting were present."

HAMBURG, Germany (EP)—According to a German Evangelical Alliance survey among visitors and those actively involved in the June 'Kirchentag,' the general verdict of evangelicals and similarly oriented groups was 'positive' the rally being seen as a great missionary opportunity. Average total daily attendance at the rally amounted to over 130,000.

In contrast to previous 'Kirchentag,' the evangelicals were relatively strongly represented, particularly as speakers at evangelistic

meetings. It was stated that about 12,000 people had attended missionary-oriented meetings each day, far more than was implied in the German media.

ST. CHRISCHONA (EP)—A youth meeting in St. Crischona near Basel attracted 3,000 young people from Switzerland, the Alsace area of France, and Germany, making it the biggest Protestant youth meeting in Switzerland to date. The theme of the meeting was "Free for God," and the main speaker, social scientist Reinhard Frische of Zurich, considered in his addresses the question: "What does God free us from and what for?" Other discussions and addresses dealt with subjects such as "The political responsibility of Christians" and "Missionary life-style."

WASHINGTON (EP)—Atheism in the Soviet Union has taken a heavy toll on the size of Christian congregations as Moscow strengthens the operations of its Scientific Atheism Center. The Moscow bureau of the Associated Press reports "shock troops of officially-sanctioned Soviet atheism campaigns" have been boasting of growing support for its work.

"Atheism enthusiasts, as the campaigners call themselves, claim that only eight to 10 per cent of the Soviet Union's adults, approximately 15 million people, are still genuinely religious," AP reports. "They (also) claim that each new generation has about one-third fewer religious faithful than the generation before it."

The AP further said that there are plenty of opportunities for the Soviet Union's atheism enthusiasts to do their work with a backbone of lectures to more than 200,000 citizens a year on such subjects as "What Science Knows About Jesus Christ." Their lectures are enhanced by regular anti-religious cartoons and articles in the Soviet Press, a monthly atheism journal called *Science and Religion*, and virulent press attacks on foreign "imperialist" subversives who allegedly play on citizens' religious feelings.

CAIRO, Egypt (EP)—The Egyptian government has granted permission for three Southern Baptist representatives and their families to live in Egypt and work among Baptists.

Two couples, Roger and Linda Rucker and Michael and Madelyn Edens, are studying Arabic in Cairo and another couple will be appointed, said J.D. Hughey, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's director for Europe and the Middle East.

Southern Baptists have had a fraternal representative to Baptists in Egypt for about 25 years, but he has lived in Lebanon or Jordan, making only periodic trips to Egypt as a tourist because of government restrictions on work by "new" mission organizations, Hughey said. Several church organizations which had missionaries in Egypt in the 1930's have been allowed continuing representation in Egypt.

JERUSALEM (EP)—A prominent Israeli scholar has described Southern Baptist Robert Lindsey's New Testament research findings as "important to both Jews and Christians in comprehending

the role and prophetic voice of Jesus in his own day."

David Flusser, professor at Jerusalem's Hebrew University, told the West Jerusalem Baptist Church congregation (where Lindsey is pastor) that he had collaborated for years with Lindsey in the search for a better understanding of the Gospels as records of Christ's life and teachings.

Flusser, author of many books and articles on Jesus, cited among other achievements Lindsey's study of Jesus' use of the expression "kingdom of heaven" to denote his own movement of disciples.

A representative for Southern Baptists in Israel since 1946, Lindsey has spent 22 years translating the New Testament into modern Hebrew. He also directs the New Testament research library and museum at Jerusalem House, a Baptist-run student center, and lectures at Hebrew University and Ben Gurion University.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (EP)—It marks a first: More than 100 delegates from 37 Christian organizations and churches have banded together to form an association of ministries to international students. This is the outcome of the first national Consultation on Christian Ministry to Internationals. May 21-25, at Star Ranch in Colorado Springs, Colo., headquarters for International Students, Inc.

Although the consultation was jointly organized by the leadership of ISI, Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship and the Navigators, never before have so many ministries of all sizes convened to share ideas and goals for a concerted outreach to the five million foreign students, businessmen, diplomats and military trainees now residing temporarily in North America. Other participants included Campus Crusade for Christ, the Southern Baptist Convention's International Student Ministry, and scores of churches and parachurch organization.

PASADENA, Calif. (EP)—An increase of \$100 million per year—the largest single cooperative mission founding goal in history—was announced June 25 by Dr. Ralph D. Winter, General Director of a mission center located in Pasadena, California. Itself a large cooperative center where personnel from 42 mission agencies are already working together, the U.S. Center for World Mission envisions a still larger basis of collaboration involving more than 100 mission agencies and other mission interested evangelical organizations.

The unique focus of this campaign, according to Dr. Winter, is upon frontier missions that is new outreach, not the reinforcement of mission work already well established.

ELIZABETHTOWN, Ill. (EP)—The First Baptist Church here, which claims to be the oldest active Baptist church of any kind in Illinois, noted its 175th anniversary with a two-day-celebration July 18-19.

Ronald L. Nelson, pastor, who has researched the early days of the congregation, says that in early 1806, two Baptist ministers by the names of Stephen Stille and William Jones met at what is now Cairo, and there decided to cross the southern tip of Illinois in search of fellow Baptist families.

Missionary To New Guinea Eld. Fred T. Halliman



FRED T. HALLIMAN

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Write Brother Halliman frequently. His address is:
ELDER FRED T. HALLIMAN,
Sovereign Grace Baptist Mission,
P.O. Box 19, Koroba, via Mendi,
Papua, New Guinea.

These two men established 12 Baptist churches in the area, the first of which is now the First Baptist Church in Elizabethtown.

WINSLOW, Ariz. (EP)—Louis Gomez, a Southern Baptist home missionary from Gallup, N. M., got an unexpected answer when he knocked on the door of the Pete Martindale home in Winslow recently.

A light plane crashed into the opposite side of the house, but didn't make it as far as the front door to let Gomez in. Gomez was in Winslow to conduct a week-long Spanish revival.

Home missionary Allison Holman reports that the pilot was uninjured and the co-pilot had only slight injuries but he added, "Brother Gomez came back to our house and took another blood pressure capsule."

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AUGUST 15, 1981

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God honors no drafts where there are no deposits.

DRINKING

(Continued from Page 6)

with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear."

WHAT DOES JESUS SAY ABOUT DRUNKENNESS? Matthew 24:48-51. "But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My Lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin to smite his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; The Lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

GOD PRONOUNCES WOE UPON THOSE WHO DRINK! Isaiah 5:11. "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!"

WHAT HAPPENED TO DRUNKEN NABAL? I Samuel 25:36-38. "And Abigail came to Nabal; and, behold he held a feast in his house, like the feast of a king; and Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunken; wherefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light. But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. And it came to pass about ten days later, that the Lord smote

Nabal, and he died."

WHAT HAPPENED TO DRUNKEN ELAH? I Kings 16:8-10. "In the twenty and sixth year of Asa king of Judah began Elah the son of Baasha to reign over Israel in Tirzah, two years. And his servant Zimri, captain of half his chariots, conspired against him, and he was in Tirzah, drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza, steward of his house in Tirzah. And Zimri went in and smote him, and killed him, in the twenty and seventh year of Asa, king of Judah and reigned in his stead."

WHAT HAPPENED TO DRUNKEN KING BENHADAD OF DAMASCUS? I Kings 20:16-21. "And they went out at noon. But Benhadad was drinking himself drunk in the pavilions, he and the kings, the thirty and two kings that helped him. And the young men of the princes of the provinces went out first, and Benhadad sent out, and they told him, saying, There are men come out of Samaria. And he said, Whether they be come out for peace, take them alive: or whether they be come out for war, take them alive. So these young men of the princes of the provinces came out of the city, and the army which followed them. And they slew every one, his man, and the Syrians fled; and Israel pursued them: and Benhadad the king of Syria, escaped on an horse with the horsemen. And the king of Israel went out, and smote the horses and chariots, and slew the Syrians with great slaughter."

WHAT HAPPENED TO BELSHAZZAR? Daniel 5:3, 4:23, 30. "Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them. They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone. But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified: In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans, slain."

WHAT DID PAUL SAY TO KING FELIX? Acts 24:25. "And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time: when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee."

WHAT ABOUT NOAH AND HIS SONS? Genesis 9:21-23. "And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without. And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness."

WHAT ABOUT THE FINAL RESULTS? Proverbs 23:20, 21; 29-35. "Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh: For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty; and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags." "Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They hath tarried long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things. Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not; when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again."

"If you want plenty of poverty, plenty of pain, plenty of sorrow, plenty of shame, plenty of broken heads and hearts, Hopes doomed and sealed—be a drunkard."

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