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The Baptist Examiner

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

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GENESIS AND CREATION

by Oscar Mink
Mansfield, Ohio

But what does the Bible say concerning the origin and development of the Universe? In the simplest of phraseology we are told that "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." The Hebrew

creation of the cosmic universe and the beginning of the dateless geologic ages so carefully classified by modern men of science. It was during this period that the monster reptiles, dragons, dinosaurs and

mastodons roamed the primeval forests and swamps. That they actually lived is certain because their footprints and fossil remains are being found in the desert and lowland archives of

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ICHABOD OVER GOD'S CREATION?

by Roy Snell
Charleston, W. Va.

With no intended denigration or demeaning of any branch of the armed forces, I yet wish to stand as a watchman on the wall and sound forth a warning to those who have ears to hear. The entire world is reeling and rocking like a drunken sailor. Look if you will at the Middle East, Afghanistan, Poland, South America, the block of nations which is connected with the Arab world, the apartheid

police in Africa which the communists are exploiting to the fullest, merry old England, solid as the rock of Gibraltar itself shortly after the end of the World War II, now acutely polarized by racial, labor and other internal problems, that horrible and senseless ongoing conflict between those in the country of Ireland, Mao's China as opposed to Taiwan, Vietnam and Korea still in bitter turmoil — the list is endless.

Misery untold is manifested in deprivation, starvation,

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WISE WORDS TO YOUNG FOLK ABOUT MARRIAGE

"Marriage is honourable in all" (Hebrews 13:4). There are no orders of men to which marriage is prohibited. Forced celibacy is prohibited. Forced celibacy is dangerous to priest or preacher. Marriage is a safeguard against vice and unchastity. In I Corinthians 7:2 we are told that as a safeguard against unchastity, "Let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband."

Paul magnifies family life. The Christian religion is the only thing that can save the home

and invest it with a halo of loveliness. A happy Christian home is the gateway to Heaven. A happy home is the Eden of bliss, the garden of sweet memories, and a shelter from the world's cruel scorn. Home is the place where we get the best treatment and do the most grumbling. There are no pleasures quite as sweet as home pleasures. The sweetest heritage any child can have is to have memories of a Christian home. Give me a home that has a family altar, and a family table, and a family pew and I will show

you a happy home, however, poor and obscure the family may be. The family that worships together, stays together, and works together for a happy home. If you want to find a happy home, find one where Paul's admonition is heeded, where the husband loves the wife as he loves his own body, and where the wife reverences her husband and where the children are brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

If you want to find an unhappy home, find one where the

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THE SOWING OF TARES

by T. L. Blalock
(Now in glory)

"Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field; But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way" (Matt. 13:24, 25).

(Editor's Note: This article is an excerpt from EXPERIENCES OF A BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONARY FOR 56 YEARS IN CHINA by T. L. Blalock, printed in 1949. It is taken from Chapter XIV, pages 236-241. The "collapse" he speaks of was the failure of the U.S. and other nations to stand by treaty commitments to aid China in defense from aggression.)

We must not fail to see that back of this collapse, there was an unobserved and sinister leaven at work in these nations. It was sowing of tares by false prophets — a religious leaven which permeated the whole lump (1 Cor. 5:6). Just a short while before I left China, I called on our American Consul at Tsinan, the capital of Shantung.

It being my last chance to speak with him before leaving, I made it convenient to speak of his spiritual condition. He was very pleasant about it. After giving him the simple way to vital life in Christ, I referred to the fact of a great falling away in recent years from vital Christianity and reminded him that he could not judge it by the average professing Christian of today. Here he stopped me and said: "This falling away in recent years is not confined to religion and churches; it is worldwide and is permeating every strata of society, politics and business." Then he called my attention to a recent article in THE READER'S DIGEST bringing out this universal falling away, distrust and jealousy between nations. Diplomacy has come to mean putting across a shrewd and skillful lie. This situation is

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IF THE BIBLE BE NOT INSPIRED — WHAT THEN?

by Raymond W. Waugh
Midland, Texas

In this so-called day of higher learning, there is an attempt on the part of many to discredit any assumption of certain truth or any belief that truth is possible. Most modern critical scholars suppose that they, in this attaining a level of certain probability

or a paradoxical absolute relativity, are wise beyond the grandest dreams of their scholastic predecessors of other



Oscar Mink

word for create used here is "BARA," which means, to bring into existence or form something which had no previous existence or likeness of being. The second verse of Genesis informs us that "The earth was without form and void and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." The Hebrew word for form is "TOHUW" and means to lie waste in desolation and confusion as by disaster. The Hebrew word for void is "BOHUW" and means empty or an undistinguishable ruin. It is significant that these two Hebrew words are used only in connection with the earth's condition prior to the Adamic creation. Remembering that the Bible in Isaiah XIV, 12-15 and Ezekiel XXVIII, 13-15 teaches the fall of Lucifer and angels as occurring prior to Adam's time, and that Jeremiah IV, 23-26 clearly sets forth the fact that the earth suffered a great catastrophe because of a divine judgment incurred by the sin of Lucifer, we, therefore, understand the second verse of Genesis to be a description of that earthly wreckage, ruin and confusion co-incide it with the first moral tragedy of the Universe.

The Earth Restored For Man

From the first to third verses of Genesis we have the original

HOW DO YOU TREAT YOUR BIBLE?

The preacher was visiting a home, and he asked if he might read a chapter from the Bible. The man of the house said to his little son, "Bobby, go get the big Book we read so much." In a little while Bobby came in carrying the mail-order catalogue! Of the godly man it is written, "His delight is in the law of the Lord (the Word of God); and in his law doth he meditate day and night" (Psa. 1:2).

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon By E. G. Cook

WHAT WAS EASTER?

EDITOR'S NOTE: Since this heathen holiday has just come and gone, we wish to study it with Bro. Cook as teacher. If this could just cause one of our Lord's saints to see what this holiday really is, it will fully repay Bro. Cook's effort. This article is also available in tract form from Bro. Cook - free distribution for the asking.

I would like to beg your indulgence for a few minutes while we study the subject of Easter together. And I pray we may do this studying with an open mind. After all, that is the only way we can ever learn anything. So long as I do not want to learn about that particular thing you cannot teach me one thing about it, no matter how badly I need to know it.

So, with that in mind, I believe you will agree with me that Easter is probably the greatest festival of the whole religious world. It is supposed to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a movable feast, that is, it does not always fall on the same date. The Council at Nicaea held in 325

A.D. by the apostate churches who had just recently been married to the Roman government decided that Easter should be celebrated on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the vernal equinox, which is March 21st. I will have to admit that I do not know what the moon has to do with my Lord's resurrection. As a result of this decision by the Council at Nicaea, Easter may fall on any date from March 22nd to April 25th.

The name "Easter" comes from Eostre the name of a Teutonic goddess of spring. But when this old religious world wanted another religious festival, they just anglicized the name of this pagan goddess of spring, and they had Easter. The Catholic Church has through the centuries followed the practice of giving pagan

observances Christian names. And by doing that she made it possible for pagans to go right on with their pagan worship and still be good Catholics. They just called the pagan worship by a Christian name, but it was still pagan worship just the same.

Although Easter is supposed to commemorate our Lord's resurrection, it sometimes falls on a day that is more than three weeks before the actual date of the resurrection. In the light of Scriptures like Luke 23:54, John 19:14, 32 and I Corinthians 5:7 we know that our Lord was crucified on the day of the Passover. And according to Leviticus 23:5 the Passover fell on the 14th day of their month, Abib, which is April 14th on our calendar. Then, according to Matthew 20:19, Mark 9:31; 10:34 and Luke 18:33-34; 24:7,

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Ray Waugh

decades, generations, centuries, and millenniums. These insist on an a prior basis — i.e., without reference to primary facts — that theirs is a peculiar advance beyond the "dogmatic"

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PLAIN TALK ABOUT SIN

It is related that after a sermon by a distinguished minister dealing most pointedly with sin, one of the church officers visited the pastor and remonstrated as follows, "We do not want you to talk so plainly as you do about sin, because if our boys and girls heard you talking so much about sin they will more easily become sinners. Call it a mistake if you will, do not speak so plainly about sin."

The pastor took down a small bottle of strychnine, marked "poison" and showed it to his visitor, saying, "I see what you want me to do, you want me to change the label. Now suppose I take this label off and substitute another, say, 'Essence of Peppermint,' do you see what happens? The milder you make your label the more dangerous you make your poison. Jeroboam changed the label and the more easily led Israel into the sin of idolatry. Sin is the same deadly poison whatever label you put on it, but the milder you make the label the more likely people are to be beguiled."

—Selected

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When a man feels sure he is free from temptation, it's a sure sign he should be on his guard.

The Baptist Examiner

THE BAPTIST PAPER FOR
THE BAPTIST PEOPLE

JOHN R. GILPIN, Jr.
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EASTER

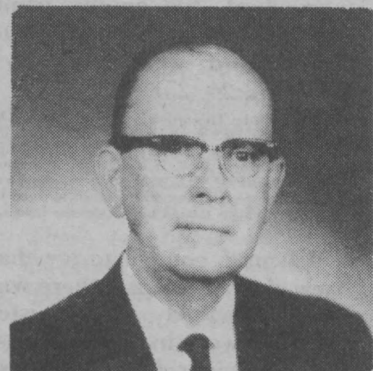
(Continued from Page 1)

He rose again the third day. I believe a third grade school child should be able to tell you that the 17th day of April is the third day after April 14th. If I wanted to celebrate my Lord's resurrection just one time a year, I most certainly would do it on April 17th, because that is the day on which He rose. I was born in April and I have never celebrated my birthday in March.

Still Easter fell on March 26th in 1967, some three weeks before April 17th. And in spite of that the Catholic Church, and a lot of even Baptist Churches told their people that this is the day our Lord rose from the dead. In 1968 Easter fell on April 14th, in 1969 it was April 6th, in 1970 it was March 29th, and 1982, it was on April 11th. But still most of you will be told that this is the day our Lord rose from the dead. How can you swallow such as that? I am so thankful that my Lord has delivered me from the heathenism the Catholic Church has crammed down the throats of so many of our dear Lord's precious saints. But for the amazing grace of God, I, too, would be worshipping all that junk myself. Really and truly, dear Christian friend, is there just one thing connected with Easter that makes any sense?

There are so many abominable things in the eyes of Almighty God that are connected with Easter. There is Lent that so many Baptists are observing at this very time, March 23rd. Then there is Ash Wednesday, Passion Sunday, Passion week, Palm Sunday, Holy week, and Good Friday. And even though our Lord's entire earthly ministry lay in His forty days fasting in the wilderness and His resurrection, still we are told that the forty days Lenten season is in commemoration of His forty days fasting. Some three and a half years elapsed between His

fasting and His resurrection, but if you notice, Lent ends at the very hour Easter begins. There is no time lapse at all between them. This should arouse the curiosity of all thinking people. And I believe that if you become curious enough to look into the matter for yourself, you will find that Lent really commemorates an altogether different forty days.



E. G. Cook

Soon after the Flood Nimrod, Abraham's great grandson, and his followers founded a false religious system known as Babylonian Mysticism. According to tradition Nimrod's wife Semiramis was the first queen of heaven. She, according to this tradition, had a son named Tammuz (see Ezekiel 8:14) who was, according to this tradition, killed by a wild boar, and after forty days came back to life. Lent and Easter really commemorate this forty days and this resurrection. When you come to see that the Catholic Church is nothing in the world but christianized Babylonian Mysticism, that is, that it is nothing but that old false religious system with a Christian name, you should have no trouble in seeing where they get all their feast days, and other evil practices.

And then when we come to the day called Good Friday, may I ask you a simple question in all sincerity, and in all humility? In the clear teaching of the precious Word of God, when we say that our Lord was crucified on Friday, do we not accuse Him of outright lying? We may do it unintentionally through ignorance, but do we not do it just the same? In Matthew 12:40 our Lord said, "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." The word "whale" here comes from KETOS which denotes a huge fish, see Jonah 1:17. Now we either believe Matthew 12:40 or we do not believe it. There is no middle ground. And I beg of you to notice that the Scripture says absolutely nothing about a little tiny part of a day. It is the Catholic Church that does that. We know from Scriptures like Matthew 27:57-60 and John 19:38-42 our Lord was buried late in the evening at the end of the day. So we cannot be honest with the Scriptures and count that day as one of the three days He was to spend in the heart of the earth.

I am going to say something that may startle some one. But if I do not prove my statement by the Word of God just forget it. No one should believe what any preacher or teacher says unless he proves it by the Scriptures. I contend, and declare that Christ was not crucified on Friday, and neither did He rise on Sunday morning. Even the great magician Houdini could not find three days and three nights between Friday evening late and

Sunday morning early. And neither can the pope of Rome find them there either. They are just not there. So if you believe Matthew 12:40 you simply cannot believe that Christ was crucified on Friday. And if you believe Christ was crucified on Friday, you might as well forget about Matthew 12:40. They are diametrically opposed to each other.

You will recall that I said Christ did not rise on Sunday Morning. Someone may be saying that I should read Matthew 28:1-2. I am aware of the earthquake that occurred that Sunday Morning when the angel rolled the stone from the mouth of the tomb. But you and I both know the angel did not have to roll that stone from the mouth of the tomb in order to let the Lord of glory out, but rather to let the disciples in. Since He could come into the room where the disciples were with the door shut, He could also come out of that tomb with the stone still over the mouth.

Now if we are ready to admit that Christ was buried at the end of the day, and that He was in the grave three days and three nights, or 72 hours. I believe we will be forced to admit that He was buried at the end of the day on Wednesday, and that He rose at the same time of the day on Saturday. In that way He was in the heart of the earth Thursday, Friday and Saturday. And He was there Wednesday Night, Thursday Night and Friday Night. Is there really anything other than the teaching of the Catholic Church that would hinder you from believing that?

I know someone is saying yes, but the Bible says the next day after the crucifixion was the sabbath day. This, to, is where the Catholic Church has misled the people. Certainly the Bible teaches that the next day after our Lord was crucified was a sabbath day. In John 19:31 John tells us that this sabbath was a high day, that is, it was a special sabbath. We have already seen that our Lord was crucified on the day of the Passover. In I Corinthians 5:7b we read, "for even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us." Now if we turn to Exodus 12:16 we will find that a special sabbath fell on the next day after the Passover. Here we are told that the people were not to do anything on this day except eat. This is the high sabbath that fell on the day following our Lord's crucifixion. There is no reason under Heaven for us to believe that the sabbath mentioned in John 19:31 was Saturday.

I am aware that you can find the word Easter in your Bible. But it comes from PASCHA which means Passover. But the Episcopalians translators of the King James version, "the sacred Catholics that they were, loved their Easter so much they just had to put it in the Bible somewhere. So they just mistranslated this word PASCHA in order to do it. Still the King James is the best translation we will ever have.

Your pastor knows this to be true, or at least he should know it. Ask him why he still leads the church in the observance of all the heathen days. His answer just might amuse you. In Galatians 4:10-11 Paul says, "Ye observe days, and months, and years. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labor in vain." Paul is saying that he is afraid that his labor among them has been in vain because that after he has labored among them they are

still observing those old days, months, seasons, etc. But let us remember, Paul had never heard of Christmas, Easter, Good Friday and a lot of other abominable days and seasons you and I have had crammed down our throats by the Catholic Church in our day. What would he say to the Baptist Churches of our land and country today if he were writing a letter to them? May we come to see that all this heathenism dishonors our dear Lord, and keeps our minds off His precious Word.

SOWING

(Continued from Page 1)

sensed by the secular press, and that part of the world that reads and observes. Yet, even at this late date, we have millions of Christians who have eyes to see and see not, and ears to hear and hear not, even what the thinking man of the world is alarmed about.

Yes, while men slept the tare sowers have been busy; we are seeing its effect in the whole world. The field is the world (Matt. 13:38), and we are so near the harvest time that the tares are showing all over the world. If we go back to this recent tare sowing, it has been going on for fifty to one hundred years in schools, colleges and churches. It began to deny the authenticity of the Bible and try to discount the Genesis account of creation. This sowing started first in Germany, then spread throughout Europe and then crossed the Atlantic and has permeated the United States of America.

In this world debacle we saw its fruitage in the wild beast of Germany, with Hitler at the head. In Russia it has been raging against God in the form of Bolshevism, defying Him and all religions. Last, but not least, Japan had her chance and reached out eagerly for Christianity. Almost immediately the enemy sowed tares, and she turned down Christ crucified for agnosticism, German higher criticism, evolution or science so-called, and held on to emperor and shrine worship. Are you surprised that she became one of the most relentless haters and persecutors of Christianity? This fact, combined with the heartless cruelty and crimes of the Japanese, proved a mighty factor in opening the eyes of the Chinese to the hopelessness of idolatry.

What This World Leaven Is and By Whom Sown

At the outbreak of war in China, I have tried to give a little review of the moral debacle of the world. Now we come to consider who did the sowing and the nature of the seed they sowed. You may be surprised to learn that the sowers are well read, educated and cultured men. Yea, many of them have a string of the alphabet attached to their names. They have been and are now leaders high up in different denominations, and have their men in Washington. They have, and have had for the last twenty-five years, free access to the radios in their seed-sowing. They are known as the Christian Council of the Churches of Christ of America, and are supported by the Central Boards of most of the leading denominations. In faith and practice they are backed by most of the churches and pastors of these great denominations, but not all.

As to their faith and the seed

they sow, they are what is known as "Modernist." Let some may not know the meaning of this term, we give this paragraph in explanation. The true meaning of modernist, as I have understood it and heard it used down through the years, is one who denies the inerrancy of the Bible and the virgin birth of Christ, the blood atonement, the resurrection of the body of Christ, and His coming again to establish His kingdom and reign on earth. In short, he is a Unitarian and makes Christ only a man. These are prophets that sow tares of modern leaven in the world. It should be noted here that sowers of tares were enemies, sowing while the servants of the Lord slept (Matt. 13:25, 38, 39).

Here we come to a very significant fact about the sowers of the tares. They are enemies of the Lord of the harvest, yet, these sowers of which I am speaking claim to be followers of Christ and leaders in His kingdom work. They go by the name of Christians, D.D.'s, etc. Millions of our people receive them as prophets and teachers of God. By their title and high position they touch the lords of the world, as few men can. Especially is this true in politics, colleges, universities and higher institutions of learning. They seek to be leaders in international affairs, and grapple with international politics. Is it possible that these men are not good men? We are not doubting their goodness, but no man can stand on his goodness before God. Cain was perhaps as good as Abel but Cain turned down the "blood" and God turned him down. God has not changed. He is no respecter of persons, and will never turn down the BLOOD of His Son, as these men have done (Heb. 9:22; 10:29). Here we have prophets of God, so-called, sowing tares in the world and in God's wheat

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The Sovereign Grace Baptist Church and Bro. Richard O. Collins of Battle Creek, Michigan, would like to announce that they now sponsor a mission work in the city of Grand Rapids, Michigan with Bro. Roger Vaughn and family overseeing this new mission work.

Their church building is located at 1935 Monroe, N.W. (Boy Scout Building) Grand Rapids. Their schedule of services includes Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.; Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.; Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

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SOWING

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fields — the churches of Christ. The Character of The Seed Sown

They broadcast that all men are sons of God — Cain and Abel alike — Hitler, Hirohito, Moody and Spurgeon, — all alike sons of God. What does the Word of God say about it? Christ said to those Pharisees who rejected Him as the Christ and called for His crucifixion, "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lust of your father will ye do" (John 8:44). If these men were of their father the devil, what about all men out of Christ? God is not their father — be sure of this. "He came to His own and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them who believed on His name; which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of men, but of God" (John 1:11-13). Since the fall in Eden, men have only become sons of God through a new birth (John 3:3, 6, etc) and the atoning death of Christ (John 1:29; 6:33-35; 2 Cor. 5:19-21).

Believing all men are sons of God, we are not surprised that these prophets are all pacifist and preach appeasement and nonresistance. It was this unscriptural and deluded position which caused them to preach pacifism all over the world, especially in England and the U.S.A. We all believe in peace, but not at the expense of law and justice. Christ said Himself: "Think not that I came to send peace on the earth. I came not to send peace, but a sword." Here Christ lays down an unchangeable principle for following Him. Down through the years, since Christ made this utterance, every true saint has provoked the wrath of Satan. Where he fails to destroy our testimony, he resorts to the sword. At every turn in the history of Israel, God saved His people from annihilation by war (Isa. 27:3). Since planting Christianity in the world, has He changed? Many people appear to think the devil is the only one who has a right to use the sword. This is what modern pacifism unwittingly teaches. According to them, all governments are ordained of God to use moral persuasion and appeasement with the bandit, aggressor and destroyer of nations. To them there is no such thing as righteous war. They forget that God ordained governments and placed the sword in their hand to uphold law and order (Rom. 13:1-6).

It is this half-baked religious propaganda which brought us into the recent world war unprepared. How have we been able to belt the earth with missionaries and bring glad tidings of great joy to millions once in darkness? It has been by the sword and battleship of Christian liberty-loving nations. One hundred and fifty years ago, the whole earth — with the exception of a portion of Europe and America — was closed and barred against the Gospel of life. God sent the nation that had a bit of the salt of Christianity and the spirit of liberty and opened these doors by their gunboats. Not all of these wars were wholly unselfish and righteous on the part of the governments used. Imperfect as they were, God used them because of the prayers of the saints. Yes, for their cry to

Him, He sent these nations to break open the gates of iron and brass that the Lord of host might come in with the Gospel of peace.

Do not be deceived, our God is the God of righteous war that changeth not. "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this king of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle." Yes, believe it or not, the King of Glory is coming in through battle, the battle of Armageddon. Yes, "Lift up your heads, ye gates even lift them up ye everlasting doors; and the king of Glory shall come in." Come in! Surely He will, to bind the devil and bring peace on earth. Do not let us think it or dream it — wars on earth will never cease until He comes and ends them in a reign of righteousness and peace on earth.

CREATION

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the earth. The third verse begins the simple story of the earth's restoration and regeneration by the Spirit of God. Only two creations are announced by the inspired penman after the first or original one; namely, that of animal life and then of man. In both instances the Hebrew word "BARA" is used. Light had been created, but being obscured by the fogs of a cursed, wrecked earth, it needed simply to be made visible, hence the word "hayah" is used. In verse 11 the earth is given the divine permission of bringing forth herbs and again the word is not create but "dasha," meaning to sprout. Why? Because the seeds of plants lived indefinitely through long periods of intense cold and had not perished in the great pre-Adamic catastrophe. Vegetation, therefore, needed no new creative act. In verses 14-18 the sun, moon and stars are spoken of, but again no creation is declared, for all these heavenly bodies had come into being through the creative act mentioned in the first verse. The Hebrew words are, accordingly, "hayah," to make visible, and "asah," to bring forth. But when the sacred writer speaks of animal life in the newly restored earth, he selects "BARA" and records a new creative act; all animal life having perished in the great disaster. He does the same in verse 27 where man comes for the first time into the picture; created, "BARA," in the image of God. Not in all the Biblical record are words suggestive of "evolution" — "tsamach" of "yasta" — used with reference to the origin of the cosmic universe or the species found in the kingdom of vegetable, animal and human life.

The Sceptic's Alibi for Genesis

To this plain, unsophisticated explanation of the Genesis record of creation the sceptic has two objections. First, that the account is not historical but "poetical," "symbolical" and "allegorical" in its significance; and that the word "bara" does not refer to an actual creation but to the process of evolution. They adjudge much of Genesis and many other sections of the Bible to be nothing more than religious mythology. We reply that such misjudgment is simply the crystallized intellectual irreverence of presumptuous minds badly biased against the miraculous intervention or revelation of God, or a pervers-

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The Baptist Examiner

BIBLE STUDY LESSON

By WILLARD PYLE

Pastor — Naples Park Baptist Church of Naples Park, Florida

Psalm 28:1-5

Intro.: David's exaltation of God found expression in all of his experiences, and served as a means of comfort and consolation to himself, as well as to other saints. Moreover, it was a means of witnessing before the unsaved, so wherever David was, or whatever condition he was in, he continually lifted up his voice like a trumpet. Because of this, he realized his need for Divine strength and guidance so he mingles petitions with his praises.

VERSE 1

"Unto Thee." The proper direction for the child of God is a heavenly one. He is to ever direct his attention to spiritual matters (Col. 3:12). He is to lift up his eyes on high (Isa. 40:26); for this is the Source of his help (Psa. 121).

"Will I cry." "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16). The cry of a believer never goes unattended (Acts 4:24, 29-31).

"O Lord my Rock." Both our Sustainer and our Provider is the Lord. He is our Foundation and our Father. Out of the same Rock comes preservation, and the provisions necessary for the way. It was on this Rock the church was founded, and through this Rock the church is furnished with the daily necessities. Truly the Rock which follows us is Christ (1 Cor. 10:4). This is the only Rock which never is diminished because of age or use.

"Be not silent to me." It would be worse than death if the Lord stopped communicating with His people. A mark of salvation is for the saint to speak to God (Acts 9:11) and for God to speak to His sheep (John 10:27). Of course there are times in which God may refrain from answering, but will never completely forget or forsake.

"Lest, if Thou be silent to me, I become like them that go down into the pit." Both

the condition and the end of the unsaved is to be fled from; therefore, it is ever right to warn and persuade men (II Cor. 5:11; Matt. 3:7). The pit, the bottomless pit, is an endless place of torment (Rev. 20:3; Luke 16:23, 24, 28).

VERSE 2

"Hear the voice of my supplications, when I cry unto Thee." It is a precious truth indeed to know each and every believer has and can have an audience with God through the Mediator and High Priest of our profession (I Tim. 2:5; Heb. 14:16). David exercised this privilege always.

"When I lift up my hands toward Thy holy oracle." A clear voice and clean hands are to be used in our dealings with God. We are to pray according to His will and through the brazen laver we are to lift up clean hands. How we need to heed the admonition, "Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord" (Isa. 52:11). The holy oracles signifies the place from which God speaks. A pure heart and clean hands want to receive, or are ready to receive, holy instruction.

VERSE 3

"Draw me not away with the wicked." Jesus taught the disciples to pray, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." David did not want to follow a multitude to do evil. We are to have no friendship or fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness (James 4:4; Eph. 5:7, 8). David didn't want to partake of their evil deeds nor the consequences of them.

"And with the workers of iniquity." The "wicked" in this verse describes the condition of the lost, and the "workers of iniquity" describe their practice. Inward corruption soon vents itself in outward crime. How we need to remember, "such were some of you" (II Cor. 6:11). The workers of iniquity are ever

employed for the Devil; their master has many ways to use them.

"Which speak peace to their neighbors." They have a form of godliness, even though they are workers of iniquity. Many outwardly moral people who belong to religious groups, and who spend much time in benevolent activities, are deceived and deceive others.

"But mischief is in their hearts." Their real motive is selfish and will eventually be manifested. The kiss of peace covered over the real reason for it in the case of Judas. This wasn't the first nor the last time it was used.

VERSE 4

"Give them." Let them receive the wages they have earned (Rom. 6:23).

"According to their deeds." Damnation is just and equal; and apart from the grace of God, would be experienced by all; "For all have sinned." No man merits or deserves salvation, but just the opposite.

"And according to the wickedness of their endeavours." Not only will sinners be judged for what they did, their deeds, but also for what they endeavored to do, but were kept from doing. God looks upon the heart.

"Give them after the work of their hands." Those wicked hands described in Acts 2:23 by Peter.

"Render to them their desert." David committed the judgment of the wicked into the hands of the Righteous Judge, for vengeance belongs to Him. Remember, David speaks this not merely as a man, but he speaks this prophetically; therefore, it doesn't contradict the prayer of Paul for the salvation of sinners (Rom. 10:1).

VERSE 5

"Because they regard not the works of the Lord." They denied the Creator even as they view the glory of His creation (Rom. 1:21), and worshipped the creation instead of the Creator. This is in contrast to those in Acts 2:11 who spoke "the wonderful works of God."

"Not the operation of His hands." They don't see God regulating and arranging the affairs of this world by His providence (Rom. 8:28). What a study we see as we think of "His hands," the wicked hands in verse 4, and the hands of David in verse 2.

"He shall destroy them, and not build them up." The saints are built up, (I Pet. 2:5; Eph. 2:19-22), but the lost shall be cast down (Matt. 15:13), and this according to the righteous judgment of God.

Conclusion: May we carefully and prayerfully study the end of the saint and the sinner and be able to walk as David did in view of them.

(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 17400 Mo. Rd., South East, Fort Myers, Fla. 33908).

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The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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

What is your belief or views concerning the controversial subject of oral sex and can you back up your answer with scripture?

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To me, this subject is so revolting and sordid that I do not think it should be discussed in the forum. I think this act, although not named, is included in the unnatural sexual acts condemned in the first chapter of Romans where we are told, "So God has given them up to sexual impurity, in the evil trend of their hearts desire, so that they degrade their own bodies with one another" (Rom. 1:24, Williams Trans.).

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As far as the subject of oral sex is concerned, the Bible does not speak of it either to condone or to condemn it. My views concerning it does not matter one way or the other. We can only answer questions that relate to the Scriptures. Please do not attempt to make this an advice to the lovelorn or some such type column.

The Bible does teach about sex. "Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled..." (Heb. 13:4). We are told that the husband cannot withhold his body from his wife nor can she withhold her body from him. "The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife" (I Cor. 7:4). Verse 5 goes on to tell us that the only reason either one can refrain from conjugal relations is for the purpose of prayer (see also Ex. 19:14, 15). Ecclesiastes 9:9 tells us to "live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity..." We are told to be satisfied with our own wife. "Let the fountain be blessed and rejoice with the wife of thy youth. Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love" (Prov. 5:18-19).

The only thing that God speaks against as far as misuse of sex is fornication, adultery, homosexuality and sodomy. (see I Cor. 6:13, 15-20; I Thess. 4:3; Matt. 5:27, 28; Matt. 15:19, 20; Gen. 19: 1-14; Rom. 1:27-32). Anything else would be up to the individuals.

As to my belief or views concerning this controversial subject, it does not matter, if I can not substantiate such belief by the Holy Scriptures.

However, though this terminology, "oral sex," is not to be found in the Bible, I am convinced that, according to God's infinite wisdom and foreknowledge, He, most assuredly, was cognizant of such grievous sins, as implied in our God-inspired Bible, and as pertaining to "mouth-sins," which, as beginning in the garden of Eden, was inspired of Satan.

Indeed, the very word "oral" speaks of that which is uttered or spoken by the mouth. Too, in phonetics, there is reference to "Mouth-resonance," as distinguished from "nasal-resonance."

David prayed: "...O Lord, our shield. For the sin of their mouth and the words of their lips, let them even be taken in their pride; and for cursing and lying, which they speak. Consume them in wrath consume them, that they may not be; and let them know that God ruleth in Jacob unto the ends of the earth" (Ps. 59:11-13).

This prayer of David was to glorify the justice of God in reproof of "mouth-sins"; whereas, in redeeming His people, His grace and mercy are justified.

So, as regarding the wicked, whatever, they say in sin (or mockery of God), for out of the abundance of their evil hearts, their mouths speak. "Wherefore, God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves, who (exchanged) the truth of God for a lie, and served the creature more than the Creator, Who is blessed forever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections; for even their women did (exchange) the natural use for that which is against nature; And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the women, burned in their lusts one toward another, men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was (fitting)" (Rom. 1:24-27).

Concerning such, "...there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ" (Jude 4).

Hence, we find that the ordination and decree of God does

not make God the Author of sin, nor excuse such sinful men. However, on the part of God, He is justified in showing His power and wisdom in enhancing the wisdom of the truth. So, in respect to persons. We see that His decree is such, certain, and irrevocable, as springing from His absolute sovereignty in agreement with His justice and holiness, and is dated from eternity (or old).

His reprobation, then, is of the same date with election. Since one is from eternity, the other must also be so, because there can not be one without the other. Therefore, if some were chosen before the foundation of the world, others, then, must be left or passed by as early for reprobation purposes to the glory of the justice of God, apart from mercy.

CREATION

(Continued from Page 3)

sion of interpretation in favor of speculative science. It is a painful weak attempt at "alibi" for want of an argument based on sound logic and facts. Why fasten the leeches of atheism to the Word of God in an attempt to destroy its truth? But suppose Genesis is "poetical." Do not poets tell the truth and cannot eternal facts be presented poetically and allegorically?

A second objection is that the creative story is taken or borrowed from the religious literature of pagan nations. This is another unfounded assumption invented by atheists, and is absolutely without any evidence in its favor. Modern scholarship and archaeological research have shown that both the inspired and pagan writers obtained their material from one and the same original source; the difference being, that to the latter it came indirectly through the Adamic race, whose noblest leaders were the Shepherd Kings. As the diamond is still a diamond irrespective of the bed of clay in which it lies, so truth is still truth regardless of where it is found or by whom it is presented. All of which means that the pagan religions have vital Biblical truth, but in paganized form and setting. The sceptics alibi for Genesis in favor of evolution is, then, in plain language, a libel on God and the honest men who declared that they spoke as they "were moved by the Holy Ghost."

An Overworked Word

The popularity of evolution as an anti-Christian explanation for the universe is not due to anything that science has yet discovered in its favor, but rather to the decline of Christianity in the life of the people, the weakening of confidence in the Bible as God's Book of Truth and the widespread indiscriminate use of the word "evolution" in connection with matters to which it bears no logical relation. "Evolution" is the most overworked, misapplied and misunderstood word

in the English language. Growth, development and improvement are erroneously accepted as its equivalent meanings. So farfetched and ridiculous has been the use of this word that "evolution" is now applied to anything from the undertaker's business to the making of a universe. When you say that a substance evolves odors or gases and a mind evolves ideas, you have said about all that you can say and still be within the bounds of facts and truth concerning evolution. To say that a worm evolved a fish and that apes or lizards evolved men whose descendants produced a LINCOLN or GLADSTONE, a HANDEL or MICHELANGELO—to say nothing of the CHRIST of GOD—is yielding to a speculative wildness of brain activity that is little better than philosophical imbecility.

The Modern Juggernaut

That which nature herself opposes with unsurmountable barriers and by impassable gulfs, which is unsupported by a single scrap of real evidence, which reverses all the processes of logical thought, which shocks the Christian conscience and contradicts the teaching of the entire Word of God, is today the accepted faith of over 50% of the so-called men of science and higher learning. These men ridicule or discredit belief in the Personal God, the credulity unbecoming them as scientists and scholars. Well, with such it is simply the old story of "swallowing a camel and straining at a gnat." The evolution they embrace demands an exceedingly expansive and robust credulity and presumptuousness, while that revealed truth which they reject requires none. God says, "Come let us reason together"; and having sat down with Him in the Pyramid lighted courts of truth and with the records of history, fulfilled prophecy and modern scientific facts to confirm the divine statements, we may go away "able to give a reason for the faith that is within us." For the sceptic, the speculative, anti-Christian scientist and the modernist whose creed is a mixture of error and truth, faith and denial, Christianity and Darwinism, evolution is the modern juggernaut. In its worship they have sacrificed, for many others as well as for themselves, the sublime "Faith of the Fathers," the inspiring, strengthening, saving grip of the Bible and the hope of despairing souls in Jesus Christ.

Evolution Defined

There are two general groups of evolutionists. The one is composed of atheists and agnostics. The other is represented by "modernists"—men of a religious caste who have trimmed sail in an attempt to follow a course whose theology will be just atheistically liberal enough to recognize the evolutionary theory of the sceptics and yet orthodox enough to retain some of the creation doctrine of the true Christian. Both believe in evolution. The former, however, have no place for God or miracles. The latter confess belief in God and admit the likelihood of two creative acts: the one which brought the "mother stuff" of all the inorganic universe into existence; and the other which gave the earth the first germ of life from which the millions of species in the whole organic kingdom evolved. After these two divine creations, so say the modernists, evolution was made the process whereby the entire

universe of living organisms and inorganic matter became what it is. By evolution is meant, then, the non-miraculous development of all the differing species which make up the great organic world. Or, that, beginning with the first life germ—which was endowed mysteriously with some principle that compelled or permitted radical physical changes in the offspring—after countless millions of years that protozoa appeared. From the protozoa finally evolved the amoeba which in turn produced the worm. This lowly, slimy creature then evolved the fish which in due time produced the amphibians. These were followed by the apes or lizards or some other semi-human creatures now believed by the evolutionists to have been the actual jungle ancestors of thinking, reasoning, morally endowed, God-conscious men.

The "Evidence" for Evolution

Now since we know the meaning of evolution and the fact that thousands of professional men subscribe to its teaching, we have a right to expect quite an array of real evidence in its favor. The following, however, is only explanation for their faith and theory:

(1) Rejection of the creative work of God as described in Genesis and throughout the entire Bible.

(2) Acceptance of evolution becomes a matter of sheer necessity close the circle for the sceptic, not facts.

(3) Evolution is popular—the inflated, highly colored and idolized concept of speculative science. In an age such as ours, the words and achievements of men sometimes blind the mind to the truth.

(4) Sir Arthur Keith, eminent English scientist, says the evidence for evolution is from two sources: first, "the resemblances between man and the apes, gorillas, chimpanzees and gibbons." We look like them and some of us certainly think and act like them, therefore, we must have come from them. What profound logic! How conclusive! How inspiring!

(5) Sir Arthur continues by saying that the other evidence consists of the fossil remains of ancient man and their resemblance to the apes. These comprise the top of a skull, thigh bone and two teeth found in the bed of a river in Java in 1891. Our learned friends say these belonged to an ape-like man who lived probably 600,000 years ago. Still other fossil remains have been found which represent the "Dawn" man who lived about 400,000 years ago, the "Heidelberg" man of 250,000 years, the "Cave" man of 40,000 years and so on down the line to modern man. But all this "evidence" is merely "educated guessing," with the benefit of a tremendous doubt in favor of evolution. The strange thing about these very "ancient" fossil remains is that there are men living today who carry in their anatomy exactly the same shaped bones as only the imaginary ape-men of antiquity are said to have had. And as to teeth, it is very amusing to recall the "Million Dollar Tooth" found also in the bed of a stream and regarded by eminent evolutionists as certainly out of the jaw of the famous imaginary "Missing-link" man. What must have been their chagrin when teeth exactly like it were found in the jaw of a wild pig...

Enlightening Statements

DARWIN—With evolution

(Continued on Page 5 Column 1)

CREATION

(Continued from Page 4)

in such a state of uncertainty and confusion, is it any wonder what Darwin exclaimed, "I am in a hopeless muddle concerning the origin of things. Our ignorance of the derivation of things is very profound. I must be content to remain an agnostic."

BATESON — Along the very same line Dr. William Bateson, eminent biologist of England, while attending the British association of Science meeting in Toronto, said, "The origin and nature of the species remains utterly mysterious. We have failed in every effort to trace one species to another. I hold evolution, therefore, ONLY AS AN ACT OF FAITH."

KELVIN — No one knew the evidence for and against evolution better than the great physicist, Lord Kelvin. It was he who said, "I marvel at the undue haste with which teachers in our universities and preachers in our pulpits are restating truth in terms of evolution, while evolution itself remains an unproved hypothesis in the laboratories of science."

Evidence Against Evolution

(1) **BIBLE** — The entire body of revealed truth as contained in the Holy Scriptures is against this anti-Christian teaching. Thomas Huxley, a prince among logicians, said, "The doctrine of evolution is directly antagonistic to that of creation. Evolution makes it impossible to believe the Bible."

(2) **NO PROOF** — By the testimony of evolutionists themselves, there is no evidence whatsoever, either in the records of the past or in the efforts of modern scientists, to show that evolution has actually taken place. New varieties have been produced, but **NO NEW SPECIES**.

(3) **CAUSE UNKNOWN** — Furthermore, the mind of man has not yet invented or found a single cause for evolution. Everything proposed has failed in the test to produce results.

(4) **SPECIES INTACT** — Dr. Dawson tells us that "The testimony of geologic ages convinces us that many of the species continue to the present day to be exactly as they were long ages ago without any improvement whatsoever; that the land and fresh water snails' shells of the middle geological ages are indistinguishable from the species now living — the same being true of many sea forms among the bivalves or brachiopods which have remained the same for thirty millions of years; and that the multiple eye of the housefly, crabs and lobsters is precisely the same in its structure as that of the first geologic age." Sir Arthur Keith informs us that fossil remains prove that the tree shrew of today has continued the very same through a history of fifty millions of years. The species are, therefore, immutable and the gulf between them impassable.

(5) **CONFORMITY TO TYPE** — This great principle of life is sustained as a fact, by the evidence submitted in the paragraph preceding and represents nature's barrier against evolution. It is declared in Genesis I, 24 and recognized indirectly with that other great law of life, Biogenesis, in John III, 3 and also verses 5 and 6.

(6) **HYBRID STERILITY** — Another basic law of Nature disproving evolution is the fact that "Inappropriate hybridization is checked by sterility."

Faith is not believing that God can. It is knowing that He will.

Nature tolerates the production of what seems to be new species but then stops short the invasion or threatened evolution by making the new type or hybrid **STERILE**. We are not at all surprised, therefore, to receive from the pen of Thomas Huxley, the statement that the mule is one of the strongest arguments against evolution. The sterility of the hybrid is nature's protest and testimony against it.

Rejected by Great Scientists
DAVID BREWSTER — "We have absolute proof of the immutability of the species."

DR. ETHERIDGE — famous English fossilist and curator of the great British Museum. — "Nine tenths of the talk of evolution is sheer nonsense founded only on observation and wholly unsupported by facts. This museum is full of proofs of the utter falsity of their views."

LOUIS PASTEUR — Lord Cuvier, Charles Linnaeus and Sir Roderick Murchison are all on record as being opposed to evolution.

SIR CHARLES BELL — University College, London. — "Everything declares the species to have their origin in a distinct creation, not in a gradual variation of some original type."

LOUIS AGASSIZ — world-famous scientist. — "The theory is a scientific mistake, untrue in its facts, unscientific in its methods and mischievous in its tendencies."

RUDOLF VIRCHOW — famous anthropologist of Berlin — was at first in favor of evolution, but later against it. His final statement is, "It is all none sense and cannot be proven."

LORD KELVIN — for forty years head of the British Association of Science. — "Evolution is an absurd and impossible doctrine, a fantastic speculation."

LUTHER R. TOWNSEND — Boston University. His book against evolution is entitled "The Collapse of Evolution." Geo. Fred. Wright of Oberlin College, and Sir William Dawson, Canadian geologist, also opposed the theory.

DR. HOWARD A. KELLY — Johns Hopkins University — Prof. C.C. Everett, of Harvard, and Prof. N.S. Shaler, of the same university, are on record against evolution.

LOUIS TRENCHARD MOORE — of the University of Cincinnati, Ohio — delivered ten lectures against evolution at Princeton University in 1924. His book is entitled "Dogma of Evolution."

Anti-Christian in Effect

The indictment against evolution is not merely its scientific falsity but its insidious power to pervert the mind on the question of morals, faith and Christianity. Its direct and overt effects are decidedly and irresistibly anti-Christian. For example: Evolution is —

HOSTILE TO THE BIBLE — It is as foreign to the sacred Scriptures as the supernatural is to atheism. Evolution is, therefore, a flat denial not only of the Mosaic account of creation, but of the entire Bible. If true, then the cardinal facts of Christianity are delusions — the embellished hallucinations of pagan religionists — Christ is without deity, His death without atonement value, His resurrection an idle tale, the new birth through His Spirit deception, and salvation by faith all a wild dream. Evolution imposes a theory and deposes God's Word; offers man preposterous speculation and robs him of divine revelation. It starts us out

as the worms of colloidal slime, carries us on through the fish, reptiles, lizards and apes of jungle, swamp and sea only to let us die and become food for worms in a grave that has no promise of light or resurrection.

DESTROYS FAITH — Huxley is right when he says we cannot believe evolution and still believe the Bible. If the Word of God is wrong when it teaches creation, where is it right? Whatever breaks down faith in the Holy Word as the revealed Truth of God, likewise destroys faith in the Personal God of that Word. If this is not so, how explain the fact that on Prof. Leuba's questionnaire test of 1,000 professional men, less than 40% of the biologists believed in a personal God and immortality? Furthermore, on page 280 of his book he says, "Statistics show that the students gradually abandon the cardinal Christian beliefs because of the higher culture of the professors under whom they study." What is back of this scepticism but the killing effect of evolution upon Christian faith?

Charles Darwin an Example

Mr. Darwin in his college days held Christian views and studied three years at Cambridge in preparation for the ministry, but, after accepting and pursuing the study of evolution, found himself more of an atheist than a believer. His own statement, Vol. I, "Life and Letters," page 277, is as follows: "For myself I do not believe that there ever was a revelation from God. As for a future life, every one must judge for himself between conflicting vague probabilities." We are not surprised, therefore, to have Thomas Carlyle say, "I knew three generations of Darwins. Atheists all." George Romanes, brilliant biologist and sometimes called Darwin's successor, had the same experience. He, too, became an agnostic. And it is Mr. Darwin himself who explains why faith dies. Says he, "Then arises the doubt, can the mind of man which has, as I fully believe, been developed from the mind of the lowest animal, be trusted when it draws such grand conclusions?"

Henry Drumond

As a concluding word we present the confession of Prof. Henry Drumond, Scottish scientist and writer of world fame. With other men of his day and Christian faith, he was caught by the tidal wave of furor which followed Darwin's "Origin of the Species." When the excitement passed and his trained, scientific habit of mind acquired its mastery again, he discovered that the theory of evolution he had accepted rested upon nothing but the shifting sands of resemblances, probabilities and speculations, with not a single fact in sight. We, therefore, do not consider it strange that his attested death bed testimony was, "I am going back to the Bible to believe it as I did at first. I can no longer live on uncertainties. I am going back to the Faith of the WORD OF GOD."

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disease and all the pestilences which proliferate and multiply and thrive on the conditions of war and unrest in any land. In many cases the resources available to make life worth living are in short supply in the best of times. Couple this proven fact with the cruel situation now existing and you have human beings striving to just stay alive — and failing miserably by the millions. And to that which man is perpetrating upon himself the effect of extremely adverse weather changes, the floods and earthquakes in "divers" places, the things which we erroneously credit to "mother" nature, and the end result in something too devastating to fully grasp. In addition, most of us, including myself, are far too prone to be unfeeling and insensitive to the conditions all around us — so many and so varied — that we feel helpless and so we simply block out our troubled emotions.

In writing of the various countries struggling with a myriad of problems, I ignored America and the United States purposefully. As we have been singularly and uniquely favored and blessed, as individuals and as a nation, I have to believe that we have a greater responsibility before God to recognize, reverence and obey His dictates. No people in any land has had access to the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in the magnitude which we have enjoyed. At least for the present, our government doesn't arrest us and exile us to the Gulag for seven years punishment, because we told someone that Jesus will save all that believe on Him. They do not take our children away from us because we give them a knowledge of a Supreme Being — our Sovereign Lord.

For all the freedom and blessings which we have hitherto enjoyed there should be a great outpouring of thanks and praise and gratitude to the Source, the Fount of all blessings, secular and spiritual. If there are any sins which are more serious than others, then the sin of ingratitude must rank among the top, simply because we can't lay this to the charge of the devil, nor to the demands of the flesh — it results from the condition of the very heart of the individuals.

In the light, then, of all that we have had access to because of God's providence do we, as a nation, exhibit any tendency to be in obedience to those things which He has required of us? Closer home, have we, with our "yet resisted into blood, striving against sin?" (Hebrews 12:4). Obviously not! Even as divided Germany, strife torn Ireland and all the rest of the staggering world, our own country shows precious little that would bring a smile of approval to the lips of our Lord. Even that which Christendom is constantly parroting is little more than lip service with no resulting conduct which could convince an unbelieving world that our God is real and alive in the world today. As a people we are every whit as unsettled and as unstable as any of the other countries, large or small. And certainly as wicked.

We are beset with schisms and polarization as a result of our partisanship politics, one party opposed to the ideas of the other, we are divided on our concept of foreign policy, we are

still seriously separated on racial issues, abortion and the equal rights for women. A battle is joined between the creationist and the evolutionist, yet another conflict is seen in the prayer and/or Bible reading in the public schools.

Our president, who may have some "humanistic" ideas, but decidedly no spiritual insight of any worth, has jumped from the frying pan into the fire in ruling whether the Christian schools, operating entirely without federal assistance, should have a tax-exempt status. If this matter was simply one of taxation with representation it might hold water, but as it stands now, it is political blackmail and an axe held over the head of those who do not subscribe to "affirmative" action and "reverse" discrimination. This, too, serves only to further divide us as a nation. Religiously, the division is all the more evident.

In the Baptist ranks alone we have eight or ten of the more easily recognized factions, all vying for members and acceptance. There are American, Southern, Northern, Particular, Primitive, Hardshell, Freewill, Missionary, Grace and last but not least, the Sovereign Grace Baptist. In the doctrines, theology, ideology and practices of all these there are to be found serious differences. No, I do not advocate any measure of ecumenicalism — rather I hold for a more concise and clear cut separation from most of these.

In all the diverse ideas and opinions in our secular world and with all the many differences in Christendom at large, it is clearly evident that someone is right and someone definitely wrong in regards the issues involved. If we Sovereign Grace folks do not adhere to the Word of God, rightly divided, then we, too, will become as those of whom it has been written: "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).

With both the world and the church now engaged in bitter conflict with each other and with the devil, it behooves us to determine how and why we are bringing all the woes down upon our heads. There is a popular teaching and preaching today which majors on the health and wealth gospel — one which stresses the love, mercy and tender compassion of our Lord, but at the expense of the whole counsel of God. Our Sovereign Lord does show forth those attributes daily, but my Bible clearly presents Him in another light, also. God has an unalterable, irreducible holiness in which He hates sin and against which He has declared a terrible wrath. His Word says that: "The wicked will be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." With all the religious factions and the "churchanity" in our country today, and with all the accessibility to the truth of God, by and large we are a nation which has forgotten the Biblical way. Some will immediately scoff, but I see evidence that God has written "Ichabod" over America already.

In another land, at another time and to another people, our Lord promised some dire and foreboding action which He would take against that people for disobedience. I know that the divisions in our Bible are

(Continued on Page 6 Column 1)

ICHABOD

(Continued from Page 5)

man-made, but, nevertheless, out of the sixty-eight verses in Deuteronomy 28, fifty-two of them depict awful punishment to be brought upon those who would "forget" God.

Can He then continue to ignore our callousness when we knowingly, willingly, and constantly refuse His decrees? America is no more "deserving" of divine mercy than is any other nation or people — and possibly because of her enlightened position, she may well be even less deserving. We hold, adamantly, that the believer cannot fall away and be eternally lost. Yet, there is a definite sense in which one, or a nation, can fall from grace. Has it happened to us? Twenty years ago, or less, there were certain sins which, when exposed, would have made one a social outcast. Now, pulpit cowardice, situation ethics and a permissible society takes such a one to their bosom and lauds the public admission as "remarkable" candor and bravery. A well-known female in the field of competitive sports has publicly admitted to a "love" relationship with another female. She is now cheered and applauded when she appears, a noble and brave woman, one, incidentally, who is outspoken in the field of equal rights for women.

I do not consider myself to be a crepe hanger, a doom's day shouter, nor a calamity howler. I am not a date setter, nor do I advocate running an ad to sell the cow, donning white robes and retiring to the top of Pilot Mountain to await the end. And yet, all over the world and increasingly so here at home, the evidences loom large that some unprecedented and calamitous cataclysm is even now at the door. In this I am not in the least optimistic. I feel, and I believe the Word teaches, that things are not going to get any better. Should my Lord tarry, I am fearful that this is only the edge of tribulations which are to beset the entire world. And I make no reference to the "great-tribulation" in this contest. That will be yet another outpouring of God's righteous anger on sin and unbelief.

If all of mankind was not corrupt and depraved since Adam, there might be a workable solution to many of the problems. As it is, I am locked in with no options. I am left with that last prayer in my Bible; "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20).

So, thus I see only the second advent of our Lord as the solution. When He rules with a rod

It's often surprising what heights can be attained just by being on the level.

of iron, and only then, will man beat his swords into plowshares. My prayer well bears repeating; "Come quickly, Lord Jesus."

IF THE BIBLE

(Continued from Page 1)

of other days.

Contrary to their assumption, theirs is a most serious logical and historical error. What these have done is reason positively from a contradictory negative premise. Very simply, they have placed themselves invalidly in opposition to the religious emphasis of other days, while at the same time showing their supposedly opposing advance. Actually, what they should do is align themselves with the secular positions of the men of other days — not the religious. For in a priority assuming that doubt is the key to the only truth, and that uncertain, they show themselves secularists rather than religionists.

Seen adequately, therefore, the present critical emphasis, designed to do to the death historic Biblical Christianity, has no Biblical basis. Rather, in whatsoever way we look at it, we find that each theory which has been proposed in the interest of destroying the validity of God's Word is based in some secular and naturalistic approach to the Universe and its several component parts. Therefore, a pseudo-religious approach to the Bible and the historic Biblical faith in the name of religious interest, or for the avowed purpose of correcting the Biblical picture, is dishonest scholarship.

In the realm of the naturalistic, the scientific, honest scholars work from premises developed in their specialties. And these do not propose the invalidity of another's specialty on the basis of premises developed in their own. Whenever there is a seeming contradiction, or at least, some opposing evidences or tendencies between two specialists, there is no assumption of untruth. Rather, the several scientists involved simply and broadly assume the probability of both in the supposed advance in science's relative truth.

Though the contemporary host of pseudo-religious critics would have us believe their approach to the destruction of the literal validity of God's Word, the Bible, is something modern and new, in the secular realm, which is their actual and true area of operation, this is not some new approach. Rather, it is as old as the scientific ideology itself. Aristotle, the scientist, more than 2,000 years ago, recognized the uncertainty of any conclusion drawn from collected data or abstracted experiences. Certainly, then, the secular question concerning probability today is not to be considered an authority for the possibility of a fanciful Mosaic error or an assumed ignorance on the part of Christ Jesus. Rather, the secular agnostic and his question are to be aligned with Pilate, who, in the very presence of Absolute and Eternal Truth, inspired, "What is truth?"

Therefore, the dishonest scholastic appeal to acceptance on the basis of modernity or the



QUESTION:—When were children cast into a den of lions?
ANSWER:—Daniel 6:24 — "And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives;..."

latest level of relative truth is to be vigorously rejected by all who know the truth as God has proclaimed it Biblically and, also, by all who in their spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ know truth experimentally. And in the rejection of the relativists approach, it is not to be assumed that the continued or renewed appeal to Scripture is unscientific except as "scientific" pertains to the naturalistic. Rather, it should be noted that all so-called scientific "disbelief" is based upon an unscientific and critical assumption that the Bible is not God's Word; this is manifest dishonesty and a violation of the principle of "scientific specialty." Whereas, those of us who know the truth of God to be both Biblical and experimental, establish all of our logical super-structure upon the premise of certainty, which is grounded in the faith that the Bible is God's Word! Though this seems to be a truism, it should not be thought less valid logically than scientific disproof resulting from theories established in the interest of confirming secular doubt.

The question of the Bible actually being God's Holy Word or Verbally Inspired, then, is not one which can be determined by scientists whose premises are grounded in the naturalistic. The appeal to an Hegelian "dynamic" or Darwinian "progress" in the interest of an evolutionistic critique (J-E-D-P) and destruction of the Scriptures, then, has an opposite — not an apposite — relation to those whose premises do not include the agnostic's doubt! The matter of Verbal Inspiration, thus, can have vital import only to those whose premises are grounded in God-given Faith.

It may be easily seen, therefore, that in the world today, as in every generation, there are two opposing camps: (1) The Scriptural and (2) the material, or (1) the natural and (2) the supernatural, or (1) secular and (2) the religious. Many, because of poor intellectual delineations, assume the religious to be secular and the supernatural to be natural. But all such proclaim most graphically, no matter what their ultimate ignorance. Thus confusion reigns in both the secular and religious realms. Some scientists, in a professional capacity, insist on being religious to the extent that they apply their prejudiced findings to the destruction of faith in God's Word, the Bible. And may religionists, on the other hand, insist on utilizing data grounded in the natural in their proofs and disproofs of the Biblical.

Both have failed to see that there is a "great gulf" fixed between their religious faith. This

truth is expressed on the one hand by the ultra-naturalistic scientist who repudiates any appeal to the religious. And, on the other hand, there is Paul, the apostle, who, through his faith in The Word of God and Jesus Christ, repudiated his former appeal to a scholarship based on natural reason! ("What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ" (Phil. 3:7).

And to this very hour the line is just as sharply drawn! If we reject the Bible as God's Word, if we reject it as the Verbally Inspired Word of God we do so on the basis of premise grounded in the relativity of this godless-age or some fanciful theory drawn from some phase of probability. If, on the other hand, we receive the Bible as God's Holy and Verbally Inspired Word we do so supernaturally through inexplicable faith.

The line still is drawn between the believers and the disbelievers, between men of faith and those of fanciful theory grounded in so-called scientific doubt. The line still is drawn between Paul who said, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God," and Pilate who

questioned "What is truth?" The line of demarcation should be clear to all; even to the dishonest. Men of faith, grounded in a Verbally Inspired Bible, are men of certainty. While men of doubt, grounded in the natural reason, are men of probability or relativity.

Wherever doubt raises its dishonest head ("Because that when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools" (Rom. 1:21, 22), no man is certain that there is a Bible, or that there is a God, or that there is sin which required the death of God's Son, or that Jesus was raised from the dead and now sits at the Right Hand of the Father in Heaven. But wherever faith becomes the key to victorious life there is accession to the cry of Jesus Christ, "Oh, fools and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have written,"; Peter's proclamation, "We have also a more sure word of prophecy,"; and Paul's enunciation

(Continued on Page 8 Column 1)

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"WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD TODAY"

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (EP)—Evangelist Billy Graham, despite pressure from the Reagan Administration, has accepted his first invitation ever to proclaim the Gospel in Russia. Mr. Graham announced March 23 that he will address a conference of religious leaders in Moscow in early May.

"We have accepted his invitation to the Soviet Union because we feel it is a God-given opportunity for me to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a country where I have not had this privilege before," said Mr. Graham. "I also shall have the opportunity to give my Christian witness to leaders of various religious backgrounds from all over the world. I look forward with great anticipation to these opportunities and to have discussions with some of my fellow Christians in the Soviet Union, as well as with Jews, and others who live in the Soviet Union. In addition, I also look forward to meeting with government leaders."

WASHINGTON (EP)—After seeing postal rates double in January the nation's non-profit mailers may be facing further postage hikes if Congress goes along with President Reagan's proposal to cut postal subsidies further in fiscal 1983. The administration's \$500 million request for the "revenue foregone" subsidy is \$115 million short of what the postal service estimates it needs to avoid new increases in non-profit rates. But opposition looms in Congress to further rate hikes.

At issue is the "revenue foregone" subsidy which has reimbursed the postal service for giving preferential rates to non-profit mailers in two ways. Until this year, it made up the difference between the full cost directly attributable to handling non-profit mail and the reduced rates charged. Second, it paid the non-profit mailers' share of institutional costs and overhead expenses that were not attributable to actual handling of the mail.

NASHVILLE (EP)—Despite proposed radical cuts in federal student aid programs, Southern Baptist educators are positive about the future of denominational higher education. Representatives of 16 Southern Baptist affiliated schools, attending a consultation on student financial aid and federal tax policy, repeated their belief that if students want to attend Baptist schools, a way will be found to help them do so.

The consultation was called to consider the implications of President Reagan's plan to slash federal student aid programs by as much as 50 percent. The National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities estimates the proposed cuts could affect 500,000 of the 1.8 million students enrolled in private institutions in the nation. The Southern Baptist educators were briefed on the status of Reagan's proposed cuts in federal student aid, discussed options open to them to provide needed assistance to their students, and looked at ways in which they can be more effective

politically.

GREENVILLE, S.C. (EP)—Behind the gates of Bob Jones University, its president seethes with righteous indignation at the world outside. Bob Jones III feels his Christian fundamentalist school has been cast unjustly as a symbol of racism and has become a "sacrificial lamb" for face-saving bureaucrats.

"It would be pretty hard for an unsaved man to understand what's going on here," Mr. Jones said, "though we have many unsaved friends who appreciate our forthrightness... even if they don't agree with us."

The university, founded 54 years ago by Mr. Jones' grandfather and later headed by his father, has remained a "straight edge" in the midst of changing public mores, the school leader said. "This school is a religious institution first and foremost," said Mr. Jones, a lanky, pale ordained minister who started preaching at the age of 13. "And as such, we are unyielding in matters of scriptural principle. That's why we find ourselves in this dilemma with the IRS."

"This dilemma" began in 1970 when the Internal Revenue Service first warned that racially discriminatory policies were going to cost the school its exemption from paying federal employment and Social Security taxes, as well as its right to receive tax-deductible contributions. The school responded by admitting married black students in 1971 and single blacks in 1975. But the IRS withdrew the school's tax exemptions anyway a year later because the university would not allow its students to date or marry interracially. Today fewer than a dozen of its 6,300 students are black.

"We teach everything here from the perspective of what does the Bible say," Mr. Jones said. "The Bible is the touchstone of truth for everything we believe."

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (EP)—Flood waters here have started to recede, and The Salvation Army is participating in the massive clean-up effort. Over 1,800 volunteers have assisted in recovery operations affecting approximately 6,000 homeless individuals since March 13. More than 255,000 meals have been served by Salvation Army disaster teams, and over 700 families have been given special attention at the Army's Family Service Bureau. In addition, The Salvation Army has stocked a 60,000 square-foot warehouse in Fort Wayne with food and clothing donated for flood victims.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (EP)—MOTHER TERESA of Calcutta, who won the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize for service to the poor in India, will open a mountain mission in eastern Kentucky this summer. Plans for a mission to be managed by Sister Teresa's Missionaries of Charity were announced by William Hughes, the Roman Catholic bishop of Covington. Mother Teresa is expected to visit Kentucky in June to open

the mission, said Mr. Hughes' secretary, Raymond Hartman.

NEW YORK (EP)—AMORY HOUGHTON, Jr., chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Corning Glass Works, Corning, New York, will serve as National Chairman for National Bible Week 1982. The appointment was announced this week by DR VICTOR W. EIMICKE, president of the Laymen's National Bible Committee, sponsor of the annual interfaith effort to foster interest in Bible reading and study.

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (EP)—Addressing several hundred pastors and church leaders here, GORDON MACDONALD, pastor of Grace Chapel in Lexington, Mass. and

a member of World Vision's board of directors, challenged the Christian community to pick up the slack left by the government in meeting the needs of suffering people worldwide and in this nation. "There will be many enormous vacuums created as government cuts back its foreign and domestic aid programs, and if Christians don't seize the next few years to invest their resources in the whole person, then we have passed up one of the greatest opportunities that history has ever presented," said MacDonald. I think the '80's offer an unparalleled opportunity for Christians to stand up and be counted in terms of whether or not they truly believe in compassion. We've discovered that government cannot do everything; the church now has the opportunity to be the church."

TRUE AND FALSE WAYS OF WORSHIPPING GOD

by Roy Mason
(1894-1978)

There is much confusion concerning what constitutes the worship of God, and it is well for us to make a brief study of the question of worship.

All tribes and nations of people have believed in and practiced some form of worship. This results from the fact that the belief in a god of some kind is universal. It is but reasonable to believe that someone made the things that we see about us. Before we take up what constitutes true worship, let us consider some false ideas.

1. The worship of all kinds of idols. What does the Bible say about this (see Levit. 26:1; Deut. 7:25; Isa. 42:8). How do these teachings compare with the practices of Catholicism? Read Isa. 40:18-28 for the contrast between the true God, and the gods of men's imagination.

Think of some of the false gods that are being worshipped — or else have in the past, been worshipped by men.

(1) In India the cow and the crocodile are sacred.

(2) The Chinese worship pop-eyed, hideous idols.

(3) Moloch was worshipped by the Maobites of ancient times. Children were burned as sacrifices. The Israelites often went off after this form of worship. Name as many kinds of

idolatry as you can. People of today often worship a car, a business, a farm, a child, etc.

Strangest of all, there have been and are people who worship the devil. The devil once wanted Christ to worship him. (See Deut. 32:17 for an example of devil worship).

2. Pretending to worship God by means of images. (cf. Catholics). And by means of plays, pageants, shows, etc. These things do not constitute the worship of God.

3. Pretending to worship God by means of rituals, memorized forms and recited prayers and stuff read out of a book.

TRUE WORSHIP

We don't worship God with our hands or with our physical selves. We serve God with our hands. But real worship is a spiritual exercise. The spirit of a person — the inner self — is that which worships God. We can come to church and let our minds wander a thousand miles away. We can sing and go thru the motion of worshipping God, and at the same time have hearts that are far from Him. Sometimes young people (and we have been somewhat guilty along that line, once upon a time) go to church and they are so much concerned with the boy or girl friend that they do not worship at all. (Unless they worship the girl or boy). And when

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they titter and giggle and misbehave, they not only don't worship — they actually do the devil's service.

When as we sing, we lift our very hearts unto God in praise and adoration, — when as we pray, we prostrate our very souls before God in recognition of who and what He really is, we truly worship Him. Worship is the response of our spirits to one who is Spirit. Note some Scriptures that are suggestive in this connection: John 4:24; I Chron. 16:29.

Where should we worship? Both in private and in public. The person who argues that he can worship as well at home as he can at church should read the following Scriptures: Psa. 26:8; Psa. 84:10; Psa. 122:1; Deut. 12:5; Heb. 10:25. Of course, public worship does not make up for the lack of private worship. But he who truly worships in private will usually be found often in the place of public worship.

When we go to church, we ought to go primarily to worship God. Not to catch a beau; not to show our clothes; not merely to meet friends; not to gossip; not to misbehave; but to meet with God and to worship Him. Preaching and singing ought to be mere aids to assist us in worship.

Many who go to church, seldom really worship. Do we worship God?

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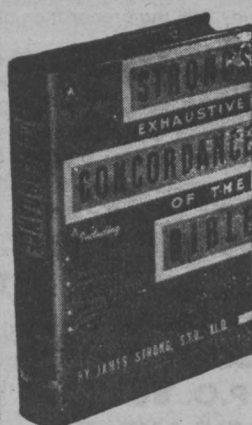
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IF THE BIBLE

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tion, "So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God."

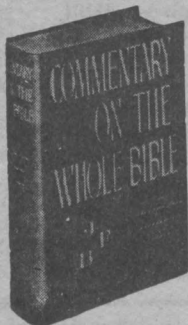
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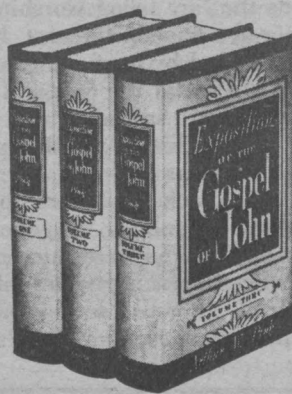
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husband is a tyrant on the one hand and hen-pecked on the other. After hearing her father in a tirade of abuse, throwing a fit, slamming the door as he left for the office, the little daughter said to the mother, "Mother, we made an awful mistake when we married daddy, didn't we?"

On the other hand, of all the men to be pitied it is the man who takes his wife's name. I knew of a man once who was never spoken of except as the husband of Mrs. Blank who was prominent in church and in society.

Marriage is an honourable estate. However, in the providence of God some men and some women remain single because there has been no opportunity to marry in the Lord. And my advice to young people both boys and girls, eschew such a thing as marrying without marrying in the Lord. There is nothing that has brought more sorrow and grief to our homes than mixed marriages where believers are yoked together with unbelievers. Others like Paul have remained single for the gospel's sake. Paul was in jail too much to undertake the responsibilities of a home life. Violation of the marriage vow may not be frowned upon by men, but God will judge. Human society may receive violators of the law of marriage into their social arms, but God will pour out His wrath upon it. Free love and companionate marriage is an abomination in the eyes of God and He will judge all such.

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