

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

The Baptist Examiner

Baptist Is Our Middle Name

Paid Circulation in All States and in Many Foreign Countries

"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.

WHOLE NUMBER 2360 ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, JANUARY 23, 1982 VOL. 53, NO. 3

FEAR NOT LITTLE FLOCK

by J. B. Fenison
Lexington, Ky.

"...it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the

SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE NOW IN PROGRESS

Beginning immediately and until the end of March will be a good opportunity for our present readers to send in subscriptions to their relatives, friends, pastor, teachers, and all interested parties at a bargain rate of one subscription per year at a cost of \$1.00 each.

On page 8, you will find a special subscription form with room for 10 subscriptions at \$10.00. For each 10 that you send in, we will renew yours free of charge.

Please take advantage of this offer immediately as it may be withdrawn without notice depending upon the quantity that we receive.

ELECTION AND THE GOSPEL

by Pastor O.B. Mink
Mansfield, Ohio

I Thes. 1:4, 5: "Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God. For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance..."

God has appointed unto every man the time of his birth and death, and therefore the limit and full measure of his days (Eccl. 3:2). So as effect follows cause, it is to be understood, God has appointed all means whereby these experiences of man are in every detail realized (Acts 17:25, 26). For the birth of man God has created and appointed man and woman as the means thereunto, for the preservation of man on the earth, God has appointed food and drink, and as the means of his birth and tenure on earth are appointed of the Lord, so are the means of his death.

"This spake He (Christ), signifying by what death he (Peter) should glorify God... (John 21:18, 19). Even so, the elect of God must be "born again," that is, born from above, and God in His infinite wisdom has appointed all the means thereunto. To wit, a Man and a metaphorical woman. The Man, Holy Spirit, and the woman, the Bride of Christ, His blood bought church; to whom has been committed the proclamation and perpetuation of the gospel of saving grace. "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come..." (Rev. 22:17). They that be elected of God to eternal life, are of Him appointed faith, whereby at the ordained time they repent of their sins, and

(Continued on Page 7 Column 3)

kingdom" (Luke 12:32).

This message perhaps should be entitled, "Why God Chose the Little Flock." The world and the world of Christian religion has their eyes on the wise, the great, the rich, the things that are instead of on God. And this fact is readily discerned by the searching eye. God have simply NOT chosen these things and in the end all who do so shall wake up very surprised. Especially after indictments on and despising of what they consider the little things, the foolish, the few or minority, the weak and the things that are base.

At the beginning I want to make it very, very clear, that

what I am about to present does not preclude that the Lord cannot or will not bless or use a larger flock (He uses even the Devil!). Rather, the general rule is that He has not chosen to do so. A case in example is, "Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? But ye have despised the poor" (James 2:5-6). Of course, we understand that this does not mean that NO rich folk have faith! Certainly the Lord is able and does choose to save some rich folk, BUT we also know

(Continued on Page 5 Column 5)

THE JUPITER EFFECT OR THE END IN 1982

by Roy Snell
Charleston, W. Va.

Recently, there have been articles in both the secular/scientific press and in the religious field concerning a celestial phenomenon which is slated to occur in the coming year, 1982. Back as early as 1974 the Science Department of the Newsweek Magazine had an article, along with a drawing, showing a configuration of heavenly bodies which, from our viewpoint on earth, would appear to be in a direct alignment with our own planet. Starting

with the sun the following celestial bodies, and earth, are purported to be moving into this alignment. Nearest the sun is Mercury and then follows Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. This unusual arrangement in the sky is supposed to result in something called "The Jupiter Effect."

We are all reasonably certain that science is correct when it teaches that the phases of the moon have a direct and telling effect on the ocean tides, and of

(Continued on Page 6 Column 5)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon By John R. Gilpin

WHY I CANNOT ACCEPT THE POPE'S INVITATION TO COME TO ROME

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (I Pet. 3:15).

I think that an infidel ought to be able to give an answer, or a reason, for his position. If a man be an atheist or an agnostic, he ought to be able to give a reason for his position. If a man is a Baptist, he ought to be able to give a "thus saith the Lord" for his position. I have a very definite conviction that no man ought to claim to be a Baptist who can't give you chapter and verse for the things for which he may contend.

We are living in a day when such a position on the part of the ministry is almost forgotten. Ecumenicalism is in the air. Protestants who have protested, have quit protesting. The result is, all the Protestant groups are

going to Rome as fast as the highway can be opened. Just as soon as a very few theological barriers have been removed; every Protestant organization in the world will be right back in the fold of "Mammy" and will be perfectly content to be there. So far as I am concerned, I am happy to see them go, and I will be very, very glad to know when the last one has been gathered back into the fold of the old whore.

Catholicism is doing everything to make way for the return of the Protestant organizations into the Romanist fold, yet they are not willing to give us the same freedom of expression they ask for themselves. Within the past few years the Pope has issued many invitations to return to what he calls "the one true church." Now he is at perfect liberty to send out such invitations, and I am glad to give him that

religious liberty; however, he is not willing to give me the same freedom of expression that I am willing to give him.

I cite to you the statement of Pope Leo XIII when he declared:

"It is never permitted to grant freedom of thought, writing, or teaching, and the undifferentiated freedom of religion, as so many rights which nature has given to men."

Also the Catholic Encyclopedia says:

"The church has been and still remains intolerant of all other religions. She regards dogmatic intolerance not alone as her incontestable right, but also her sacred duty."

If you don't think that that is strong enough language on the part of Catholicism, I'll read to you a quotation from the Catholic Gazette in which they said:

(Continued on Page 2 Column 1)

THE SECOND COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

by Julius D. Wishon
Meadowview, Va.

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall see Him as He is" (I John 3:2).



Julius D. Wishon

The coming of our Lord is something we should all be looking forward to, because great

things will happen then. This message is to the people who are the children of God; if you are one of those people who just say, "I hope I am one of the children of God," I fear for your experience—it is not of faith, but just one of hope. Paul has written, "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3:26), which is a know-so salvation. Even in our Scripture lesson text, John had a know-so salvation, because he said, "Beloved, now (present time) are we the sons of God." Yes, when our Lord Jesus died on the cross, this is what He did for those He foreknew as His elect people, "And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross" (Coloss. 2:13, 14).

(Continued on Page 6 Column 4)

THE UNKNOWN CHRIST

by Rick Perdue
Taylorsville, N.C.

"Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, Him declare I unto you" (Acts 17:22, 23).

We live in a so-called "Christian Nation," yet so many who profess to worship Christ worship Him in ignorance. This is painfully demonstrated in the celebration of Christmas. His birth has been all but buried by paganism and commercialism. How ap-

propriately this holiday has been termed Xmas by so many. X is the mathematical symbol for the unknown, and thus it is as Jesus said to the Samaritan woman "ye worship ye know not what" (John 4:22).

Mary has been elevated to the queen of Heaven, the mother of God, and enshrined as the eternal virgin. Both of these precepts are contrary to Scripture. Jesus, no doubt in anticipation of what man would do, pointedly rebuked Mary for presuming maternal authority in John 2:3, 4, and referred to her simply as "woman" (not "Holy Mother"). He did the same when He commended her to John from the cross. Although Mary was a virgin when Jesus was conceived and until after He was born, it is not true that she remained that way. She later had children by natural generation (See Mat. 13:15, 56 and related Scriptures).

Most things in the celebration of Xmas have absolutely no connection with the birth of Christ. Saint Nicholas (better known as Santa Claus) has been introduced, to whom children are encouraged to pray (if you protest this accusation, please tell me how else you would describe it). Many of the attributes of God are ascribed to him: Such as knowing all things and being in more than one place at a time. The Xmas tree has no connection with the birth of Christ. As an evergreen tree it was sacred to many of the pagans of Europe before their "christianization" by Rome. Upon their conquest, the Roman Catholic Church simply incorporated more paganism into their already pagan celebration. Space prevents further examples, but each reader who honestly wants to know the truth is encouraged to search out the origin and significance of those things connected with the celebration of Xmas.

"Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, Him declare I unto you" (Acts 17:23).

Jesus is the Eternal Son of
(Continued on Page 7 Column 2)
(USPS 042-340)

It is only the fear of God that can deliver us from the fear of man.

The Baptist Examiner

THE BAPTIST PAPER FOR
THE BAPTIST PEOPLE

JOHN R. GILPIN, Jr.
Acting Editor

Editorial Department, located in
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, where all
subscriptions and communications
should be sent, Address: P.O. Box 71,
Zip Code 41101.

PUBLICATION POLICIES: All matter for publica-
tion should be sent to the editor. All manuscripts
sent should be typed and double spaced. All such
material becomes the property of TBE and will not
be returned unless requested by the writer. We
reserve the right to edit and condense all materials
sent to us for publication. Church news items must
reach us one month prior to publication.

The publication of an article does not necessarily
mean the editor is in complete agreement with the
writer, nor does it mean he endorses all this person
may have written on other subjects.

COPYING PRIVILEGES: Unless otherwise stated
any article published in the paper may be copied by
other publishers, provided they give a proper credit
line stating that such was copied from this publica-
tion, and the date of publication; provided that such
materials are not published for profit. If we are not
on exchange list with the publication copying, it is
requested that a copy of the issue containing the
articles be sent to our address. All copyrighted
materials may not be copied without written con-
sent.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, except last week of
December, with paid circulation in every state and
many foreign countries.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year \$4.00; Two years \$7.00
Five years \$14.00
CLUB RATE: 15 or more each \$3.00

When you subscribe for others or
secure subscriptions each \$3.00

BUNDLES: 10 to 50 copies to one address \$20.00 for
each 10 yearly; 60 to 100 copies to one address
\$15.00 for each 10 yearly.

FOREIGN: Same as in the United States.

PLANNING TO MOVE? — Notify us three weeks in
advance. The post office does not forward
second class mail unless the addressee guar-
antees the forwarding postage. They charge
us 25c for each "change of address." Please
save us this expense and the post office time.

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

INVITATION

(Continued from Page 1)

"We shall never be satisfied
until the Catholic Faith is ex-
pounded from every pulpit in
the land, and every parish
church in the country not only
has the essentials of Catholic
worship, but is marked also by
those outward things which
mean so much. We do not mind
going slow if necessary. But one
thing we can never do is to ac-
cept a lower ideal than that, or
to accept terms of union with
other bodies as would delay, or
make impossible that ultimate
reunion with our Catholic
brethren throughout the world."

When I read these
statements, I am reminded of
the fact that they certainly want
to be able to control the press,
the radio, the television, and
your home, but they challenge
us, and tell us that we are not to
lift one single finger in opposi-
tion to their position.

When I remember this, I
recall that a some time ago Car-
dinal Spellman went over to
Toronto, Canada. You know
the old Cardinal has all the news
media of the world on his side.
If he sneezes, he gets his picture
in the paper. If he gets a bad
cold, he gets his picture in the
paper. He is recognized all over
the world as the religious voice
of America. Well, a few days
ago, one of the Toronto papers
gave a report concerning Car-
dinal Spellman and what he had
said, when he was there
preaching. His subject was,
"Let's Forget History." Belov-
ed, I don't know when a man
ever preached on a more timely
subject than Cardinal Spellman.
If I had some history like the
Catholics have, I'd be glad to
forget it, too. If I had killed fifty
million Baptists, not counting
hundreds and thousands, and
millions of other dissenters all
over the world, I would like to
have it forgotten, too. If I were
considered, and had been con-
sidered, by sound Baptists all
down through the years as being
the church described under the
figure of "a fallen woman,"

even a whore, I'd be awfully
glad for folk to forget about my
past. If I had the history of
Catholicism behind me, I'd be
awfully glad to have people
forget my history.

Cardinal Spellman's sermon
reminds me of the fellow who is
about to be sentenced for
murder. He is in the courtroom
and he says, "Now, your
Honor, let's not open up these
sordid things of the past. Let's
not talk about all these things
that have happened. It just
opens up the old wounds, and



John R. Gilpin

causes us all to feel badly.
Judge, if it is all right with you,
I'd like for us to forget about the
past: and if you don't mind, I'll
go out now with the Chief of
Police and have a cup of cof-
fee."

Well, that is just about the
sum and substance of the speech
that Cardinal Spellman made in
Toronto some time ago.

I realize that the Catholics in
their ecumenical movement are
trying to get everybody back in-
to the Catholic fold. They are
wanting to make everybody
Catholic. Well, I want to send
Cardinal Spellman a little infor-
mation this morning — I want
to make everybody to be a Bap-
tist. So far as I am concerned, I
have just as much right, and a
little more right, because I have
Scripture on my side, and he
hasn't. So far as I am concern-
ed, I am going to keep at the job
in trying to turn people from
Ecumenicalism, and trying to
turn them from Catholicism and
from Protestantism, and I am
going to keep on trying to make
Baptists out of every person that
I meet. I contend, beloved, if
you give a man a clean heart and
an open Bible, you'll make a
Baptist out of him everytime,
and I am going to keep on trying
to do it.

Now I want to give you some
reasons why I cannot accept the
Pope's invitation to come to
Rome.

I
ROME IS AN APOSTATE
CHURCH — NOT A TRUE
CHURCH.

We read:

"First, I thank my God
through Jesus Christ for you
all, that your faith is spoken
of throughout the whole
world" (Rom. 1:8).

You say, "Brother Gilpin,
was that ever spoken concerning
the Romanists?" It was! It was
spoken by Paul in his day. It
was not spoken of the
Romanists of this day, nor the
Romanists of the year 251 A.D.
In fact, when the Apostle Paul
wrote to the church at Rome, he
was writing to a sound church
that was standing for the prin-
ciples of the Word of God. But
those days passed, and the state-
ment of the Apostle Paul in
Romans 1:8 has never from that
time been applicable so far as
the church of Rome is concern-
ed. According to history, along
about the year 251 A.D., all
sound Baptists declared non-
fellowship for the church of

Rome. In other words, sound
Baptists "booted" them out,
and from that time on, Rome
has been an apostate church.

The Apostle Paul refers to the
true churches as chaste virgins.
Listen:

"For I am jealous over you
with godly jealousy: for I
have espoused you to one hus-
band, that I may present you
as a **CHASTE VIRGIN** to
Christ" (II Cor. 11:2).

While the Apostle Paul refers
to the true church as a chaste
virgin, John, in Revelation 17,
talks about the false churches
under the figure of speech of an
old whore and her harlot
daughters. The old whore is
Roman Catholicism, and the
harlot daughters are the Protes-
tant churches that have come
out of Rome. Now in the light of
these two Scriptures — where
the Apostle Paul talks about
the true churches under the
figure of a chaste virgin and
where John speaks about false
churches as represented by the
impure woman — I say that
Rome is an apostate church,
and for that reason I cannot ac-
cept the Pope's invitation to
come to Rome.

When I was a boy, my mother
tried to teach me some things
that have been very important to
me down through the years. One
of them was that I say "Thank
you," "No, thank you," "Yes,
thank you," and "Thank you,
please." I can remember that
she had a pretty hard time doing
some of the teaching. You
know, my mother was a great
club woman. In fact, she broke
clubs off many trees, and thus
taught me by way of the club
how to say "No, thank you."

This morning, beloved, I'd
like to honor my mother and say
to Pope Paul, "No, thank you,
Pope Paul, I cannot accept your
invitation to turn to Rome,
because Rome is an apostate
church and not a true church."

II
ROME IS FILLED WITH
ERROR.

I couldn't begin in a few
minutes time to give you the
great number of errors that exist
in Roman Catholicism. However,
in the months that I
have been preparing this ser-
mon, I have tried to sum them
all up, and I think that seven er-
rors will illustrate in the main
the majority of the heresies of
Catholicism. All the balance are
just tangents from these seven.

The first error that I mention
is: you can buy your loved ones
out of Purgatory. This was
adopted by the Council of
Florence in 1439. It is not in the
Bible. It is contrary to the Bible,
for Peter said:

"For as much as ye know

(Continued on Page 3 Column 1)

BRIEF NOTE

Two families have committed
themselves to see God raise up a
Reformed Baptist work in
Frederick, Md., and are seeking
to call a pastor who desires a ho-
ly walk with God and will
earnestly contend for the faith.
This would be a tent-making
ministry requiring someone with
a strong desire to see a mission
work such as this established.

We have adopted the
Philadelphia Confession of
Faith, which sets forth the
"Doctrines of Grace," and also
have drawn up a church con-
stitution.

If interested or desire more in-
formation, please write: Paul
and Dottie Becker, 106
Stonegate Drive, Frederick,
Md. 21701 or for further infor-
mation phone 301/694-6759.

NEWS FROM CANADA

Dear Churches and Friends:

Greetings in our Dear Lord's precious name. I pray this finds you
enjoying His love and His Marvelous Grace. Many of you have sup-
ported me with your prayers and offerings of which I am indeed
grateful and praise the Lord for you.

Lillian and I left Pennsylvania May 19 for our church in Ken-
tucky. Stayed there unto May 26, left for our son's home in Spr-
ingfield, Mo., left there for Bro. Sadelin's in Idaho on May 31.
Stayed and preached for him until June 11. We crossed the border
into Canada at 2:45, June 11. The Lord was so good to us at
customs, only took one hour and they didn't check anything. Praise
the Lord, we had everything in order, but if they had checked us, we
had the truck loaded, also the boat (a 24' Pen Yan) — it would have
taken a day or more. We arrived at Calgary, Alberta June 13,
preached for Bro. Bown and left Monday the 15th. Arrived in the
N.W.T. at noon, June 18 and in Yellowknife that night at 12:30
a.m.

A month on the road, preaching at different places on the way,
traveling over 5,000 miles, we were tired, but so glad to be here.
Had very little real trouble, the devil just nit-picking on us. Rained
most of the way, some of our things got wet and had to dry them
out, some mildewed. Our stuff was broken into while we were sleep-
ing in a motel in Montana. They took a few things, but not much.
I've always found in serving the Lord the Devil always tries to
hinder. Friday afternoon June 19, I flew over to Snowdrift and saw
it for the first time. Met the Chief and received permission to come
and live there if I could. I soon found out what he meant. There was
no housing, no place to live, nor any logs to build with. The trees are
small, about 3" in diameter, so I prayed as to what to do. I met the
priest next and he was a true representative of the old Whore. Real-
ly gave me a bad time, told me I wasn't wanted nor needed. Very
natural of them, huh? There was nothing to do but try and catch a
ride back to Yellowknife, no place to even stay a few nights. The
next afternoon I caught a ride. I was so disappointed and sad. I
knew the Lord had called me here, but what now? The Lord had
provided a missionary family for my wife to stay with, so when I got
back we stayed there till June 22. We couldn't stay in Yellowknife
because it was too expensive to live, and the Lord seemed to be
leading in going to Fort Smith. We arrived there the 23rd. Ever
since coming to the N.W.T. except for one night, the Lord has pro-
vided us with free lodging and food at little cost to us until Sept. 14.
An elderly (age 66) Cree lady invited us to winter with her, charging
us \$50.00 a week room and board. She looks after a Cree man (81),
woman (79) and another woman (49). We have a room in the base-
ment of her home and help her with the household chores. Part of
the summer we stayed at Check Point, a very small place (about 10
people) southeast of Fort Simpson about 40 miles. While there we
received our first snow on August 29. No electricity, running water
or modern conveniences, built my first wood fires in over thirty
years to heat water and keep warm.

Living expenses are high. Rent runs from \$350.00 to \$750.00
mostly up. Oil is used to heat with and that runs from \$350.00 to
\$700.00 or better, depending on the type of insulation in the house.
So room and board for \$50.00 a week is quite reasonable. It's just
the Lord taking care of His own, of which we who are so unworthy
are only made worthy in Jesus Christ. Praise His Name! We
couldn't even buy groceries for \$50.00 a week, they are out of sight.

While at Check Point we found there might be a possibility of get-
ting a government house at Snowdrift. We checked this out and
found there was a slight chance. I had to get a written statement
from the Chief or Council that I was permitted to come there as a
missionary. I thought that this would be no problem, seeing as he
already had said I could come. At the time he was in town, so a
meeting was arranged for me. This time he said he couldn't give me
permission, that it would have to come before the Council. That was
over two months ago and, officially, I've heard nothing, but have
heard from a lady that used to live over there. She said that they had
refused to let me come, also heard that the priest had been working
on them since I was there. Luke says something about that in 9:5
and also in 10:10-12. The Lord knows all about it and will have His
way.

In order to minister to Indians in their homes, you have to be in-
vited. There is a lot of prejudice against the white man, and rightly
so, from a lot that I've seen in the short time I've been here. At pre-
sent, we have one Bible Study or discussion with a white family on
Wednesday or Thursday evening, whichever is more convenient for
them. On Friday evening we have a Bible Study at the David
Seiman's (he is white and she is Dogrib), with both-Indians and
Whites attending. Then, on Sunday afternoon we go to Peace Point,
about 80 miles south of here in Alberta and have a Bible Study in
the afternoon and a preaching service in the evening. It is just a
small place, but none of the towns outside of Yellowknife are very
large, just small villages. After our first service there, most of the
families came to the one that invited me, and told them that they
didn't want any preacher there. Those first few weeks they received
a lot of persecution. We've been going there since about September
27. Last Sunday we received a real blessing. When I arrived there
they told me they had a surprise, that one of the families that had
been doing the persecuting, wanted me to hold the service in their
home. For an Indian that is one big step, because by doing so they
have aligned themselves on the missionary's side and left themselves
open to persecution. Please pray for them and their unsaved
neighbors. The more I learn about the Indian, their culture and
ways, the more I realize what a long road lies ahead, but Praise
God, Jesus will walk it with us.

May His love and grace abound in your hearts!

In Christ,
Wayne Mowris
Box 1002
Fort Smith, NWT
Canada XOE opo

INVITATION

(Continued from Page 2)

that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious Blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (I Pet 1:18, 19).

Do you know how the Catholics handle Purgatory? They just make Purgatory to be a great and successful reform school for all the incorrigibles of this world who would not be corrected in time. They correct them in eternity; yet, when you turn to the Word of God you'll find Jesus said:

"There is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; NEITHER CAN THEY PASS TO US, that would come from thence" (Luke 16:26).

The first error that I stand unalterably opposed to, so far as Rome is concerned is the error and heresy of buying one's loved ones out of Purgatory.

The second error is: they put a priest between man and God or what they call the Auricular Confession. I turn to the Word of God and I read:

"For there is one God, and ONE MEDIATOR between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (I Tim. 2:5).

Up yonder in glory is God the Father. Down here on earth are you and I. There is just one mediator to come between God and man, and that is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Notice again:

"But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an UNCHANGEABLE priesthood" (Heb. 7:24).

The Greek for "unchangeable" means simply: "it is unalterable; it does not pass from one to another." The Lord Jesus Christ never handed His priesthood over to anybody else. He is still our priest. He is the only priest that we have.

I cite you another error, in that they put Mary above the Lord Jesus Christ. We read:

"And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou AMONG women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb" (Luke 1:42).

You'll notice that Elizabeth did not say, "Blessed art thou above women," but she said, "Blessed art thou among women."

Sometime ago I saw a picture depicting the Lord Jesus Christ with a scowl on His face, Mary smiling at the sinner, and underneath it was the statement, "Wouldn't you come nearer doing something because your mother asked you, than otherwise?" I thought, what a blasphemous caricature of Almighty God to present Mary as a mediatrix to come between the sinner and Jesus Christ! I say, it is blasphemy to put Mary ahead of the Lord Jesus Christ.

One day, I picked up a clipping where P.J. O'Reilly, who writes in the Question Box of the Sunday Herald, made this statement about the worship of Mary:

"Anybody who believes in praying for others or have others pray for him, like St. Paul does, has not the slightest objection to our Lady's helping us with our prayers to God."

"Christ never said: 'When you pray, you must come to Me alone.' When we Catholics pray we believe in bringing along all the gang we can get, and the holier they are, the more we love to have them."

Beloved, this says that Mary is a part of the gang, and what a gang it is! Whenever they put Mary above my Jesus, you have another reason why I cannot turn to Rome.

Another error is that of Holy Water. The first time I ever saw Holy Water I was in Richmond, Virginia, years ago, as a young boy preacher. A friend of mine decided to take me around, over the city, to show me various places, and he took me into one of those big Catholic cathedrals. Over at one side was a basin with some water in it, and it was dirty and filthy. You know when you wash your dirty hands, how the soap and the grime from your hands coat the basin round about? Well, that was the condition of the Holy Water. As I stood there, I didn't know what it was, and I thought he was going to have me get a drink. Well, just a few days after I came home, a man said he feared an enemy as much as the Devil feared Holy Water. I went back in my mind and I thought about the water over in Richmond that I had seen; and I thought, what would the Devil have to fear of that?

I say to you, beloved, Rome is filled with error, and there are probably forty or fifty Romanist errors that have grown out of the heresy of Holy Water. I tell you, it never was heard of about having any connection with a church that practices anything concerning Holy Water.

The fifth error that I would mention is that of the infallibility of the pope. In 1870, they came along with the idea that when the pope speaks ex cathedra — that is, with his coat on — he can't make a mistake. Personally, it is hard for me to understand this in any wise at all. When I read just recently how that Pope Paul made one statement about Ecumenical Movement that was directly contrary to the statement that Pope John XXIII had made, I asked, how is it that two infallible popes, who can't make a mistake when they have their coat on — how is it that they contradict themselves when they discuss the Ecumenical Movement?

When I think about this crowd who say that they are infallible, I come back to this fact: God pity them for every having taken their coats off. When I think about all the errors that they are guilty of, and all the heresies and false teachings that they have propagated in the world, it must be that they have never put that coat on even down to this day.

For to say that a man can't make a mistake, or to say that a man is infallible, is contrary to the Scriptures which say:

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (I John 1:8).

I tell you, my brother, my sister, so far as I am personally concerned, I couldn't think of going to Rome when I recall this heresy of the infallibility of the pope.

Then there is the heresy of worshipping in an unknown tongue, which began in 600 A.D. Paul said:

"Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue" (I Cor. 14:19).

A few years ago, a friend who lived across the street from me died, and out of courtesy I went to the funeral. This friend was a Catholic. The doctor who had



Psalm 22:1-5

Intro: Of all of the prophecies concerning the Person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ, none are any more vivid or expressive than Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53. Both take us to "the death of the

attended this woman who had died, likewise out of courtesy went to the funeral. He and I sat together. After the service was over, not a word of which either of us understood, and which lasted for some hour and half, with them walking around the casket and sprinkling unholy water all over unholy people, I came back and said, "Paul, say it again: 'I had rather speak five words with my understanding than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.'"

Another heresy that is grievous and which I cannot accept is that of Lent and Good Friday, which began 998 A.D. Beloved, that is just a trick of the Devil for a man to think that he can in some wise starve himself, or refrain from some habit for some 40 days' time and get enough religion that will permit him to live like the Devil for the rest of the year. You just simply can't do it. Whenever I think about Good Friday, I say that a man certainly has to be some juggler of figures, and he has to use even more than arithmetic if he can say that the words of Jesus Christ can be juggled to accommodate the idea of Christ being crucified and buried on Friday and raised on Sunday morning. Jesus said that He was going to be in the grave for 72 hours. Listen:

"For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Mt. 12:40).

I want to ask you if you have enough sense to count to three. If you have, then let's count on our fingers—one, two, three. Have you got sense enough to go that far? Are you that intelligent? Then if you are, what does language mean when Jesus Christ said that as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the fish, so shall He be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth? If you have enough sense to count to three, even on your fingers, go back and try to bury Jesus on Friday afternoon and get Him out of the grave on Sunday morning. If you can, you'll be a greater mathematical genius than Einstein, and you'll know more about modern arithmetic than these modern teachers know about it today.

I say, beloved, I consider these seven errors as the foundational errors of Catholicism. To be sure there are hundreds of others, but these are outstanding. Study these seven errors, and you'll find that virtually all of the balance of the errors of Catholicism stem from these seven. I come back and I say, "No, thank you, Pope Paul, I can't come to Rome, because Rome is filled with error."

III

ROME REJECTS THE BI-

(Continued on Page 4 Column 5)

The Baptist Examiner

BIBLE STUDY LESSON

By WILLARD PYLE

Pastor — First Baptist Church of Naples Park, Florida

cross" where we see God lay on Him the iniquity of us all as He was made to be sin for us (Philp. 2:8; Isa. 53:6; II Cor. 5:21). Yes, Christ fulfilled all things written of Him (Luke 24:25-27, 44) by which He obtained eternal redemption for us (Heb. 9:12). Nothing should move us to prayer, praise, and patience quicker than to meditate on this.

VERSE 1

"My God, My God." An impressive and expressive cry of faith and dependence to the God of strength from the heart of the Man of sorrows Who was acquainted with grief (Isa. 53:3); Who was in all points tempted like we are, yet without sin (Heb. 4:15); Whose steps we are to follow (I Pet. 1:21). The afflicted saint can find encouragement from the afflicted Son Who "committed Himself to Him that judged righteously" (I Pet. 2:23).

"Why?" This is not a cry of unbelief, or of objection, or of ignorance, but is a cry to show the intensity of suffering. No man has the capacity to feel as intently as the Perfect Man, Christ Jesus. His senses, or nerves were not deadened by depravity or abuse.

"Hast Thou forsaken Me?" A question asked for our benefit. Again, only the Begotten Son could know the blessed communion of perfect harmony that He and the Father experienced (John 17:21, 25). Jesus knew the presence of the Father all of His journey until this hour. He was now made a curse for us (Gal. 3:13), and therefore as He died under a broken law for us, He died alone (Heb. 1:3). He was forsaken as the Man Christ Jesus that we may never be forsaken (Heb. 13:5). We cry out, "How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!" (Rom. 11:33). Even though the multitudes had forsaken Him, yea, even the disciples; nothing affected Him like the forsaking of the Father.

"Why art Thou so far from helping Me?" This further emphasizes the absolute withdrawal of all support. As mysterious as this is, (I Tim. 3:16), Jesus died without the support of man, angels, or the Father.

"And from the Word of My roaring." We are now dealing with the humanity of Christ in agony of suffering as He cries, "let this cup pass from Me;" however, this is prefaced with, "If it be possible," and concluded with, "Nevertheless not My will, but Thine, be done" (Matt. 26:39; Luke 22:42). Jesus was calling out in agony (Luke 22:44), but not in defeat.

VERSE 2

"O My God." A continuation of the call and an intensification, but not a change in relation or meaning.

"I cry in the daytime." His waking hours were filled in making His requests known unto God. Would God, we would fill our schedules with seasons of prayer.

"But Thou hearest not." An answer to prayer should be expected, and God's silence doesn't mean He hasn't answered, or won't answer.

Therefore we are to continue in prayer, seeking to make sure we are praying in accordance with God's revealed will. The principle is true in relation to David and to all saints. As it applies to Christ, it would have to be in His humanity as He lived under the law.

"And in the night season, and am not silent." Prayer is for all seasons and at all times. We should pray in times of prosperity and in times of adversity. The cross was the night season for Christ as it was His hour of suffering. Thank God, the night season for all saints will soon be over.

VERSE 3

"But Thou art holy." This is one of the greatest lessons we can ever learn, for even though we don't understand, we can always realize God's ways are not our ways, nor His thoughts, our thoughts (Isa. 55:8, 9), and that His judgments are "true and righteous altogether." This is what Job meant when he said, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the Name of Lord" (Job 1:21). The Man Christ Jesus said, "Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in Thy sight" (Matt. 11:26).

"O Thou that inhabitest the praise of Israel." Their songs of exaltation and adoration are always in order; may they therefore never cease. The Man Christ Jesus joined in a song of praise to His Father (Matt. 26:30; Heb. 2:12).

VERSE 4

"Our fathers trusted in Thee." Their songs of praise were in response to your faithfulness unto them.

"They trusted, and Thou didst deliver them." They depended on You in all kinds of situations and circumstances, and You never failed to bring glory to Your Name and blessings to them. This served as a basis for Christ's prayer, and should serve to motivate us. Therefore, even though You are silent now, I know and I say this so all saints will know, Your will, will be done.

VERSE 5

"They cried unto Thee and were delivered." The three Hebrew children are only one example of this truth; there were many examples before and after this.

"They trusted in Thee, and were not confounded." No one will ever have to say, "I'm ashamed I trusted in the Lord." It may appear for a time to the world that God has forgotten or failed, but never to the eye of faith. Christ looked beyond the cross to the glory that surely was to follow (Heb. 12:2).

Conclusion: What a great and glorious lesson for the saints, as well as marvelous doctrinal truth in these verses. Even though there is more intense suffering to follow for Christ and afterwards for His churches, victory is assured.

(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).

The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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

In the parable of the sower, Matthew 13:1-23, we have the seed falling on stony ground, vs. 5, 6, 20, 21. Is this a description of one losing their salvation?

HANSFORD HOLMES

506 Bream St.
Charleston, W. Va.
25312

LAYMAN,
TEACHER
and
WRITER



Hitherto Jesus had been preaching and working miracles; but now, in response to the casting out of demons by Jesus, the Scribes and Pharisees blasphemously ascribed that Jesus did that by the assistance of Satan.

However, in this parable of the sower, we have a new course of teaching by Jesus, which, for simplicity and grace, there is a fullness and variety of spiritual instruction, such as cannot be found in any language.

Hence, in the beginning of seven parables, Jesus delineates the nature of the workings of the Word of God in terms of "sowing," the efficacy of which is measured by the workings of the grace of God, which, in turn, makes the heart fit for the reception of the Word of God to the advantage and benefit of His pre-chosen people.

Too, in respect to the adverse conditions of reception, we also learn how far some persons may go in hearing the Word of God and yet fall short of the grace of God in not having any dependence on the hearing of the eternal Word of God.

So, as to such adverse reaction, there are three categories which are introduced by the expression, "some fell," as relating to "the seed."

The first reaction, then, relates to "the seed" that "fell by the wayside," but was unfruitful because it fell not in the heart. Therefore "the fowls (demon influences) came and devoured them" (Mt. 13:4). This, no doubt, relates to Satan and his principalities and powers, which rove about in the air, come down on earth, and seek whom they may devour. Too they often mix themselves in religious assemblies in order to do what mischief they can (Job 1:6, 7).

Then, again, in the second reaction, "some (not all of the seed) fell upon stony places... and having no root, they withered away" (Mt. 13:5, 6). This is expressive of such persons who have slight conviction of sin in the awakening of their natural conscience. This, in turn, gives them a little light with speculative notions of the Word of God in their understanding and judgment. Too, in this, they may have some flashes of natural affection for the Word with outward expressions of delight and pleasure with some show of grace and a form of godliness, but no real "heart-work" of the grace of God salvation-wise. Hence, they

remained dead in trespasses and sins; yes, to them, the Word of God was not the saviour of life unto them, or the Spirit that giveth life. This truth is also exemplified in Matthew 13:20, 21.

Also, in the third case, there is an adverse reaction, as related in Matthew 13:7, 8, 22, concerning "some" that "fell among thorns.... which sprang up and choked them." This, no doubt, speaks of "the care of this age, and the deceitfulness of riches" which "choke the word" in such a manner as to make it "unfruitful." This means that there is no staying principle of the grace of God in the heart of that person, in which there is deceitfulness.

But thanks be unto God, there are "other seeds" that "fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit...." (Mt. 13:8, 23). This speaks of receiving of "the seed in good ground," as "he that heareth the word, and understandeth it, who also beareth fruit...." This, of course, is in answer to God-given faith in conjunction with the hearing of the Word of God. Such heart-faith is effectual in that "the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit Who is given unto us" (Rom. 5:5).

CLYDE T. EVERMAN

108 Burdall Ave.
Ft. Mitchell, Ky.
41017

Deacon
Calvary
Baptist Church
Ashland, Ky.



The Bible is so full of proof that those who have their faith in the shed blood of Christ are eternally secure — have everlasting life — eternal life — life with no end, that there should be no argument for those who believe the Bible to be the Word of God.

To look at just a few passages of Scripture which show this, we first go to a most familiar passage, (John 3:16) which tells us, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." In John 3:36 we are told, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life." In John 6:37 Jesus tells us that, "All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and he that cometh to Me I will in no wise (under no circumstances) cast out." He also said in John 10:28, "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall NEVER perish. Neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand." In Romans 8:31-39 everything that could possibly effect our relationship with God, is listed; and then, to make double sure everything is covered, including one's self, the Holy Spirit caused Paul to write, "Nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in

Christ Jesus our Lord."

In I John 5:10, 11 we are told that any one who claims that one can lose his salvation is saying that God has not told the truth, for here we read, "He that believeth not God hath made Him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of His Son. And this is the record that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son."

From these passages of Scripture, as well as many many more which could be quoted, we see that the answer to the question is NO! this is not a description of one losing his salvation. Matthew 13:21 tells us that he is one who has no root in himself, therefore, like seed that falls upon a rock can not grow because of lack of soil, the Word which he hears can not produce fruit. He is one who hears the Word and makes a profession and seems to be full of zeal, yet having no root in himself - not being a true Christian, not seeing his true condition, nor the truth concerning the death of Christ, so when he is tired and persecution comes, he falls — as the grain on the stony ground, without roots withers before the hot sun.

OSCAR MINK

219 North Street
Crestline, Ohio
44827

PASTOR
Mansfield
Missionary
Baptist Church
Mansfield, Ohio
44906



"...Is this a description of one losing their salvation?" Certainly not! Salvation from the penalty of sin is a gift of God (Ro. 6:23, John 10:27), and "The gifts and calling of God are without repentance" (Ro. 11:29). Man does nothing to merit salvation, and there is nothing he can do to lose it, but he can and often does abuse it. In abusing salvation man loses the joy otherwise associated with it, but never ever can the redemption purchased by the sacrificial blood of Christ be forfeited.

To show how utterly defenseless the position is of those who hold to the possibility of the final apostasy of a believer, Paul says, "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put Him to an open shame" (Heb. 6:4-6). The dilemma which the "saved today and lost tomorrow" crowd faces is, the saved person is eternally saved, or if he falls from salvation he is eternally lost.

Paul says, "For it is impossible... if they fall away, to renew them again unto repentance." They cannot have it both ways, either the saved person is eternally saved, or his fall therefrom is eternally irreparable. The truth is, "...They are preserved forever..." (Ps. 37:28).

The "way side," "stony places," and "thorns," (Mt. 13:4-6), figuratively speaks of the religiously deceived, who for a time appear as if they were genuine professors. But being without true understanding, rootless, fruitless, and overwhelmed with the care of this world (Mt. 13:18-22), soon manifest their true nature by opposing the Lord's church and His Word, and go disturbingly out from it, manifesting that they were never of it (I John 2:19). They are above all corporeal creatures the most endangered species, for there is nothing more hazardous a person can do than antagonize the Lord's church. May their breed ever decrease.

JOSEPH M. WILSON

Route 3
1450 Old Hollow
Road
Winston, Salem
N.C. 27105

PASTOR
Grace Baptist
Church
Stanleyville, N.C.



"Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth...and when the sun was up they were scorched because they had no root, they withered away" (Matt. 13:5, 6).

"I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish" (John 10:27).

The second Scripture given proves by the words of Jesus Christ that a saved person has eternal life and shall never perish. This doctrine is taught in a very large number of other Scriptures. It is so clearly the doctrine of the Bible, that a man is utterly disqualified to be a teacher of the Bible who denies this. If the Bible teaches anything at all, it surely teaches "once saved, always saved." Now since the Bible cannot and does not contradict itself, then so Scripture can teach that a person can lose his salvation. So, of course, the stony ground part of this parable does not teach that one can lose salvation.

The seed in this parable is the Word of God, especially the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. The soil represents the heart of men into which the seed falls. The springing up in this part of the parable represents a profession of salvation. But the bringing forth of fruit represents the true salvation experience. Only those who bring forth fruit are saved. This part of the parable speaks of one who receives the Word, makes a profession, but because they do not have a genuine experience of salvation, their profession does not last and they fall away. I John 2:19 is a description of these people. An easy, quick profession is often a false profession.

This parable teaches that there are three hindrances to the successful issue of sowing the seed. 1. The condition of the soil: of man's heart by nature. 2. The work of the devil: the birds catching the seed away. 3. The world in its influence over man represented by the seed among the thorns. The world, the flesh, and the devil are the great hindrances to the salvation experience represented by bring

forth fruit. This parable teaches that there are two essentials to the successful issue of the sowing of the seed. 1. The preparation of the heart, for the soul (heart) is not good by nature, but must be prepared. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. 2. The sowing of the seed. This is the giving of the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. Hardshell heretics, please note that there was no life apart from the sowing of the seed. What a great parable! What a Hardshell and Arminian killer is this!

JAMES HOBBS

Rt. 2, Box 182
McDermott, Ohio
45652

PASTOR
Kings Addition
Baptist Church
South Shore, Ky.



This parable has, I believe a description of four types of people who hear the Word. Two of them are unsaved and two are saved.

The wayside ground represents the hardened sinner who never has anything to do with Christianity. The stony ground is those who hear, make a profession of faith, but are not possessors of Christ as Savior. (these are the religious people who make up the majority of religious organizations). The thorny ground is a picture of a person who is saved but allows material things to choke his spiritual life. The good ground, of course, represents the few who serve Him in His church and live a godly life.

You are asking about the stony ground. The key to this is that they have no roots. "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: rooted and built up in Him..." (Col. 2: 6, 7). You see we are grafted in Christ and He is our roots. If there are no roots there is no salvation. "Yet hath he not root in himself..." (vs. 21).

Anyone who thinks this teaches that one can lose his salvation does not believe in a sovereign God who saves and keeps. "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..." (Heb. 12:2). "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life..." (John 3:36).

INVITATION

(Continued from Page 3)

BLE AS FINAL

I turn to the Word of God and I find that the Bible claims to be final. Listen:

"And Balaam answered and said unto the servants of Balak, if Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold I CANNOT GO BEYOND THE WORD OF THE LORD my God, to do less or more" (Numb. 22:18).

"What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt NOT ADD thereto, NOR DIMINISH from it" (Deut. 12:32).

"Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. ADD THOU NOT unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar" (Prov. 30:5, 6).

"To the law and to the testimony, if they speak not ACCORDING TO THIS WORD, it is because there is no light in them" (Isa. 8:20).

"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of" (Continued on Page 5 Column 1)

Some spend time counting the cost of following Christ when they should consider the cost of not following Him.

INVITATION

(Continued from Page 4)

the prophecy of this book. If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book, and if any man shall TAKE AWAY from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book" (Rev. 22:18, 19).

In the light of these five texts of Scripture, I say to you, the Bible all the way from the Pentateuch to Revelation declares that it is final in every particular. But Rome doesn't believe it. Rome doesn't accept it as such. You ask a Catholic where he gets his doctrine and he will tell you he gets it out of the Bible, but they don't stop with the Bible. You ask them how much more they accept, and they will say they take tradition — everything that tradition handed down to them they'll put right along with the Bible. They go still further and take what the councils have said. In doing so, they'll cite all the Catholic councils that have been held back through the ages, and they'll put those in and say they are on a par with what the Bible says. Then ever since they found out that the Pope couldn't sin when he had his coat on — ever since 1870 — they have added a fourth thing, and that is the Pope's word is absolute and final in every particular. When you put these four together, you can hold up what Catholics believe on the one side, and hold up what Baptists believe on the other, by way of the Word of God, and I'll have to say today to Pope Paul, "No, thank you, Pope Paul, I can't come to Rome because Rome rejects the Bible as the final word of authority."

IV

ROME DOESN'T ALLOW YOU TO READ THE BIBLE.

You say, "Brother Gilpin, that just isn't so. They are glad to have their people read the Bible." A man that would make the statement that Rome wants their people to read the Bible needs his head examined. Any man with one eye and half sense knows the Romanist priests don't want their people to read the Bible. Here is a statement from the Catholics themselves when they were giving advice unto Pope Julius III as to the best way in which to strengthen their church. They said:

"Lastly, of all the advice we can give to your beatitude, we have reserved to the end the most important. Mainly that as little as possible of the Gospel, especially in the mother tongue, be read in all the countries subject to your jurisdiction. That little which is usually read at mass is sufficient, and beyond that, no one whatever must be permitted to read. While men were content with that little, your interest prospered, but when more was read, they began to decay. To sum up all: that book, the Bible, is the one more than any other that has raised against us these whirlwinds and tempests whereby we were almost swept away. And, in fact, if anyone examines it diligently and then contrasts therewith the practice of our church, he'll perceive the great discordance, and that our doctrine is utterly different from and often very contrary to it, which if the people understood, they will not cease their clamor against us till all be divulged,

and then, we shall become an object of universal discord and hatred. Wherefore, even these few pages must be put away with considerable caution, lest so doing raise up greater uproars.

The Bible says:

"Mine own mouth shall condemn me" (Job 9:20).

By their own testimony Rome is condemned. Rome wants her people to have just as little of God's Word as possible.

Beloved, I want to be a member of a church that believes the Bible, that reads the Bible, that studies the Bible, and teaches the Bible. When Catholics prosper, they prosper by not reading the Bible, whereas Baptists prosper by reading the Bible. What a contrast!

We bring you here to Ashland to our Bible Conferences for one purpose, that we might give to you the Word of God; that it might be a "shot in the arm" so far as you are concerned and that your love and your fidelity toward the Word of God might be deepened. We want you to read the Word of God. We want you to go back home and read it more than ever before, and study it more than ever before, because, as I say, Baptists prosper through the reading of the Bible.

When I recall that Catholics prosper by not reading the Bible, then I say, "No, no, Pope John, I can't come to Rome, because Rome doesn't want me to read the Bible."

V

ROME IS GOING TO BE DESTROYED.

We read:

"But he answered and said, Every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be ROOTED UP" (Mt. 15:13).

"And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall HATE the whore, and shall make her DESOLATE and NAKED, and shall EAT HER FLESH, and BURN HER with fire" (Rev. 17:16).

God never planted the Catholics, and God never planted the Protestants. He never planted the old whore, and He never planted the harlot daughters that have come out of her. He says that He is going to root them up, and I am looking forward to the day when it is going to come to pass.

You say, "Brother Gilpin, that never will come to pass. That was written, way back there, a long time ago." Yes, beloved, but I remind you that we have a God that is sovereign, who keeps every promise. He has never broken any promise spoken, and He is going to keep His word. Some of these days Catholicism is going to be rooted up, because God said it within His Word.

Rome, I say, is going to be destroyed. And do you know what I am going to do when it is destroyed? I'll give you a preview. I am going to be in the crowd that is going to shout over their destruction. Listen:

"And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, ALLELUIA, Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God. And again they said, ALLELUIA, And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen: ALLELUIA. And I heard as it were the voice of a great

multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, ALLELUIA: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth" (Rev. 19:1, 3, 4, 6).

Beloved, I wouldn't want to be a member of a church that is going to be destroyed. I wouldn't want to have anything to do with a church that I knew was doomed for destruction. I wouldn't want to have anything at all to do with a church that I knew couldn't prosper in the future. What man in his right mind would want to remain pastor of a church, or want to be in a church, if he thought that church couldn't prosper? Beloved, I say to you, I wouldn't want to be a member of the church of Rome because it is going to be destroyed. Instead, I thank God to be a member of one that goes all the way back to Jerusalem with a promise concerning it. Listen:

"And upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell SHALL NOT PREVAIL against it" (Mt. 16:18).

I can't go to Rome, and I can't have anything to do with Rome, I'll have to say, "No, thank you, Pope Paul, Rome is going to be destroyed, and I don't want to be a member of a church that is doomed for destruction."

VI

THE POPE NEEDS TO BE SAVED.

Finally, I'll have to say, "No, thank you," to the Pope, because the Pope himself needs to be saved.

You say, "Brother Gilpin, that is blasphemous to say anything against the religious leader of the world." Whose religious leader? Maybe he is yours, but he is not mine. You talk about him being the religious leader of the world. Do you know what he said a some time ago? He said that there was no salvation outside of the Catholic Church. These were his own words. I say to you any man who makes a statement like that, needs salvation. If I were an Arminian, I'd say he needed to take a trip to the mourner's bench. As a Calvinist, I'll say he needs to come to Calvary. I tell you, any man who says there is no salvation outside the Romanist Church is unsaved himself. He is bound to be a child of the Devil, for a saved man who says there is no salvation outside the Romanist Church is unsaved himself. He is bound to be a child of the Devil, for a saved man would not talk that way.

You say, "Brother Gilpin, surely if a man is a church member, that is all that is necessary." Let me tell you something, beloved, I don't care what kind of baptism you have, and I don't care what church you are a member of, if you haven't been washed in the blood of the Lamb, you are a child of the Devil, an unsaved individual, and you need Jesus Christ as your Saviour. After you are saved, I care what church you are a member of, and I care what kind of baptism you have, and I care what kind of doctrine you hold. I don't care what baptism you have — sprinkling, pouring, immersion, or whether you have had it all — I don't care whether you are a Catholic, Jew, Protestant, or Baptist, if Jesus Christ hasn't saved your soul, you are a lost man. If you are depending upon church membership for your salvation, you are as sure of Hell as though you were already there.

We read:

OUR COMFORT

When we need someone as comfort,
To understand and to care,
We find such a peace in knowing
Our Sovereign Lord is there.

Even though our strength may fail us,
And we feel we just can't stand,
God's grace is all sufficient;
He upholds us by His Hand.

Though the storms of night may frighten,
Or trials by day despair,
Our source of help shall ever be
As close to us as a prayer.

He gives us songs in the night time,
And hope for the coming day,
His Spirit to lead and guide us;
Blessings time can't take away.

Praise goes alone to God Most High
For sustenance sure and real;
Our constant Refuge and Fortress
Perfect Hiding Place and Shield.

Lynda Edwards
Charlotte, N.C.

"Without shedding of blood is no remission" (Heb. 9:22).

"The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (I John 1:7).

"Who his own self BARE OUR SINS IN HIS OWN BODY on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness by whose stripes ye were healed" (I Pet. 2:24).

Thank God for salvation by way of the blood of Jesus! "No, thank you, Pope Paul, I can't come to Rome. I can't have anything to do with you, because you need salvation yourself."

CONCLUSION

Brother, sister, I feel sorry for Pope Paul. He is a deceived man, and he is deceiving others by the thousands and the millions. The Bible says, "If the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch." Beloved, the word "ditch" is the second largest word in the Bible for Hell and that means that all are going to Hell.

I'd like to sit down beside Pope Paul this morning. I wouldn't want to kiss his big toe. I wouldn't give him 200 lire or \$20.00 for a conversation, or an audience. But I'd like to say, "Pope Paul, your hand can't save anybody." I'd like to say, "Pope Paul, there is one that can save — my Jesus." I'd like to point every Catholic, and I'd like to point every Hell-bound Protestant and every Hell-bound Baptist who has never seen Jesus as a Saviour — I'd like to point them to the Lord Jesus Christ, the only One that can save.

I say, "Pope Paul, I appreciate your invitation," but I'll have to add "No, thank you, I can't come to Rome, but I'd like to take you over to Calvary and introduce you to the Jesus that died on Calvary, and when you are saved, I'd like to take you into Calvary Baptist Church and baptize you. I'd like to see you begin to walk with the Lord." But will it happen? Probably not, but I'll tell you what is happening. God is gathering together a little group here, and a little group there — His elect — and God is giving us a shot in the arm — something to strengthen us — something to make us stand up in the face of Pope Paul, and all of his gang, and enable us to stand for Jesus and His Word until Jesus Christ comes.

When the Revolutionary War

was almost to an end, General Washington called all of his generals to a conference and said, "This war can never be ended until Stony Point has been taken." He said, "If some man will lead a detachment of soldiers up Stony Point, I'll be glad to help lay the plans." A young man by the name of Anthony Wayne, for whom Wayne County, West Virginia, was later named, stepped forward and saluted, and said, "General Washington, I'll go." Washington said, "But, Wayne, you are one of the youngest men in my army." Anthony Wayne saluted again and said, "But, General Washington, if you lay the plans, I'd storm Hell."

Beloved, the Lord Jesus Christ has already laid the plans, and God is calling on you and me. He wants us to storm Hell. He wants us to stand for Him, to contend for His Word, and to be true to His Book and His church until Jesus comes. May God bless you!

FLOCK

(Continued from Page 1)

that this is not the general rule. Please let us not be falsely accusing this pastor about this as a result.

Brethren in little churches, please take courage, if ye will be faithful, it is to you that our Lord wants to encourage and comfort with this great promise. Claim it, boast in it as Paul did, and go forth realizing that it is the LITTLE FLOCK God has certainly chosen to give the rule of His kingdom unto. May I say without reservation, PRAISE GOD WE ARE A LITTLE FLOCK! I would rather be a member of a little flock than a big one because Jesus chose it! Friend, do you abhor that statement in this Godless time of SUPER CHURCHES? I feel sorry for you then that you have not chosen God's choice, the little flock. Kick, rave, accuse and despise, but it still remains the blessed truth, the Lord has chosen to give the reigns of the coming kingdom to the little flock. "Fear not little flock; for it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

Why Did God Choose The Little Flock?

(1) To Confound The Wisdom of Man: "But God" (Continued on Page 6 Column 1)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
JANUARY 23, 1982
PAGE FIVE

God could create a thousand worlds, but He could not save a single soul without the cross of Christ.

FLOCK

(Continued from Page 5)

hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised hath God chosen, yea, the things which are not to bring to nought the things that are: that no flesh should glory in his presence" (I Corinthians 1:27-29).

The principals of the above Scripture should make it very clear to any fair minded child of God the reason why God chose the little flock.

(2) God has made his promises to the little.

Samuel said to Saul, "When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel" (I Samuel 15:17).

When God chose Israel it was said, "The Lord did not set his love upon you because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people" (Deuteronomy 7:7).

When God chose David, he said to Samuel concerning the other brothers, "Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart" (I Samuel 16:6-7). This was said to Samuel the prophet after he had already been convinced by the outward appearance of the eldest of the sons of Jesse. David the least and youngest God had chosen to the surprise of all!

Ah, yes, he that is the least in the world's estimation shall be the greatest in God's purpose. "Fear not little flock" ye may be despised and rejected of man like your master, ah, but fear not, "It is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

(3) Because God Abhors The Multitude Taking Credit for what He does! Israel had 32,000 soldiers compared to 135,000 Midianites who were said to be as grasshoppers for multitude (Judges 7:3, 12; 8:10). God said to Gideon, "The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me" (Judges 7:2). Gideon sent 22,000 home and God said he still had too many. Gideon ended up with 300 through which God destroyed 135,000. Brethren, this is God's chosen way. If you are a little flock, have faith and rejoice to be God's chosen.

I know of a very despised church of less than 40 members whom God has used to teach his truths to more men all over the world than any big church I know of. Praise God!

(4) Because God's Strength Is Made Perfect In Weakness. "For my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore, I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then am I strong" (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

A small church is a weak

church humanly speaking. A despised church is a church who has lost her testimony in today's evangelical philosophy. A needy church is a church who has no finances, thus no going power in missionary ideology. But listen to the only two churches in Revelation whom the Lord found no fault with:

"And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan. Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Revelation 2:8-10).

"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; I know thy works: behold I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it; for THOU HAST A LITTLE STRENGTH, and hast kept my word; and hast not denied my name. Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee" (Revelation 3:7-9).

I pray that you will see how these verses fit together. Brethren, there are a whole lot of people who say they are God's churches (Jews), who are not really churches, and they despise and ridicule God's little flocks saying they are too weak and poor, etc. How surprised they will be when they see themselves shut out of that privileged place of ruling in the kingdom with Christ as His bride. Yes, and having to come and bow down at her feet. "Fear not little flock, it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

(5) Because the Nature of Man, Saved or Lost, Is to Hide or Rest in the Way and Comfort of Numbers. The reason. "That many people can't be all at once wrong!" or then it may be in a retort. "You think that your little old bunch are the only ones that have the truth and that everybody else is wrong." May I remind you dear friend TRUTH resides in the FEW, whether you like it or not, it can not be successfully denied, "Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction and MANY there be which go in thereat; because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and FEW there be that find it" (Matthew 7:13-14).

(6) Because the Lord's Church is as a Body. "Ye are the (a) body of Christ, and members in particular" (I Cor. 12:27). "And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member is honoured, all the members rejoice with it" (v. 26).

I know by experience, that in a big church there is no possibility of this kind of a relationship of mutual sharing of each others sorrows and joys. Many members don't even know each other, let alone being able to suffer or rejoice with one another.

(7) Because largeness brings



QUESTION:—Who was the first biologist?

ANSWER:—Solomon, First Kings 4:29, 33 — "And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore... And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes."

worldliness, and worldliness brings judgment from God. This statement is an axiom proven by every assembly, organization or nation that ever existed. Largeness brings plenty, plenty brings laxity, laxity brings corruption, corruption brings judgment. Large Churches are without exception plagued with loose discipline and leaven.

(8) Because Truth Divides and Eliminates Weak Christians who presumptuously refuse to grow. Jesus in the sixth chapter of John sets the pattern. He had great multitudes following him until he got into some hard doctrine, and then: "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God" (vs. 66-68).

After about three and one half years of intense missionary work all over the land of Israel, Jesus the Prince of glory only retained one hundred and twenty members and most of them had left him when the going got rough. Yes, "Few there be that find it," that is the Lord's little despised flock. The Truth, of which it is a Pillar and Ground of, is too hard for ninety-nine percent of professed Christians. They had five thousand converts on the day of Pentecost and much more added thereafter, to the tune of possibly twenty-five thousand. What about it?

(1) These converts were from all parts of the Roman world (Acts 2:8-12), and from several Scriptures are seen to have returned to their parts with the new found faith, and probably, were later formed into churches as we find many scattered throughout these regions in early history.

(2) God was unhappy with the large loose church at Jerusalem it seems. He told them to start at Jerusalem — not stay there. They were to go into Judea, Galilee and the world, also. Nimrod, against God's plan, tried to get all the people to stay together in one place. God confused their tongues and scattered them. So it was with Jerusalem, to be extent that only the apostles were left there (Acts 3:1). Yes, they got pretty big at Jerusalem. They got pretty loose, also. They had some come from Jerusalem who taught that you had to keep the law to be saved after you had trusted

Christ by Grace through faith (Acts 15). God raised up Saul to persecute and scatter them, and then, made him Paul to do what they should have done, that is, start churches everywhere.

Before the persecution by Saul everybody always spoke of the Church at Jerusalem. After the Church at Jerusalem was scattered and there remained only the apostles, then you hear and read, "...then had the churches rest throughout all JUDEA, and GALILEE and SAMARIA" (Acts 9:31).

A Big Statement

There is not a big church that can be found that if the pastor follows the footsteps of Jesus Christ that can retain the majority of them. They will leave him saying things like, "You think you are the only ones that have the truth" and depart from it: or "you're too hard" or "you're a dictator," not really knowing what one is according to the dictionary.

This will happen because you lead the church to enforce what is preached. They might say, "If I can't wear pants, watch my 'devil-vision,' go to the movies and play games on the Lord's day, then I will find a church where I can and they go to a big loose church and let down their hair good."

Today you don't hear much about the little flocks. Why? They say they can't do anything, too little. Brethren, I don't believe it! Someone then comes along and says, "Let us organize all you little churches into a convention or set a board over you so that the BOARD can do great things for the Lord." Brethren, I don't believe that is God's way! All I have ever heard about such compromises is "LOOK WHAT MISSIONS IS DOING" or Board this and Board that. Let me ask, what about the little flock? I don't hear much about what they are doing! Let us, Little Flocks, rid ourselves of all this robbing of churches. Let us instead purpose to teach our own men (no college in the N.T., two in the O.T., one run by a woman and the other one had only young preachers in it, no women) and send them out and support them with all we have—the time is short. If you don't have one, help a sister little flock do it. Do I hear you say, you can't? You can! God says you can and that settles it (Matthew 28:19-20).

My desire is to exalt the Lord through Little Flocks. We don't hear much about churches in houses, any more, they say as an excuse, "It's not popular, people just will not go to it." Since when should the world determine our place. The Little Flock never has been popular any way. It may do well for many if they would sell their big church

(Continued on Page 8 Column 5)

COMING

(Continued from Page 1)

However, some people are like it was said of an Irishman who came over to America, who was a farmer. In going to the field to work one morning he saw a snake, and he hacked it with his hoe. That evening when he came back by this old snake, it wiggled, and the Irishman said, "Huh, he is dead and don't know it." Believers in Christ Jesus, who say they are eternally saved and don't know it, because they have not had it preached unto them, and preaching is the way people get faith. "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Rom.

10:17). "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" (Ephesians 2:8, 9).

Yes, people who have been saved like the Scriptures say here are, right now, one of the children of God. What the children of God don't know, is just what we will be. We are still mortal beings, and it has not been revealed unto us what we will be; but there is one thing we can be assured of, and that is, when our Lord appears, we shall be like him. How many times we as mortals, yet believing children of God say things, and then, after we have said them and done them, we would think, why did we say that? or why did we do that? That is the imperfection at work in us, but when our Lord comes back, that we lack will be made perfect. That is what Paul meant when writing unto the church at Ephesus:

"That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth: even in Him: In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will: that we should be to the praise of His glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: In whom also after that ye believed, we were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory" (Ephes. 1:10-11).

It always thrills me to even read this Scripture. Along with our lesson it strengthens my faith, and we hope this message, although very short, will strengthen and help all that read it. May it please our precious Lord to cause some lost sinners to be awakened, and if possible be saved. May God richly bless you! Amen.

JUPITER

(Continued from Page 1)

course, on young lovers and werewolves. We know, too, that the sun draws water upward from the streams and lakes of our planet. Drawing upon this knowledge there are some who have deduced that the unique grouping of all the heavenly bodies, aligned with earth in such an unusual manner, can "conceivably" result in catastrophic happenings here on our little speck in space.

An unsaved acquaintance of mine in Arizona, with whom I have endeavored to witness to via the mail, was in touch with me recently and seemed to be somewhat troubled, after having read an article pertaining to this matter. As I remember, her account was the most cataclysmic devastating and far-reaching destruction of all the prophecies. I do not wish to make this description any more lurid than it already is, but I seem to recall that the long awaited upheaval and breakup of the San Andreas fault will become a terrible reality. Catastrophic widespread earthquakes will result — with a major part of the coastline of California now sliding into the Pacific Ocean. And now, any of

(Continued on Page 7 Column 1)

JUPITER

(Continued from Page 6)

that land which isn't naturally elevated, will be permanently under water. I think that the scenario also calls for the lovely group of Hawaiian Islands to be submerged by a prodigious tidal wave.

There were other direful related woes to occur, but that is sufficient for you to get an idea of just what is predicted for 1982. As for my unsaved and troubled pen pal, I advised that one, just in case, to receive the Lord Jesus — but not to run an ad to sell the cow just yet.

Some of the more observant among the readers will recall that it was a group of our counterparts in Arizona who were the last to sell the business, board up all the windows, don white robes and assemble on a mountain to await a "second" coming. I have to believe that these people were sincere, albeit sincerely wrong and misguided.

I am not mocking or scoffing or being sarcastic, but I do see something made to order within these prophecies for a sizable segment of Christendom at large. There is something within most of us that just naturally gravitates to that which is highly unusual, sensational or spectacular. Couple this with a religious bent and one becomes vulnerable at times to some highly questionable schemes. And in the light of what may or may not occur in the heavens in 1982, we may expect to receive some urgent requests for funds. There are some eager beaver, high powered evangelists at work who are most sure to ask for \$100.00 to "bring a lost and dying world to Christ, before it is everlastingly too late." There is one fairly well known electronic evangelist in Florida who has already and recently made a second mailing of material concerning this celestial extravaganza. If you note carefully what this fine fellow has to report you will find him somewhat on the horns of a dilemma. He seems to be trying to "milk" all of the attention-attracting sensationalism present in the premise that the world may "end" with this 1982 alignment of the planets. Yet, he is intelligent enough not to actually stick his neck out and set a date for our Lord's return. He builds his thesis upon Luke 21:25 — "signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars. This is Scripture and is fine in its proper context. However, our precious Lord said: "But of that day and hour knoweth no man..." This brings the question of why our Lord would tell us that, and then proceed later to move and act against His own ordered creation, alter the course of the planets around the sun and give some man the wisdom to say, "this, gentlemen, is the end."

Beloved, your Bible and mine states clearly that there will be "false" prophets and they shall say, "Lo, here is Christ" (Matt. 24:23). And now watch this truth carefully, they, the false prophets, shall show great signs and wonders — and deceive some (Matt. 24, 24). Here, let me state my position — Jesus may come before you read this or immediately after, or it may be another thousand years. This is His universe and He can manage it. He also put the sun, moon, planets and trillions of stars which we will never even see out there in space. And He ordered the course of each and every one of these. His perfect handiwork.

Every sinning soul carries within itself the necessary elements of Hell.

You may close your eyes tonight and rest upon this one fact: No chance alignment of His sun and ten of His planets will ever slow the revolutions of this, His earth, and precipitate a calamity here. When the moon is as blood and the stars are cast down as premature figs, then His hand will have done it.

There are several gentlemen who are squeezing this so-called Jupiter Effect for a bit of newsworthy type, some of who are in the secular field of "pure" science and some are moved to approach the matter from a religious and prophetic angle. One of the religious group who is connected with the Southwest Radio Church says that He is convinced that these are "heavenly" signs which suggest that we may be living in the end times. Of course, this tells the informed Christian nothing new or of any value. A great many of us already feel that the time is short. About a year ago I somehow acquired a tract printed by the Gospel Tract Society which was entitled "Strange Events Forecast For 1982" and was in support of an endtime theory, precipitated by planet alignment. I will not judge its impact on the lost but here was another example of Arminian soul winning. Rather than lifting up Jesus so that He might draw men, the thrust was to play upon the fears of man dead in trespasses and sin. And they seem to have printed this tract in the millions. Yet another pastor in the midwest has apparently done some extensive research on this matter and he openly scoffs and debunks it as nothing but a rumor.

Some eminent scientists declare that there can and will be no such thing as is predicted and that there will be no noticeable changes in any of the natural patterns.

Our undecided Florida minister draws from ancient Jewish commentators and finds that the birth of Moses was foreshadowed by a conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter, triggering a series of events much like those surrounding the birth of our Lord. In fact, the claims that those two planets came together three times in the nine months nearest Jesus' birth. This gentleman likes to quote the astronomers, astrologers and star gazers and he refers to the constellations of the Zodiac. Forgive me, correct me if I am wrong, but I got the idea somewhere, the star of Bethlehem notwithstanding, that much of that stuff above was related to witchcraft. So much for the Jupiter Effect. I shall wait and see.

UNKNOWN

(Continued from Page 1)

God. The prophet Micah declared Christ to have been from everlasting in his prophecy about His birth in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). Jesus said that He was in the beginning with the Father (John 17:5). John gave his witness to this when he began his inspired gospel by declaring: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us" (John 1:1, 2, 14). By Him were all things created (John 1:3); by Him all things consist (Col. 1:16, 17); and all things were created for His pleasure (Rev. 4:11).

The birth of Christ was simply the beginning of His incarna-

tion and humiliation, which were necessary for our salvation (Heb. 2:9, 10). He was sent "in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh" (Rom. 8:3). He did this that He might redeem us from the curse of the Law (Gal. 4:4, 5). He came to save His people from their sins (Mat. 1:21). This He accomplished by His death on the cross and his resurrection from the grave. Because of this He has been highly exalted and given a name that is above every name: "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil. 2:10, 11).

This is the Christ of the Bible. Do you really know Him? To them that believe in Him, He is a precious and wonderful Saviour who is able to save to the uttermost all that come to God by Him (Heb. 7:25). To the unbelieving, He "shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power;" (2 Thes. 1:7-9). To us He says "come ye out from among them, and be ye separate... and touch not the unclean thing" (2 Cor. 6:17). In essence: "Be separate from the world and be not partakers of their evil deeds nor their wicked practices. Don't profane and disgrace My name by pagan practices."

Let us be "doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving" our own selves. "Consider what I say: and the Lord give thee understanding in all things" (2 Tim. 2:7).

ELECTION

(Continued from Page 1)

believe the gospel of Christ. Thus it is, Paul says to the Corinthian believers, "... For in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel" (I Cor. 4:15).

Election to salvation, rather than abolishing second causes, establishes them and magnifies the Lord thereby. For He that appointed the end, has also determined the means thereunto, and His sovereignty in the decree of election is as much honored by the ordination of means to that glorious end, and their sure subservience, as the end itself. Election is of God, and the means or second causes of election, are no less of God.

The Gospel, For Better Or For Worse

So as the gospel is a means of progressive sanctification, to which the great majority of Bible students, if not all, agree. It is also a divine means of regeneration, with which assertion, many disagree. They that are ordained to life, are also elected to hear and believe the gospel wherewithal the Holy Spirit quickens all the Father gave to the Son in the covenant of redemption (Acts 13:48).

So it is, Peter says "...God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe" (Acts 15:7).

Even as the President of the United States sends one of his cabinet secretaries to a highly important meeting in a distant city will provide for him a

government airplane, and limousine service, so as he may go directly to it. So does Almighty God provide calling by the Holy Spirit wielded gospel, justification, sanctification, and glorification for all those whom He has appointed eternal life in glory, so as they may not miss it.

The sun comes up, and melts the snow on the ski slopes, causing the ski lodge proprietors to lose money and complain against the sun. While at the same time, and in the same area the already financially hard pressed rejoice because the warmth of the sun raises the temperature of their homes and lowers their heating cost. So the Gospel preached indiscriminately to all manners of persons has not the same effect on all. To some the gospel is utter foolishness, it is considered by them to be an unnecessary evil, and it is ever the object of their vocal contempt. Thus it is, their rejection of the gospel message becomes the means of further aggravating the condemnation which they were born under, and makes their perdition all the more manifest. Peter asks the question, "...What shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?" (I Pet. 4:17). The answer to Peter's question is found in II Thes. 1:7-9 "Them that obey not the gospel shall be punished with everlasting destruction..."

While the gospel is on one hand bitterness to some, it is on the other hand made sweeter than honey to those effectually called by it. While on one hand it is as a millstone around the neck of the self righteous, dragging them further down into the bottomless pit. It is on the other hand a divinely appointed means to lift up the elect from their fallen state, and cause them to sit in heavenly places with Christ Jesus, their Saviour (Eph. 2:6). The true gospel is a terror to the reprobate, and a source of unceasing comfort to the elect of God. As the rays of the sun passing from one place, leaves darkness behind, so with the gospel rays of the Sun of Righteousness. The gospel light did once shine upon China and its multiplied millions of people. But after a season of gospel light was rejected by China, and its people was left in the thick darkness of atheistic communism. "In whom the God of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, Who is the image of God, should shine unto them" (II Cor. 4:4). John, in his vision on Patmos, sees an angel fly in the midst of Heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people. Next following, John sees another angel, and the angel says, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city..." (Rev. 14:6-8). In the tribulation period, Babylon shall have the gospel preached unto her, but then, as has been her practice for nearly seventeen hundred years, she will reject the gospel, and shed the blood of those that bring it to her dark camp. Thus we read, "And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all" (Rev. 18:21). The gospel in its nature has no condemning power, for in the hand of the Holy Spirit it is the word of life, and Paul defines it as "The

Missionary To New Guinea Eld. Fred T. Halliman



FRED T. HALLIMAN

Send your offerings for the support of Brother Fred T. Halliman to: New Guinea Missions c/o Calvary Baptist Church P.O. Box 71 Ashland, Kentucky, 41101

Be sure to state that the offering is for the mission work of New Guinea. Do not say that it is for missions as this will only be confusing since we have other mission works.

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.

power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..." (Rom. 1:16). Therefore, it is a savor of life unto life in them that believe. Conversely, in them that perish, it is savor of death unto death. Yet, the gospel is not to be faulted, but he that refuses to embrace the same, for the rejection of the gospel is a grievous sin, notwithstanding the degenerate's native inability to heed it, and by his spurning of the gospel message procures unto himself a more intense damnation.

The Gospel and Faith

Rom. 10:17 "So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God." Faith is the key to God's great treasure house, wherein are stored all the staples necessary for spiritual growth, but without the gospel no man would ever know such abundance or so great a house existed. It is the gospel which kindleth faith in the heart, and faith is the means whereby God's people draw nigh unto Him.

Paul says to the Thessalonian saints, "...God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation... whereunto He called you by our gospel..." (II Thes. 2:13,14). While the gospel per se does not and cannot save any person, God does not save anyone independent of His gospel. The general call of the gospel being alone cannot save the meekest rebel, but the general call being made particular by the Holy Spirit never fails to effect faith in the heart of the person for whom it was appointed in eternity, and purchased by the sacrifice of Christ at Calvary, even though the person by the blaspheming Saul of Tarsus. While "Salvation is of the Lord," so is the gospel and so is faith, and both are — essential and principal elements of the election which is of God. God's people are not only elected unto regeneration, but also unto eternal glorification, and predestination which is rooted and grounded in election brings to focus and function all the means divinely appointed for the attainment of this exalted

(Continued on Page 8 Column 3)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
JANUARY 23, 1982
PAGE SEVEN

If you don't go to Heaven before you die, you'll not get there afterward.

TUNE IN TO THE CALL TO CALVARY

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

ELECTION

(Continued from Page 7)

end. A man may choose a horse from a herd of wild horses; in executing his choice the man uses a rope to catch the horse, he places a bridle and a saddle on the horse, for he knows they are parts of the taming process. Likewise, in God's choice of wild and rebellious man, He uses the gospel to catch and hold the man, and He places repentance and faith in the heart of the man to tame him. Endless, bitter, and futile are the variances as to which comes first in salvation, the gospel or life? When an infant is first born, having its hand clenched tightly in a fist, we do not ask, which came first the hand or the fist? Simply, because we know they both came at the same time. While the hand and the fist are not one and the same thing, yet one cannot exist without the other. So it is with God's elect, they are brought forth by the Holy Spirit in their soul. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live" (John 5:25).

In this text (John 5:25) Christ is not talking about the day of bodily resurrection, but spiritual regeneration. He says, they that hear His voice, that is, His gospel voice, shall live. In verse 28 of John five the Lord speaks of those who are physically dead and of the resurrection of their bodies, but in verse twenty-five He is speaking of being brought from the dark and mysterious regions of spiritual death, unto the high planes of spiritual life, where faith has made God the dearest and familiar friend. God has in these last days spoken unto His people by the Son (Heb. 1:2), but this does not do away with second and subordinate causes, but rather establishes them. Christ said to His disciples, "He that heareth you heareth Me..." (Lk. 10:16). And Paul says, "Now then we are Ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God" (II Cor. 5:20). Paul told the Ephesian saints they were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world, and then went on to say unto them, "In Whom ye also trusted after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in Whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise" (Eph. 1:4 & 13). Peter adds his testimony to Paul's, saying, "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God... being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God which liveth and abideth forever" (I Pet. 1:2 & 23). Like as in fire, light and heat are joined together, so in regeneration. Holy Spirit anointed the gospel and spiritual life are inseparably connected. The gospel, repentance, and faith are subsidiaries of the decree of election, and cannot contravene it, but are wholly controlled or regulated by it. The gospel, faith, and repentance are instruments with which the Holy Spirit, the Agent of the new birth, brings from death to life those given by the Father to the Son in that covenant of love which antedates time. So then, it is no cause for marvel, that Paul said, "Woe is unto me, if I preach not the

gospel" (I Cor. 9:16).

The Proper Object of Faith
Mk. 11:22: "And Jesus answering saith unto them, have faith in God." The eternal and triune God is the supreme and proper object of spiritual faith. The glorious decree of election, and the illustrious gospel of salvation serve to the praise of God's all sovereign grace, but they can never be proper objects of faith.

Many of the serpent bitten Israelites in the wilderness (Numbers 21) believed Moses, and looked unto the brazen serpent for healing, and were healed. It was not the good news which Moses heralded which healed the dying Israelites, but the object of their looking, the brazen serpent, a graphic type of Christ under the judgment of His people's sins. However, without the word which Moses spoke, they would never have looked, and so it is, Christ's passion apart from gospel declaration saveth no one. Christ is the ONLY antidote for soul damning sin, and therefore the only proper object of faith. So He says, "Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" (Isa. 45:22). Man as he is in nature neither desires nor can look unto Christ (John 5:40 & 6:44), "For the preaching of the cross is foolishness unto him..." (I Cor. 1:18), so he looks elsewhere for the remedy, and in so doing calls God a liar. "...He that believeth not God hath made Him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of His Son" (I John 5:10). The gospel reveals Christ to the heart of the elect as God's all sufficient sacrifice for their sins, and with Holy Spirit implanted faith they look to God's bleeding Lamb on Calvary. Their pilgrimage to glory begins with a look to the cross, and continues with a look to the Crown, and Paul admonishes the saints, saying, "Let us run with patience the race which is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith" (Heb. 12:2).

Man is merely the channel of conduit through which the gospel flows, and has NO basis whatsoever to glory in himself. The physician takes a needle filled with healing medicine, and injects it into the limp and feverish body of the sick and wounded, whereby they recover. The healed person can be thankful for the use which the needle was put to, but it will be the physician who expertly ministered the healing medicine who shall receive the applause of the healed, and his medicine shall be joyously approved. Christ, the Holy Spirit is the Physician Who uses man as His instrument in bringing the gospel to the elect, whereby they repent of their sins, and are given faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 20:21). Neither the man, nor the gospel of truth, which he preaches is to be the object of faith, but He Who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me" (John 14:6). Christ said, "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:63). Man cannot contribute anything to his own salvation, much less to the salvation of another, so it is, James says, speaking of God: "Of His own will begat He us with the word of truth..." (James 1:18). The saint is caused to know that the

power of attachment is not in the gospel, but in Christ Who made it effectual unto them. The sweetheart may be dazzled by the beautiful engagement ring her fiance has given her in token of his love and promise of marriage, the ring may serve to draw her to the groom to be, but the ring nor the promise could be the proper object of her faith, and only her betrothed who made the promise of undying love can be the proper object of her confidence. Christ loves His church, draws her unto Him by the gospel, and has promised to take her unto Himself as His glorious bride (Eph. 5:25-27; Rev. 19:19; 7-9). The church has been made aware by the gospel that she was elected in eternity to be the bride of Christ, that Christ loves her and died for her, and that He has promised to come and take her as His wife to the marriage feast in glory. While the gospel and the glorious promises of Christ therein are treasured by the church, it is the person of Christ Whom the church looks to, and it is Christ Who is the proper object of her trust. Let all the saints be exceedingly thankful for the merciful decree of election, and for the gospel, for the gospel is the sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17), whereby the elect are brought under conviction of sin and cry out from God given faith for deliverance. It is through the gospel the elect see Christ lifted up on the pole of Calvary to bear judgment due them, and hence He becomes the object of their world defeating faith (I John 5: 4, 5).

FLOCK

(Continued from Page 6)

buildings and put the money from it to usury and support missionaries. You may laugh, but dear friend it is no laughing matter. The time is short! Where is there in the N.T. an example of building. That was not the glory of the early church. Let us hear again these words, without shame before the world, "Salute the church which is in his house" (Colossians 4:15, Philemon 2).

I'm not saying it is wrong for a church to have a building. I am saying it is wrong for a church to build a building or support a building while they forsake their primary purpose of missionary work.

RELIGIOUS BOOKS AND BIBLES

Most Books Discounted

Send for FREE Catalogue.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BOOK STORE

P. O. Box 71
Ashland, Ky. 41101 (606) 325-2012

**1980 TBE
BOUND
VOLUMES
NOW READY!**

Price \$12.00

PLUS POSTAGE, SEE TABLE, PAGE 8

LIMITED SUPPLY
ORDER TODAY

**CALVARY BAPTIST
CHURCH BOOK STORE**

P. O. BOX 71
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41101
Ky. Residents Add Sales Tax

For Limited Time Only SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION FORM FOR MONTHS OF FEB. & MARCH ONLY

GIVE 10 GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS TO
THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

P. O. Box 71

Ashland, Kentucky 41101

SEND US 10 SUBSCRIPTIONS AND WE'LL RENEW YOURS FREE

10 Subs. \$10.00

Have This Paper Delivered Every Week—For A Whole Year!
PLEASE PRINT

- Name
Address
..... Zip
 - Name
Address
..... Zip
 - Name
Address
..... Zip
 - Name
Address
..... Zip
 - Name
Address
..... Zip
 - Name
Address
..... Zip
 - Name
Address
..... Zip
 - Name
Address
..... Zip
 - Name
Address
..... Zip
 - Name
Address
..... Zip
- Enclosed \$ for Subs
- Your Name
Address
..... Zip

GIVE US READERS

We Will Give Them The Truth

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
JANUARY 23, 1982
PAGE EIGHT