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# 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.

VOL. 54, NO. 32 ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, AUGUST 28, 1982 WHOLE NUMBER 2388

## A REWARD ROMAN CATHOLICS HAVE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO CLAIM

Thousands of copies of the following leaflet have been distributed for the past thirty-five years in North America. And the writer has never been called upon to pay a single reward. Frequently, Roman Catholics have taken the leaflet and with great confidence have said — "I shall secure a Bible, and be back in a few days for my reward." They have either not returned or have returned only to acknowledge that the doctrines of their church cannot be upheld by Scripture.

\$50 REWARD to any one who will produce a text of Scripture proving that we ought to pray to Mary.

\$50 REWARD to any one

who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the Virgin Mary was born without sin.

\$50 REWARD to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that Saint Peter had no wife.

\$50 REWARD to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that priests ought not to marry.

\$50 REWARD to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the Pope is the was Bishop of Rome.

\$50 REWARD to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the Pope is the Vicar of Christ or the successor to Saint Peter.

\$50 REWARD to any one

who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the wine at the Lord's table ought to be taken only by the priests.

\$50 REWARD to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the wine at the Lord's table ought to be taken only by the priests.

(Continued on Page 5 Column 3)

### WHEN GOD MADE THE WORLD

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).

Have you ever lain in your bed at night and wondered how the world came to be? Or have you ever sat on the lawn at night and wondered where the moon and the stars came from? Have you ever ridden down the highway and as you passed the beautiful trees and flowers wondered how such wonderful sights came into existence? Have you ever wondered who makes rain and snow? Do you wonder that the big sun does not fall on your head? And say! Did you ever wonder where people came from?

Well, if you have, you are no different from all the other boys and girls. We all have thought much about these things.

But there is no need for us to wonder and guess about where these things came from. The Bi-

(Continued on Page 6 Column 1)

continues to lead his team in prayer before their games.

At first glance it would appear that one is being spiritual, exhibiting piety and doing Christianity a service when he militantly contends for the prayer, both in the school classroom and on the playing fields. However, it might be well for all of us to take a closer look at these practices and to deter-

(Continued on Page 5 Column 4)

## A CASE FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

by Roy W. Snell  
Charleston, W. Va.

In all the various facets of the news media, we have been hearing and reading of the ongoing attempt of some to have prayer in the schools — particularly, at the beginning of the school day. In addition the Examiner carried a short article on the practice of having a prayer on the athletic field at the start of a competitive engagement in some manner of sports. As has been noted, one school in the state of Tennessee has a football coach who has, for the present at least, defied the law in that he con-

## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon By John R. Gilpin

### "PREVENTING GRACE"

"For thou preventest him with the blessings of goodness: thou settest a crown of pure gold on his head" (Psa. 21:3).

In order to understand this passage of Scripture, it is necessary, first of all, that we get a definition for "prevent." I will say immediately, that the word "prevent" that is used in this text, is an entirely different word from that which you and I use every day. As we use it, the word "prevent" means to "hinder." For example, if you prevent a person from doing something, you hinder that individual from doing the things which he purposes to do. That is the way we use the word "prevent" in this modern Twentieth Century.

But that wasn't the way the word "prevent" was used three hundred years ago when this Bible was translated from the Greek language into the English in the time of King James. It

had an entirely different meaning. To be frank, the word "prevent" is an old Saxon word. It really isn't an English word to start with. It is an old Saxon word which means "to go before; to anticipate; to precede," and it is thus used many times in the Word of God. For example, when we talk about the second coming of our Lord, we read:

"For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not PREVENT them which are asleep" (1 Thess. 4:15).

The word "prevent" as used here is that same old Saxon word which means "going before." When we read in this passage of Scripture that "we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not PREVENT them which are asleep," it actually means that those of us who are

alive at the time of the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ will not go ahead of those who are dead, but rather, the dead in Christ shall rise first, and then those that are alive shall follow.

Now that is the way the word "preventing" is used in the New Testament. In fact, it is thus used throughout all the Bible, and it means that God goes before us, and that God most graciously provides for us. That is to say that He anticipates our needs and provides in advance for every emergency that shall come in our lives. That is preventing grace.

I don't know of anything that I ever studied in all the Bible that has thrilled my heart more than this doctrine of preventing grace-how that God goes before us and anticipates our needs, and how He provides in advance for our every emergency.

To give you an illustration, let's go back to that day long ago

(Continued on Page 2 Column 1)

## DID YOU MISS YOUR PAPER?

We are sure by now that most of our readers wondered why they didn't get a paper under date of August 7, 1982.

Since the beginning of 1982, it has been a struggle to keep TBE coming to you on a regular weekly basis, as a result of a tremendous postal increase that we and all similar type Christian publications have been subjected to because of the cut-backs in our federal government.

Many Christian publications have canceled publication, both large & small, because of this postal increase. Some have gone completely bankrupt.

After much prayer, thought and advice, rather than quit altogether, we are going to try publishing every other week and keep going. No doubt this, too, will be a struggle as Satan always tries to intervene with the spread of God's Word.

Calvary Baptist Church is a small church and after spending \$2700 of our own money in the month of July alone to keep it weekly - we felt that we could no longer obligate ourselves, nor is it right for us to do so - to stay weekly.

We therefore, voted on Wednesday evening, July 21, 1982 to go bi-weekly with the hope that we can continue publishing TBE. All our pleas for additional help from our supporting churches evidently fell on deaf ears this year. Only one church since January 1, 1982 has increased their offerings in order to help us out. When we raised our subscription rates recently, we thought that this would make up the difference, especially if some of the supporting churches also helped, but we found this to be futile.

We are sorry to take this drastic action, but trust that a paper every other week will be better than none at all. If you feel lead of the Lord to send an offering at this time, it will be appreciated. May God's blessings rest and abide upon all of us as we labor together.

## JOSEPH M. WILSON ACCEPTS PASTORATE AT CBC

We are happy to announce that Elder Joseph M. Wilson, pastor of the Grace Baptist Church, Stanleyville, North Carolina has accepted the call to be pastor of Calvary Baptist Church and editor of this paper.

Bro. Joe has been a long time friend, supporter and adviser to Calvary Baptist Church and we feel honored that he has accepted our call. He has written numerous articles which have appeared in the columns of this paper down through the years and I am sure all of our readers will be glad to know that he will be in charge and have full



Joe Wilson

responsibility of the work here. He and his wife, Katie, will be moving on the field sometime during the month of August and will assume the responsibilities at that time.

It has been my pleasure for the past 31 months to be an acting editor and keep the paper coming to you on a regular basis and I intend to assist Bro. Wilson in helping him with the editorial duties and other matters that might arise. May God's blessings rest and abide upon us all, as we labor together.

John R. Gilpin, Jr.

## THE CHURCH IS NEVER UNIVERSAL — BUT LOCAL

(Excerpt from an article by H.B. Taylor).

(Now in Glory)

"But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou

(Continued on Page 6 Column 1)

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THE BAPTIST PEOPLE

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

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## PREVENTING

(Continued from Page 1)

when the Lord Jesus Christ was here in the days of His flesh. One day when Simon Peter sauntered through the temple, someone said to him, "Does your Master pay taxes?" Simon Peter didn't know what to say. I rather imagine that it troubled him from two or three standpoints — maybe from the standpoint that he wondered if the Lord Jesus Christ actually did pay taxes, and then there was the question involved as to his own taxes and furthermore, how was he going to pay the taxes that might devolve themselves upon him. So I imagine that with a troubled expression upon his face Simon Peter went into the house, and the Bible says that "Jesus prevented him."

Now what does it mean? Beloved, it means that Jesus anticipated him, that Jesus went before him, that Jesus preceded him. He didn't wait for Simon Peter to express the difficulty that was in his mind. He didn't even wait and allow Simon Peter to ask "Master, do we pay taxes, and if so, how do we pay them?" but rather, Jesus anticipated what was in his mind — He prevented him. Before Simon Peter could say a word, Jesus said, "What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? Of their own children, or of strangers?" When Simon Peter answered the question, Jesus said, "Then are we free, but for fear that we will offend them, you go down to the brook and cast in your hook, and the very first fish that comes up, take the coin out of the mouth of that fish and go pay your taxes and mine at the same time."

Now notice, beloved, in this instance the Lord Jesus Christ not only had the remedy ready in that the fish had the coin in its mouth, but He had the remedy ready before the emergency ever arose.

I say, then, beloved, that this word "prevent" that is used in

*We may tremble on the Rock of Ages, but the Rock will never tremble under us.*

this text means "to go before," and it tells us that God graciously goes before us — that He graciously provides for us, and that He anticipates all of our needs in advance of the emergency, even before the emergency exists.

Now, beloved, I want to show you some ways in which Jesus' preventing grace works in your life and mine.



John R. Gilpin

**I  
THE LORD JESUS  
CHRIST PROVIDES BOTH  
FULL AND FREE SALVA-  
TION FOR US.**

Now that is preventing grace. His grace provides it before we realize the emergency actually exists whereby we need salvation.

Do you realize that we come upon the stage of existence in this world as condemned sinners? We don't know it until the Holy Spirit reveals it, but frankly, we come upon the state of existence as condemned sinners. David said:

**"Behold, I was SHAPEN IN INIQUITY; and IN SIN DID MY MOTHER CONCEIVE ME"** (Psa. 51:5).

This would tell us that not only from the hour of birth, but from the hour of conception, we were conceived with a sinful disposition, that is to say that we came upon the stage of existence as a condemned sinner in the sight of God. No wonder that Paul said:

**"For ALL HAVE SINNED, and come short of the glory of God"** (Rom. 3:23).

It is no wonder that the Lord Jesus said:

**"He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not IS CONDEMNED ALREADY, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God"** (John 3:18).

I say to you, my brother, my sister, we come upon this state of existence condemned in the sight of Almighty God.

There are two ways whereby that you may attempt to remove that sin. Those two ways are the way of works, the way of faith. The first, the way of works, is slow; it is painful; and it is impossible. It is legalistic. It is the way of self-help. In other words, you try to help yourself, and it ends in a Devil's Hell. I say then, that there are two ways whereby a man may attempt to take care of that sin question that he finds himself faced with, and the first way, all of which is man's way, always ends in a Devil's Hell. Listen:

**"For they, being IGNORANT of God's righteousness, and going about to ESTABLISH THEIR OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God"** (Rom. 10:3).

**"Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith WITHOUT THE DEEDS of**

the law" (Rom. 3:28).

**"Knowing that a man is NOT JUSTIFIED BY THE WORKS of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for BY THE WORKS OF THE LAW SHALL NO FLESH BE JUSTIFIED"** (Gal. 2:16).

If there were no other verses in all the Word of God, I would know positively that the first way whereby a man would attempt to handle the sin question — that is, of works, is a way of failure. It is a way of impossibility. It is a way of self-righteousness. It is a way of self-help. It is a way that ends in a Devil's Hell.

Then, beloved, God has a way whereby that sinners can be saved from sin, and that God's way is the way of faith. Listen:

**"For BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED THROUGH FAITH; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast"** (Eph. 2:8, 9).

**"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS according to the Scriptures"** (I Cor. 15:3).

**"For Christ also hath ONCE SUFFERED FOR SINS, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the spirit"** (I Pet. 3:18).

I tell you, beloved, I thank God when I remember that we are saved because of preventing grace, because of the grace of God that went before us — that prepared the way, that anticipated our needs, and even before the emergency had arisen, that He had already prepared the way of our salvation. I begin to understand what the Apostle Paul meant when he said:

**"And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which HE HAD AFORE PREPARED UNTO GLORY"** (Rom. 9:23).

Beloved, He had already made preparation and provision to the extent that He provided full and free salvation for everyone of us. That is why it is that we sing:

**"Jesus paid it all  
All to Him I owe;  
Sin had left a crimson stain,  
He washed it white as snow."  
That is why it thrills my heart  
when I hear you sing:**

**"Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see."**

(Continued on Page 3 Column 1)

## Coming EVENTS

The King's Addition Baptist Church of South Shore, Ky. is announcing the reopening of their mission in Ft. Myers, Fla.

Bro. Aaron West is working in the area as the mission pastor. The Ft. Myers Mission meets on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and Thursday at 7:30 p.m., at the corner of 5th and Davis Streets in Ft. Myers, Fla.

For any further information contact:

Elder Aaron West  
4635 De Leon St.  
Ft. Myers, Fla. 33907  
Phone: (813) 939-1078

## "WE SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW"

**WILL YOU DO US A BIG FAVOR BY ANSWERING THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS?**

Through the years we have been answering questions in the "Forum" column every week. Literally thousands of questions have been answered in this column. We have done our best to answer them according to God's inspired word. Of course, there have been some that we have been unable to answer; we are not God and do not know all the answers. But, doing our best to answer your questions has truly been a joy, and we rejoice that we continually are receiving queries from people each week.

This week, we are reversing things entirely. Instead of answering your questions, we want you to answer our questions!

We often wonder about what TBE is accomplishing in the world as it goes forth from week to week. Of course, we receive letters practically every day telling of how God has blessed the paper to some dear soul; but we would like to find out just what the paper has meant to you. So this week, instead of our answering your questions, we want you to answer some questions for us.

You don't have to answer them all, just answer as many as apply to you or as many as you like. This will be a tremendous blessing to us, to find out just what TBE has meant to you. Will you do us this favor?

(ANSWER, CLIP, AND MAIL, OR ELSE COPY, ANSWER AND MAIL TO US)

1. How did you come in contact with TBE? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Were you saved or lost, when you first received TBE? \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you saved or lost, now? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Were you a Baptist, when you first received TBE? \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you a Baptist now? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Did you believe that Baptist churches are the true churches of Christ, when you first received TBE? \_\_\_\_\_. Do you believe that they are, now? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Have you learned anything about Baptist history from TBE? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Were you delivered from a false church or cult as a result of reading TBE? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Were you an Arminian when you started receiving TBE? \_\_\_\_  
Are you now? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Did you believe the Bible doctrine of election when you first received TBE? \_\_\_\_\_. Had you ever heard it taught before you received TBE? \_\_\_\_\_. Do you believe the doctrine now? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Did you believe in an universal atonement or a particular atonement, when you first received TBE? \_\_\_\_\_. Which do you believe now? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Has TBE helped you in understanding the second coming of Christ? \_\_\_\_\_. Are you Pre-, Post-, or A-Millennial? \_\_\_\_
11. Do you believe in "Open Communion" or "Close Communion?" \_\_\_\_\_

Has TBE helped you in this regard? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Should grape juice or wine, soda crackers or unleavened bread be used in the observance of the Lord's Supper? \_\_\_\_\_  
By what means did you come to the knowledge of this? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Have you been led to see the unscripturalness of conventions, associations, and boards as result of reading TBE? \_\_\_\_\_

14. What do you believe about the church: is it universal and invisible, or local and visible? \_\_\_\_\_

Has TBE helped you to reach your conclusion? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Has TBE helped you to see the unscripturalness of union meetings and interdenominational organizations? \_\_\_\_\_

16. How about Christmas and Easter? Have you been convinced of the sin and idolatry of observing these Catholic days as a result of reading the facts about them in TBE? \_\_\_\_\_

17. Has TBE shown you the evil of the mourner's bench? \_\_\_\_\_  
Do you believe that the mourner's bench is of God or of men? \_\_\_\_

18. Do you believe in the security of the saved? \_\_\_\_\_  
Were you convinced of this doctrine by reading TBE? \_\_\_\_\_

19. Has TBE helped you in regard to the teaching as to a woman's place in the church? \_\_\_\_\_. Should she speak in mixed assemblies? \_\_\_\_\_. Should she preach? \_\_\_\_\_

20. Does the Sunday School lesson outline help you in any way? \_\_\_\_\_

21. What about the "Forum"? Do you think that it is worthwhile to answer our readers' questions? \_\_\_\_\_

22. What about our tract ministry: has it helped you? \_\_\_\_\_. Do you distribute our tracts? \_\_\_\_\_. Would you like to see us print more tracts? \_\_\_\_\_. On what particular subject? \_\_\_\_\_

23. What do you like most about TBE? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you think that we could improve the paper? \_\_\_\_\_



## PREVENTING

(Continued from Page 2)

That is why I thank God every time I hear you sing that old song by Augustus M. Toplady:

"Nothing in my hand I bring,  
Simply to Thy cross I cling."  
I say to you, God's preventing grace means that He provides full and free salvation for us even before we realize our need of such.

### II THE LORD JESUS CHRIST PROVIDES THE GRACE THAT WE NEED TO LIVE BY EVERY DAY.

After a person is saved, the battle isn't won. He still has a life to live. God provides grace for you and me to live by every day, and that grace was anticipated and provided for us, in advance.

Beloved, the Lord Jesus Christ has a sufficient and a complete supply of grace for every child of God, from the commencement to the close of his life of faith here on earth. Listen:

"Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and THERE IS NOTHING TOO HARD FOR THEE" (Jer. 32:17).

Or look at Moses when things were indeed perplexing, when he said:

"The eternal God is thy refuge, and UNDERNEATH ARE THE EVERLASTING ARMS" (Deut. 33:27).

Get the story back of Paul's experience. The Word of God says that he had a thorn in the flesh, but it doesn't tell us what that thorn was. Paul went to God and said, "Oh, God, take it away. I can't stand it," but God shook His head negatively and refused to do so. Paul says that he asked the Lord three times to take away the thorn of his flesh but when he finished praying the third time, God looked down and said, "My grace is sufficient for thee." Then Paul said, "I learned another lesson. I learned that that thorn was to be a hallowed experience in my life. Now I take pleasure in my infirmities. I thanked God for the thorn in my flesh."

Oh, brother, sister, I am saying to you, God has not only provided grace to save us, but God has also provided all the grace that we need to live by, from the beginning of our life of faith to its close here within this world.

Did you ever stop to think about Solomon's temple how it was built? All the materials were provided and prepared in advance. Every beam and every stone that went into Solomon's temple was provided and prepared before one piece was put in place, and when it was put in place, it was put in silently. There wasn't the sound of any hammer. It just went together silently and perfectly, because all the materials had been provided and prepared in advance, and thus it rose as a temple of God in silence.

How marvelously God provides for us in advance, just like the materials were provided for Solomon's temple. Beloved, there will never be a problem in your life but what God will have a sufficient supply of grace to take care of you. There will never be a difficulty or a burden that will come before you in this world, but what God will have all the grace that you will need

in the problem that might arise.

### III GOD HAS ALREADY PREPARED AND PROVIDED THE PLAN FOR OUR LIVES.

Would you believe me when I tell you that the blueprint of your life — the architect's drawing of your life — was in the hands of God before you were ever born in this world. Listen:

"My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did not see my substance YET BEING IMPERFECT; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them. How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand; when I awake, I am still with thee" (Psa. 139:15-18).

Now what does David say? He says, "When you were forming me in secret, your eyes saw my substance when I was yet imperfect." The word for "imperfect" in the Hebrew is literally "unformed." In other words, before he was formed, His eyes saw his substance.

Beloved, doesn't it help you to know that God in His preventing grace anticipated and went before us, to the extent that before we were even born — before we were even conceived in our mother's womb, that God had already provided and planned the pattern of our lives?

Here is an architect who plans a building on paper. He has the whole plan of that structure before even one stone is laid or one piece of timber is put in place. He knows what that building is going to look like. I may see men digging a trench for a foundation and I see that there is going to be a building erected upon that particular lot, but I don't know what it is going to look like. However, the architect in advance knows what that building is going to look like before even one piece of stone is laid, or before one piece of timber has been put in place.

Beloved, it is thus with God. God has a perfect plan for the lives of everyone of us. Now that is where consecration comes in so far as your life and mine is concerned, because when we seek to consecrate our lives unto the Lord, we find God's will explicitly for our life, then it is that Paul says:

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God" (Rom. 12:1, 2).

Whenever we consecrate ourselves to Him and ask to know that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God — whenever we do so, we give up our dross for His gold. Whenever we do so, we give up our second-best to get God's best. Whenever we do so, we give up our foolish, weak, and mistaken will, which brings us into complete subjection to the perfect will of a perfect God, who has a perfect plan for every one of our lives. No wonder the Psalmist said in the words of our text: "For thou preventest him with the blessings of goodness: thou setteth a



Psalm 34:7-11

Intro.: In this portion of scripture we have a declaration of the blessings and benefits God bestows upon His children; we have the definition of God's children in their standing and in their state in contrast to the wicked; and we have an exhortation given to those who are hungry and thirsty. In general, this covers the story of the Bible.

#### VERSE 7

"The angel of the Lord." Without a doubt this is a reference to the Lord Jesus Christ in His pre-incarnate state Who ever watches over the elect of God. It also reminds us that the Lord is the Captain over a multitude who are sent forth as ministering spirits to preserve the saints (Heb. 1:14) who are ever in conflict with the forces of evil (Eph. 6:12). This, along with "greater is He that is in

crown of pure gold on his head."

#### IV

### OUR WORKS HAVE BEEN PREPARED AND PROVIDED FOR US IN ADVANCE.

"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. For we are HIS WORKMANSHIP, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them" (Eph. 2:8-10).

Beloved, listen, the life which you are living in the service of the Lord is the life that has been planned for you, because your works have already been ordained that you should walk before Him with such works, even before you came into this world.

I suppose everyone is interested in the marriage of Prince Rainer and Grace Kelly. The thing that interested me about it is, that they say that she just recently made a movie in which she played the part of the princess who marries the prince. In doing so, she had a tremendous wardrobe that she used in the making of that movie. It didn't belong to her, but it was the property of the stage company. When she was to marry the prince, they gave to her some of those fine dresses that she had used in the making of this film. The thing that I want you to see is this, that girl didn't own those dresses that she used in the making of that film, but they were the property of the stage company for whom she worked. An actor or an actress in a drama doesn't have to provide his own robes. That belongs to the stage furnishings. All he has to do is to put them on and act out his own part in the drama that is set before him.

Beloved, that is exactly what God has in store for us so far as our works are concerned. He has ordained our works, that you and I should walk in them. I am glad for this fact, that God has ordained our works, and in His preventing grace has already prepared the works that He wants me to do. My business

(Continued on Page 5 Column 1)

## The Baptist Examiner

### BIBLE STUDY LESSON

By WILLARD PYLE

Pastor — Naples Park Baptist Church of Naples Park, Florida

you, than he that is in the world" (I John 4:4) should ever give us boldness and confidence in our journey through this world darkened by sin.

"Encampeth round about."

### BIBLE VERSE



But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you.

There is no Achilles heel or weak place in the encampment of the saints in regard to God's preservation. There can be no sneak attack, for the Watchman is ever on guard.

"Them that fear Him." A holy and reverential fear of the Lord is a sure proof of a new birth in which men are turned to God from idols to serve the Living and True God (I Thess. 1:9). Of course, a mark of being lost is, "there is no fear of God before their eyes" (Rom. 3:18).

"And delivereth them." The purpose of the presence of the angel of the Lord is to deliver. The angel delivered Peter out of prison (Acts 12:11) and finally, or in the fullest sense, will deliver the saints out of this evil world.

#### VERSE 8

"O taste and see." A blessed exhortation indeed to one who has been poisoned on the flesh pots and garlic of Egypt; to one who has sunk into the hog pen, spiritually. This exhortation is given out of experience, for David had been made a partaker of the King's table, and did eat continually. How sweet is the honey provided by the Lord; how refreshing the water from the Rock!

"That the Lord is good." The believer partakes of the Lord Himself. By faith he eats His flesh and drinks His blood (John 6:54-56). He finds this is that good part (Luke 10:42). May we too sit at His feet.

"Blessed is the man that trusteth in Him." Happy are all His household who by faith abide in Him. this is believing to the saving of the soul (Heb. 10:39). This is being justified by faith (Rom. 5:1).

#### VERSE 9

"O fear the Lord; ye His saints." David knew the importance of a continual reverence of God. Many times, the saints in unbelief, fear men more than God, which results in following the Lord afar off, a denying of the Lord, and the loss of the joy of salvation. A reverence for God will keep the saints from the idols of this world.

"For there is no want to them that fear Him." Therefore we can be content with such things that we have, for the Lord has said, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee," and therefore we can

boldly say, "The Lord is my Helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me" (Heb. 13:5, 6).

#### VERSE 10

"The young lions do lack and suffer hunger." The strongest and bravest, and most ambitious lions on occasions, fail to be able to obtain enough food.

"But they that seek the Lord shall not want." How we need to practice, "seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33). The child of God does not, if spiritually minded, want or desire earthly fame, fortune, or glory; so again, having food and raiment, he is content.

"Any good thing." On God's side, He will keep back nothing that is profitable, but will ever abundantly provide the good things necessary to conform the saints into the image of His Son. Notice, He promises and supplies all of our need according to His riches in glory through Jesus Christ (Philip 4:19). The saints have all good things, and only that which is good. Therefore we can "glory in tribulation also" (Rom. 5:3).

#### VERSE 11

"Come, ye children." Again, David interjects an invitation as he desires the well being of the saints. He ever longed to help sinners and saints (Psa. 51:13). This was true of Paul also (Rom. 10:1, 2; Col. 1:24), and all true ministers (Philip. 2:26).

"Hearken unto me." David had a message worth telling and therefore he asked for a hearing. The message of the ambassador of God is truly worth telling and worth hearing. May we, like the Thessalonians who upon receiving it, received it as in truth the Word of God (I Thess. 2:13).

"I will teach you." Not only did he have the truth, but he gave the truth. He wasn't content until he had laid line upon line in his effort to properly instruct those around him. He could have left it for others, since he was king, but his heart wouldn't allow him to.

"The fear of the Lord." Even though David was well versed in being a shepherd, in being a soldier, and a statesman, and in many other areas, he put first things first; for without the fear of the Lord, all else would be in vain. How many mommies and daddies are zealous in teaching their children the fear of the Lord? Most parents are deeply concerned about the physical, the material, and the worldly, but few instruct their children in heavenly matters.

Conclusion: May we spend much time in meditation and in exhortation, and teaching the truths of God.

(EDITORS NOTE: If you would like to write to Mr. 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)



Be sure if God sends you on stony paths, He will provide you with strong shoes.

## The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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

Can a minister of one of the Lord's true churches who has committed a grievous sin such as rape or murder be forgiven and find peace with God?

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LAYMAN,  
TEACHER  
and  
WRITER



The fact of being "a minister of one of the Lord's churches" does not justify levity of conduct, which would allow such lightness and frivolity that would lead to such grievous sins as rape or murder.

Too, in addition, this hypothetical question seems to infringe a doubt upon the ability of God, as to His sovereignty, to forgive such obnoxious sins. Also, to the contrary, I find that (in complete compliance with God's eternal purpose) there is no capricious favoritism with God in respect to national and ecclesiastical distinctions. However, true to the character of God, I do find that God does have respect only to the personal character and state of men, as purposed in Him, even before the foundation of the world. Accordingly, only to such, as then elected to salvation, He (in His own time) propitiates His righteousness to their account in the forgiveness of their sins, which sets them at peace with Him.

Respecting this, the Apostle Paul affirmed "Grace be to you, and peace, from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil (age), according to the will of God and our Father, to Whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Gal. 1:3-5).

Hence, if we sin, we do not lose that peace and, then, on our own account, have to find peace with God; but, rather, "if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 Jn. 2:1). Therefore, through the advocacy of Christ, that peace of God is a permanent abiding factor in the lives of all of His elect-people, which is effectuated from the time of their calling to salvation.

So, in response to the Pharisees (who ascribed to Satan the works of the Holy Spirit), Jesus affirmed that "All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven men; but the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit shall not be forgiven men" (Mt. 12:31).

So, in respect to all manner of sin and blasphemy, forgiveness is not affirmed "unto all men" without exception, because there are many who are in vituperation against both God and man, who have not the promise of salvation through God-given repentance. This fact was

exemplified in the conduct of the Scribes and the Pharisees, who (though they knew that the miracles of Christ were wrought through the agency of the Holy Spirit), yet, maliciously and obstinately ascribed those miracles of Christ to Satan in order to obscure the glory of Christ, as God manifest in the flesh.

Consequently, in this consideration of their rashness, Jesus warned thus: "Whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him; but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven Him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come" (Mt. 12:32).

This expression, "the Son of man," related to Christ as incarnate in the likeness of sinful flesh, yet sinless. So, in this form, such (in thinking of Him only as a mere man), in ignorance, regarded Him not as the Messiah, and, consequently, reproached Him blasphemously.

However, as an illustration, we find that Saul (later, Paul), as listing himself in this category of blasphemy against "the Son of man." Yet, under the agency of the Holy Spirit and through the grace of God, he was saved through the efficacy of the shed blood and the mediation of Christ.

Therefore (on the other hand and in the sense before affirmed), "Whosoever speaketh against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven." This is not because the Holy Spirit is greater than Christ; too, neither is it for the want of the efficacy of the blood of Christ, or because God cannot pardon such sin; but it is because such persons wilfully, maliciously, and obstinately oppose the Spirit of God. Thus, without the agency of the Holy Spirit, no application of such pardon and forgiveness can be made.

Therefore, such are given up to a reprobate mind and die in impenitence and unbelief with no promise of forgiveness, "neither in this world, nor in the world to come."

Consequently, all such ministers, who creep into the churches unawares, are those "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). "Reprobate silver shall men call them, because the Lord hath rejected them" (Jer. 6:30).

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The Apostle John tells us under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, "And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:" (1 John 2:1). He also says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

For a biblical example of a man who committed such sins we can go to David, king of Israel, and see how he was restored to fellowship with the Lord. After Nathan, the prophet, confronted him concerning his sin we see him coming before God and asking for mercy and cleansing from God. "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy loving kindness: according unto the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin" (Psa. 51:1, 2). In verses three and four he makes a full confession of his guilt and in the remainder of the chapter he continues to beg for mercy and to be cleansed of his sin, "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me" (Psa. 51:10). Again in Psalm 130 we see him pleading for mercy, "Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, Lord... If Thou, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?" (Psa. 130:1, 3). At this point it seems that David became aware of the marvelous fact that God has oceans of forgiveness, treasures of forgiveness beyond description for he says, "But there is forgiveness with Thee... For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption" (Psa. 130:4, 7).

Did God hear David and forgive him and restore him back to full fellowship with Him? Let's hear what David had to say, concerning this, "I waited patiently for the Lord and He inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God; many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord" (Psa. 140:1-3).

In answer to the question, yes, there is forgiveness and peace with God for a repentant minister or any other repentant in Christ, who like David, comes to God confessing his/her sin and asking for mercy. Like the old song.

It is no secret what God can do

What He has done for others He will do for you.

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Before I answer this question, I need to clear up a couple of things first. First and foremost, I'm not sure I know what is the difference between a "grievous" sin and any sin. As far as I can see in the Scriptures, sin is sin and one is not considered any more or less than another. We have categorized sin but God has not. It is true that a minister, or any other saved person, who commits rape or murder has done a terrible thing; but a minister, or any other saved person, who disobeys God's word, or tears up the Lord's church, or refused to pray for someone has done a terrible thing also.

Another thing that we must consider is not whether the man is a minister or not — that doesn't enter into it — but if he is a saved man or not. We do not have double standards in the Bible. All saved people, whether they are ministers or not, are responsible to live Godly. It is no worse for a minister to sin than for anyone else in the church to sin.

If he is a saved man, then the answer is yes, he can and will be forgiven and can find peace with God. When David, a servant of God, committed such a sin he was forgiven. "And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord and Nathan said unto David, the Lord also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die." (II Sam. 12:13). The blood of Jesus Christ washes us from all sin — past, present and future.

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A minister of one of the Lord's churches is not to be a striker or a brawler, certainly he is not to be guilty of such outrages against human decency as rape or murder. Rape and murder and like crimes are abominable in God's sight no matter by whom they are committed, and all the more so when committed by one whom the Lord has given to His people to be a leading example of Him in all things. Satan is the original murderer, and they who commit such things emulate Satan in the most striking way, and when the chief representative person in the church is guilty of such unspeakable conduct, the magnitude of the crime is multiplied many fold. The morals and integrity of the pastor is to be consistently above shame and reproach, and a minister who falls victim to such heinous crimes does irreparable damage to his ministry and becomes the means whereby a stubborn stigma fastens itself to the Lord's church.

Murder is a crime against which all nature revolts (Gen. 4:10, 23, 24). Under the law of Moses human life was so sacred,

that the owner of an uncontrollable ox which caused death was held responsible (Ex. 21:29), and it is certain that God's ancient hatred of such crimes has not diminished in the least. But on the other hand, neither is God's pardoning grace subject to diminution, and there is no sin of a saved person beyond the forgiving mercy of God. On the condition of repentance God's forgiveness is unlimited, and when the offending person repents and confesses his sins unto God. He is faithful and just to forgive his sins and to cleanse him from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). However, let not the saved person presume upon God's goodness, and let him remember the source from which the gift of repentance comes and that it may not be God's good pleasure to grant him repentance, but rather severe chastisement.

The Lord forgave David his vile crimes, including murder, but the Lord withheld his blessings from David, and he spent the last years of his life in bitter weeping and void of the joys of the Lord's salvation. The devil is never more victorious in his campaign of evil than when he causes the downfall of one whom God has called to the ministry. Pastor Beware!

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"I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah" (Psa. 32:5).

This Scripture relates to David's obtaining forgiveness and peace with God relative to his great sins of adultery and murder. It stands on the pages of inspiration as one among many which answer this question with a resounding and multiplied 'yes.'

I assume that the questioner is referring to a saved minister. Now, of course, the preacher should be very careful as to His life. He is in a public position and many eyes are upon him. He should never, never be guilty of such grievous sins. Such sins will hurt him greatly for the rest of his life with men. Some men will never forgive him for such. He will greatly harm his working publicly for the Lord by such sins as mentioned.

But the question is as to such a one being forgiven and finding peace with God. Thank God that He is more forgiving, loving, and merciful than men are. 1 John 1:9 is a great promise from God as to His forgiving the sins of His people. There are many promises in the Bible relative to God's willingness to forgive His people's sins when they confess them unto the Lord. And there are absolutely no 'strings' attached to these promises. God does not say to the sinning child of God that He will forgive many of his sins, or most of them, or all but one or two. God speaks of forgiving and cleansing from all sin.

In fact, when a believer does sin, the Lord Jesus immediately — before the believer repents or

(Continued on Page 5 Column 1)

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## FORUM

(Continued from Page 4)

asks forgiveness — maybe before the believer is even aware of great sin — the Lord Jesus immediately goes to the Father in intercessory prayer for the sinning believer. In answer to His prayers, the Spirit convicts the believer and brings such to repentance and confession to God. God then gladly and graciously forgives the confessed sin.

I am most happy to answer this question by saying that the Bible from cover to cover by promise and in example teaches that God will forgive any and all of the sins of His truly saved children.

## PREVENTING

(Continued from Page 3)

is to ask God for His will, that I might do the things that please God in the works that He has provided.

We have a marvelous illustration of that in the Old Testament, in the case of Jeremiah. When God told Jeremiah to preach, Jeremiah didn't want to. Listen:

"Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. Then said I, Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the Lord said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord. Then the Lord put forth his hand and touched my mouth. And the Lord said unto me. Behold I have put my words in thy mouth. See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant" (Jer. 1:5-10).

Notice that God had already prepared all the works that Jeremiah was to do before Jeremiah was ever conceived in his mother's belly.

Oh, listen to me! I am speaking about a God of preventing grace. That is the kind of a God we are serving today. He prepared a full and free salvation for me before I ever knew about my existence. He prepares the grace for me every day to live for Him. He prepared the plan of my life, and He has prepared the works of my life from day to day.

**GOD'S PROVIDENCES ARE ALSO PREPARED FOR US.**

Do you realize that you and I are subject to the providences of God and that all of those providences are prepared for us? Everything that takes place in providence is a part of God's provision for us.

We read in John 21 where the disciples went fishing one night but they didn't catch even one fish. The next morning Jesus said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find, and when they cast their net, they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fishes." Jesus, as God, knew where the fish were, in His providence, He placed them there.

Beloved, listen to me, every

provision and providence of your life and mine, God has provided in advance.

Let's notice another example. One day Abraham went out to offer his son Isaac upon an altar, and as he was about to do so, he saw a ram that was caught in the thicket. He took that ram and offered it instead of his son, and Abraham called the name of that place "Jehovamereh," which means that "the Lord will provide."

God has provided. He provided a ram to offer in the place of the sacrifice of his son. That ram was there all the time. All that Abraham needed to do was to open his eyes and see it waiting for him. God was working in this, as well as in all, of the providences of life.

Let's notice Jonah. When Jonah went to flee from the presence of the Lord the Word of God tells us that Jonah went down into the ship to go to sleep, but that God stirred up the depths of the ocean with a storm. When the men were frightened and Jonah was cast into the sea, God provided a fish to swallow Jonah. God was working in the providences of his life.

Let's notice again how God controls the providences of our lives. When Moses led the children of Israel out to Marah, just a short distance from Egypt, they could not drink of the waters of Marah. Listen:

"And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah. And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink? And he cried unto the Lord; and the Lord showed him A TREE which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them" (Ex. 15:23-25).

Beloved, that shrub was there all the time. All that Moses needed to do was to open his eyes and see it. It was there, for God was working this providence in behalf of his life.

Let's notice another example. I stand in Palestine some 700 or 800 years before my Lord was born. I stand alongside of Elisha and I heard his servant say, as he looks out beyond, "Look at the crowd of enemies. There is old Ben-hadad's army and all of the Syrian armies coming after us. Master, what shall we do?" Elisha prayed, and said, "Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see." When his servant looked again, he saw not only the armies of Ben-hadad and the Syrians, but he saw the angels of God. The Word of God tells us that God smote the Syrian army with blindness and that they were miraculously led to Samaria and they came no more into the land of Israel.

I tell you, beloved, God in His preventing grace prepares the providences of our lives. That is why we need to learn the meaning of Romans 8:28, when Paul said:

"And we know that ALL THINGS work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

That is why we need to fall back upon I Thessalonians 5:18, when it says:

"In EVERY THING GIVE THANKS: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

Beloved, it doesn't make any difference what comes in your life and mine. It doesn't make any difference what the problem is that may arise to confront and

perplex you. You need to fall back upon this fact, that God is back of it all, and that God's preventing grace has gone before, and has anticipated and provided for us, and has made arrangements before that emergency might arise.

## OUR PLACE IS PREPARED

One day Jesus comforted His disciples when He said unto them:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I GO TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:1-3).

Jesus said that He was going to prepare a place for us. I don't know what He had to do to Heaven when He left this earth. I don't know what preparation He had to make, but I know one thing, there was something yet to be done. There was some preparation yet to be made, and when Jesus left this earth, He went to prepare Heaven in our behalf.

Isaiah said:

"For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what HE HATH PREPARED for him that waiteth for him" (Isa. 64:4).

Listen, beloved, God in His preventing grace not only provided full and free salvation for us, not only provided grace for us to live each day, not only prepared the plans of our lives, not only planned the works of our lives, not only provided and made arrangements relative to all the things that might come into our lives by way of His providences, but He has prepared the place to which we are going, in advance of our going there.

So, beloved, we can say that from the beginning to the end, salvation is of the Lord, and God's preventing grace is the reason for your life before you came into this world, your life in this world, and the life that you are going to live yonder in eternity when you leave this world.

Beloved, it thrills my heart when I remember what God has done for us even before we were in the womb, that He provides for us all the time of our lives, and that He is preparing now for our future. It ought to make us ashamed to think how poorly we treat Him. You and I need to pause and thank God for what He has done, for what He is doing in our behalf from day to day, and we need to cry out to Him to give us grace that our lives might count for Him every day, in view of all that He has done for us.

May God bless you!

## REWARD

(Continued from Page 1)

ture to prove that there is such a thing as the sacrifice of Mass.

\$50 REWARD to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that the priest's use of images was recommended either by Christ or His Apostles.

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who will produce a text of Scripture that we ought to pray to the saints or for the dead.

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\$50 REWARD to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that there is salvation in any other way but through faith in Jesus Christ, the Lord, who said, "Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28).

\$50 REWARD to any one who will produce a text of Scripture to prove that any man is safe who delays the salvation of his immortal soul. "For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul" (Mark 8:36).

\$1500 REWARD to any one who will produce the required texts of Scriptures on the above questions. Jesus said: "Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of Me" (John 5:39).

The Holy Scriptures are the only infallible source of truth that God has revealed for our salvation, and the only and absolute rule of faith. As a religious guide they are clear and complete.

## SEPARATION

(Continued from Page 1)

mine if there are some hidden pitfalls which possibly might develop.

First of all, it should be determined whether a proper subject

is engaged in this manner of praying. On the playing field, is that one doing the praying a saved man? If he is not one of our Lord's quickened, elect children, then the whole thing is a farce and a sham. Secondly, just what in fact is he praying for? Should he be then praying for his "boys" to win, at the same time he is praying for the other team to lose. The other team also consists of human beings with emotions and feelings and are subject to hurt when they lose. So what happens if the opposing coach is also a professing Christian and he, too, prays to win? Already a can of worms is opened.

A sidelight which I found interesting was depicted on national television just this past week. One of the top professional football teams has had a highly successful year and is in the running for the national championship in their field of endeavor. Some of the athletes who will be competing were being interviewed on the screen and one of them said, in effect, that he attributed their fine performances to the fact that the coach was a religious man. So, supposedly, they have the edge over all the others. I have no license nor authority to pick those whom our Lord will bless — nor to say, on the other hand, who will be passed over. So maybe the man is correct.

However, there is another side to this success picture, which causes me to pause just a moment before giving Divine Providence all the credit. This team in question performs weekly before upwards to eighty thousand plus audiences. It is clearly approaching the millions of viewers when these contests are televised, which is quite often. It is also clear to anyone who might be watching that many of the viewers in the stands have been sipping something more potent than a "big orange." Consequently, with their blood warmed, their emotions and senses aroused and their inhibitions lowered, they are fully prepared to "enjoy" that which is transpiring on the field below.

Along with the fierce and sometimes brutal competition on the field of play there is yet another attraction to be viewed with licentious lust. On the sidelines, under the floodlights or in broad daylight, there are young females who can not be considered as half-dressed — one-third dressed would more than cover the situation (not the bodies). With the shortest of shorts, and oft times no more than the g-string adapted from the old strip tease flesh shows, their tops slit to show more than they hide, these shameless females do some convoluted body posturing which puts the old time hoochy-coochy and the dirty boogie in the shade. Forgive my vivid and lurid description, but these creatures are performing on the same field and at the very same time as the winning team which is successful because their coach is "religious." And in all that I have heard or read, I have yet to hear that anyone from the coaching staff of that team has ever even suggested a little restraint — or a mite more clothing.

I am reminded of Isaiah 3:16, "...the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as

(Continued on page 6 Column 1)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER  
AUGUST 28, 1982  
PAGE FIVE



## SEPARATION

(Continued from Page 5)

they go, and making a tinkling with their feet." Even at that Isaiah never saw what is performed in public in our times — surely wickedness doth abound.

As to any mandatory prayer in the classrooms — please keep in mind all the changing mores and morals and the increasing permissiveness in our society. Tomorrow that one instructing your youngsters may well be an admitted, practicing homosexual. Will you have that one with authority to open a class with "prayer?" Farfetched? Possibly not! Your school board, entirely, legally, hires a devout Roman Catholic. Would you have such a one to pray, "Holy Mary, Mother of God?" I think not! Be careful, be prayerful!

## WHEN

(Continued from Page 1)

ble is God's Own Book. And in His Book God tells us where everything came from. He tells us about the stars. He tells us about the moon. He tells us about the trees. He tells us about the animals. Well, God just tells us about everything! My, isn't God's Book a wonderful Book!

It was God who made all things. And the very first thing that He made was the ground on which we walk, which is called "the earth." At first, the earth was all out of shape and darkness covered it. But the Spirit of God shaped the earth into a round ball, just like God wanted it.

After making the earth round, God, said, "Let there be light." And what do you suppose happened? That's right, there were lights in your bedroom. God turned on the lights for the earth. Only God did not have to have a switch. He only had to speak and it was done.

And how long do you think it took God to do all this work? How long do you think it took Him to make the earth and give it light? Why, only one day!

After God made the light He called it "Day." And God called the darkness "Night." And the light and the darkness were the first 24-hour day that there ever was.

## WHY

(Continued from Page 1)

oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" (I Timothy 3:15).

The first question that men ask when they read this text is: What kind of a church did Paul mean when he said the church is the pillar and ground of the truth? Catholics say he was speaking of a universal, visible church, the hierarchy, which they call the Holy Catholic Church.

Protestant Pede-Baptists and others say he was speaking of the universal, invisible church, which they say includes all the saved.

The context shows conclusively, however, that Paul was speaking of a local church. In verses 8 to 14 Paul had been setting forth the qualifications and

(Continued on Page 7 Column 4)

Strong's Theology says, "The whole church, not the bishop (so-called) is to maintain pure doctrine and practice." This is proven "from the committing the ordinances to the charge of the whole church to observe and guard. As a church expresses truth in her teaching, so she is to express it in symbol through her ordinances. Baptism and the Lord's Supper are not to be administered at the discretion of the individual minister. He is simply the organ of the church: pocket baptismal and communion services are without warrant. The only organized body known to the New Testament is the local church, and this is the only body of any sort, competent to have charge of the ordinances. The invisible church has no officers. The Lord's Supper was observed by these churches as organized bodies." Pages 505, 551.

These testimonies are unanswerable and are abundant to prove that the church referred to in the text is a local church.



QUESTION:—What Old Testament city was the "City of David" and what New Testament city?

ANSWER:—In Old Testament times, Zion (part of Jerusalem), Second Samuel 5:7 — "Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Zion: the same is the city of David."

In New Testament times, Bethlehem, Luke 2:4 — "And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem;..."

## WHAT IS MY RELATIONSHIP TO A SOVEREIGN GOD?

Raymond A. Waugh, Sr.  
Midland, Tx.

"I speak that which I have seen with my Father; and ye do that which ye have seen with your father... Why do ye not understand my speech? Even because ye cannot hear my Word... He that is of God, heareth God's Words" (John 8:38, 43, 47).

"Why do ye not understand my speech?" This was a most crucial question some 2000 years ago, and it is a most crucial question even in our day. There is a Babylon about us that claims to be "religion," but we may be relatively certain that God has no part — I mean no part — in any of it. It is satanic in its beginning, it is satanic in its continuum of operation and activity, and if the world continues, it will be satanic tomorrow!

Men are answering the question, but they are answering it as the Jews; that is, they are saying, "Will he kill himself?... Who art thou?... Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil?" (John 8:22, 25, 48). Here were a people who supposed that they were "Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man" (John 8:33), but Jesus had some words to the contrary. We read, "If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham" (John 8:39) and "Ye are of your father, the Devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do" (John 8:44).

These supposed that they were religious! They supposed that they had a relationship with God! They supposed that they were actually the people of God because they had Abraham as their racial or ethnic ancestor. In reality, they were the enemies of the Son of God and thereby the enemies of God. And even though they supposed themselves to be the servants of God, they were in fact and in truth — by the Words of the Lord Jesus — the servants, abject servants, if you will, of the devil or Satan!

"What is my relationship with God?" was a most important question some 2000 years ago, and it is still a most important question. In fact, I suppose we may rightly denote that it is the

question of the hour. These in that distance day were answered the question in a manner which assured their eternal damnation, and I fear that a multitude in this hour are doing the same.

You may ask, why should it be the question of the hour? I believe that the answer is very near. For, regardless of who you are, where you are, or what you are, very, very soon you will stand before God either as friend or as foe. Very simply, you will stand before God as one who is saved or as one who is lost. You will stand before God either for rewards or for judgment. Therefore, your answer with respect to "What is my relationship with God?" is more important to you at this very moment than anything else.

It matters not who you are. It matters not where you are. It matters not what you are. This question, "What is my relationship with God?" is the one about which you should be most concerned.

If you are rich, you need to have an answer. If you are poor, you need to have an answer. If you are troubled, you need to have an answer. If everything seems to be going well, you need to have an answer. If you are famed among men or infamous, you need to have an answer. If it seems that you have done everything right, or if, in fact, you have played the fool, you still need to have an answer. If life is a joy, or if it is a burden, you need to find an answer. If you are just common everyday folk who are not making any waves, you likewise need to have an answer to "What is my relationship with God?"

Men, in other ages and in other times, have answered this question, but most of their answers have been to their eternal loss. This is no surprise for God. The Scriptures are very exact, "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." Sadly, if you will, the situation is the same today. There are a multitude of answers coming forth from the hearts of men,

but most of their answers are equally as wrong.

First

Some people in the past have claimed a relationship with God, but their claim was not in accord with the Scriptures or the Word of God, and the results were tragic for them. In ancient Egypt, the people claimed a relationship with God through their sun-god, Ra, and others. Others claimed their relationship with God through their priests, their prayers, and their works. Theirs was a "do" religion not unlike most religion, so called, today.

The Greeks, the intellectuals of another day, looked to a galaxy of gods, as it were, as their claim for a relationship with God, and as their hope for a better tomorrow. So intent were they in their beliefs that they caused perhaps the greatest mind ever to walk among them — albeit a lost mind — to be put to an end as they caused Socrates to drink the hemlock because of their belief that he had blasphemed their gods. It is no marvel, then, that the Apostle clearly declared, "The Greeks seek after wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified... unto the Greeks foolishness."

There was a time when the Babylonians supposed that their approach to God was the choice one in the earth. They came to this supposition in part, doubtless, because they supposed that they had an immediate access through their "Queen of Heaven." Their folly has been recounted in every subsequent generation. Yet, today, there is an even greater host who, in a similarly tragic fashion, suppose that they have access to God and to heaven by means of their "Queen of Heaven," whom they delegate to be their "Mediatrice."

The Romans, too, claimed a relationship with God. However, instead of some fanciful personage who had never lived or some fantasy personage whom they had designed, as it were, "from whole cloth," these actually chose a man "as their God" or as their "vicar" of God. In any event, the people were called upon to pay homage to or to worship, if you please, the one whom they called Caesar. Sadly and tragically, there are multiplied millions throughout the world today who voluntarily do their homage before and often worship one whom they call their "Vicar of Christ."

There was another people who sometimes were called Jews, sometimes Hebrews, and sometimes Israelites who likewise came up with some wrong answers with respect to the question, "What is my relationship with God?" From ancient times until the day when Jesus walked the earth, some of these claimed their relationship with God through Abraham. In doing this, some of them claimed their relationship further or perhaps it would be better to say that they detailed their relationship with God through Jacob and Isaac. The seeming fact that they were the natural children of these ancient patriarchs upon whom God had bestowed great blessings was sufficient in their thinking to accord themselves a right relationship with God.

Others, perhaps, supposed that it was their membership in the Commonwealth of Israel which accomplished for them a right relationship with God. While some others were of the opinion that it was their heritage with the prophets or their

membership in some one of the sects which effected their proper relationship with God. Some, in all of these groups, supposed that there were complementary or conclusive benefits effected by their "sacrifices," their "prayers," their "tithes," their "Holy Days," and their "Keeping of the Law."

Even in those days, however, there was no excuse for such acclimation to the flesh and so little regard for faith or belief. Already, God had given them the message of Cain and Abel, and He had demonstrated love for Abel and His displeasure with Cain. Even more, they could have known the truth that "Abel was accepted in the beloved" because of his sacrifice of the Lamb which portrayed the coming of the Messiah. Too, God had made it plain that Abraham had "believed God, and that it was accounted unto him for righteousness."

In my own mind, at least, I have no doubt whatever that the Word of the Lord when He was upon the earth was as definitive and final as it had been in previous centuries. He was absolute in His, "How can ye believe, which receive honor one of another and seek not the honor that cometh from God only? Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father; there is one that accuseth you, even Moses in whom ye trust. For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me; for he wrote of me." Obviously, however, most such had given the wrong answer with respect to the question, "What is my relationship with God?"

Second

Multitudes, today, claim a relationship with God which is not according to and not in accord with the Word of God. Are there not an almost innumerable host who claim that they have a right relationship because of their church membership? Such have concluded that it is not the One with whom they are related that is important, but rather with "what" are they related.

Needless to say, this is a most tragic miscalculation in the realm of the Spirit, for not one time in the whole of the Word of God, the Scriptures, is the question "what" ever posed. Instead, we hear the query, "Whom say, ye, that I am?" Too, there is the question, "What, then, shall we do with Jesus who is called the Christ?" Not once in all of the Word of God is it ever even intimated that one who wants to be saved should join anything! The Word in this regard is, "As many as believed were added..."

Others may suppose that their "repentance" or their "confessions" or even the "absolving of their sins" by some man is the key to their answering of the question in a proper manner. Yet, the words quoted above should put an end forever to any such unscriptural speculation.

Perhaps the majority of those who call themselves Christians today are caught-up in several elements of a "do" religion, none of which can provide them a proper relationship with God. In one detail or another, all such relate to "good works" that are designed to impress God with their "right to be heard" or their "right to be saved," but without any respect to the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. In every instance, these relate to Cain, and they despise anything pertaining to Abel,

(Continued on Page 7 Column 4)



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

**HARTFORD, Conn.** (EP)—The United Presbyterian Church voted overwhelmingly June 29 to reunite the two major U.S. branches of the faith after 121 years of separation. The 571-18 vote came two weeks after the 122nd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, the Southern branch, approved a similar measure, 344-30. The proposal still must undergo the scrutiny of the the two denominations' regional governing bodies, called presbyteries.

The two branches parted in 1861, at the onset of the Civil War, over differences on theological issues, states' rights and slavery. A reunited church, which would be called Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), would have 3.4 million members, with 2.4 million from the Northern branch and 1 million from the Southern.

The delegates at the 194th General Assembly debated for 90 minutes June 29 before approving the plan which has taken 13 years to hammer out. The announcement of the vote by Moderator James H. Costen, an Atlanta minister, was met by sustained clapping, organ music and singing. If the required number of presbyteries approve the actions of their respective general assemblies, the churches will be formally reunited at a joint convention next June in Atlanta.

It is generally felt that the reunion proposal will sweep through the Northern presbyteries but may find the going tougher in the South, where a few key presbyteries could determine the outcome.

**NEW YORK (EP)**—On June 18, Evangelist Mike Evans and a delegation from his national Lovers of Israel organization met with Prime Minister Menachem Begin in the United States to meet with President Reagan and to address the United Nations. The twenty-eight participants in the meeting included, in addition to Reverend Evans, Dr. Ben Armstrong, Executive Director of NRB, Arch Decker, Chairman of the Board of STEP, Mrs. Clint Murchison, owner of the Dallas Cowboys, Forest Montgomery, legal counsel to NAE, and Mrs. Fob James, First Lady of Alabama.

Mr. Evans told the Prime Minister that he was on a "divine mission" and that God was going to bring His will to pass in Israel. Other members of the group expressed their strong support and prayers. Begin told the delegation he was deeply moved by their expressions of love and devotion and was deeply touched as the entire group prayed for him that the will of God would be accomplished.

Prime Minister Begin also stated that he believed in divine providence. He stated that he considered the enormous amount of support Israel is receiving from Christians in America and throughout the world to be a "phenomenon of our time." Begin said, "I have told my Jewish people, 'Remember, we have millions of Christian friends and let us be grateful to them and appreciate their love for our land and their

work for our cause."

**ORANGE, Calif.** (EP)—High Adventure Ministries, a Christian organization which has been operating the Voice of Hope radio stations in the South Lebanon area for the past 3½ years, has been named to spearhead and promote humanitarian aid for south Lebanon by Maj. Saad Haddad, leader of the south Lebanese forces.

High Adventure, which was founded by evangelical author-lecturer George Otis, announced the organization of a major relief effort for the area to be called "Lebon-Aid." The ministry has been associated with Maj. Haddad since the founding of its radio ministry in Lebanon in 1979.

Maj. Haddad appointed High Adventure to this position soon after the Israeli invasion of South Lebanon, saying, "Due to the tragic circumstances that have occurred after seven years of devastating war and the human suffering that this war has caused, and recognizing the need for comprehensive help to relieve that suffering, be it known that High Adventure Ministries, under the direction of George Otis, president, is hereby appointed to act as coordinator of humanitarian aid collected by and administered to this area of Lebanon. High Adventure Ministries is also empowered to represent the Free Lebanese people before various charitable relief agencies."

**NEW YORK (EP)**—More than 2,000 identically dressed brides and their blue-clad grooms were married July 1 in Madison Square Garden by the Unification Church in what could be the world's largest mass wedding. It is believed to be the first mass wedding in America for the church, which set a record by marrying 1,800 couples during a 1975 ceremony in Korea, according to the Guinness Book of World Records.

The "I do's" were said simultaneously before an estimated 17,000 guests during a 2½-hour ceremony over which Sun Myung Moon and his wife officiated, according to Mose Durst, president of the Unification Church in America. The matches were made by Mr. Moon, the church's leader, and most of the couples have been engaged for several years, Mr. Durst said.

Couples who already were married before joining the church can have the union "blessed" to make it official in the eyes of the church. But single members must be matched by the church, instead of choosing their own mates for a Unification Church wedding, Mr. Durst said. "The church members firmly believe that God speaks through Mr. Moon in suggesting the selection of a mate," Mr. Durst said. "But each one understands that he or she alone must decide and take responsibility for the marriage."

About one-third of the couples have a man and woman of different races and cultures, in keeping with the church's goal to end racism by encourag-

ing interracial marriages, Mr. Durst added.

**WASHINGTON (EP)**—Religious publications and other non-profit mailers face another rate hike Oct. 1 if Congress funds a Postal Service subsidy at the level contained in the budget cleared for President Reagan's signature June 23.

The \$769.8 billion Republican-drafted budget sets initial spending targets for fiscal 1983. It contains \$400 million for the revenue foregone subsidy which permits the Postal Service to offer preferential rates to non-profit mailers. The \$400 million is a compromise between the Senate version of the budget which included (\$813 million — an amount which would have allowed the Postal Service to put non-profit mailers at step 14 of a 16-year phasing process) and the House-passed version which contained no subsidy funding. Exact figures on the amount of the increase the proposed level of funding would produce are unavailable but estimates range from five percent for some second-class mailers to nearly 50 percent for some third-class users.

Under the congressional budget process, committees with jurisdiction over the Postal Service retain the option of reallocating funds within their areas so that the revenue foregone subsidy might be funded at a higher level than \$400 million. However, spokesmen for both budget and appropriations committees said that adding funds to the postal subsidy would be "very difficult" since such a move would require taking them from somewhere else in an already tight budget.

On the same day, Congress sent to President Reagan an urgent supplemental appropriations bill containing a \$62 million amendment to restore non-profit mailers to step 13 of the phasing process for the remainder of fiscal 1982, or through Sept. 30. The amendment was added to the bill in the Senate by Sen. Quentin E. Burdick, D-N.D. and Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Ala. Since the president is expected to veto the legislation because it contains what he considers a \$3 billion bailout for the housing industry it is uncertain when or whether an additional 1982 postal subsidy will be enacted. An aide to Burdick said she expects the measure to be passed sometime this summer.

**WASHINGTON (EP)**—President Reagan's proposed constitutional amendment on prayer in public schools is drawing mixed reactions on Capitol Hill. In the Senate the full Judiciary Committee is expected to hold hearings on the proposal in late July, according to a committee spokesman who said the panel will look at a "broad spectrum" of views on the issue. Senate sponsors of the measure are Judiciary Committee chairman J. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., and Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah. However, no action is scheduled in the House of Representatives where Judiciary Committee leaders are opposed to the measure.

Rep. Thomas J. Kindness, R-Ohio, who is sponsoring the amendment in the House, is currently seeking to build support by gathering co-sponsors. An aide to Kindness said that the Ohio congressman is aware of the difficulty faced in moving the measure out of the Judiciary Committee and is anticipating the use of a discharge petition to

bring the proposal to the House floor. Such a move would require 218 members of the House to sign the petition.

**WASHINGTON (EP)**—A Southern Baptist congregation in Maryland failed to convince the U.S. Supreme Court to decide if the state may deny property tax exemption to a residence owned by the church and used by its minister of music.

## WHY

(Continued from Page 6)

duties of bishops and deacons and their wives. They are officers in a local church. This is always true and their service as there outlined is limited to the individual church of which they are officials. The church spoken of in the text then must have been the local church, of which Timothy was pastor at this time.

Jesse B. Thomas in his book, "The Church and the Kingdom," on page 232, says of this passage: "It is singular that any readers of this epistle should interpret this personal counsel to a local pastor as to the proper behaviour of a pastor or his people, in relation to the body, to which they both belong, as in any way referring to a world church. For, in the first place, both house (household) and church are anathorous, as well as the words following. It should read 'a house of God which is a church of a living God, a pillar and a stay of the truth.' This implies as Hort concludes that 'Paul's idea is that each living society of Christians is a pillar and stay (bulwark) of the truth, as an object of belief, and a guide of life for mankind.' It would have been useless to instruct Timothy as to the duties of a pastor of the church universal, for he held no such office, or the church invisible, for it has no officers at all."

The American Commentary says in loco: "Paul sends these instructions to Timothy that he may know how to conduct himself in the affairs of the Ephesian Church. The importance of guiding aright the affairs of the church is shown from the momentous relation of the church to the world as the pillar and base of the truth, in conserving and proclaiming divine truth among men. Each church is a column and base of the truth. It is God's chosen institution, by which His truth is upborne and made known through all ages. Its office is to conserve and publish it as God's message."

## WHAT

(Continued from Page 6)

especially what they call "a slaughter-house" religion.

In many instances, these are most adamant that "A GOOD God would not send anyone to hell." There perhaps are none of the religious ranks — none of the denominational groups — that do not spend a great deal of time attempting to convince the members that "family relationships" are crucial or that they are helpful. They stress the importance of being "born into a Christian family," and by this, of course, they mean the particular group or denomination of which they speak, in which they speak, or from which they speak. The folly of these is as final as those who once looked to Abraham and to Moses only to be informed by the Lord Jesus

## Missionary To New Guinea Eld. Fred T. Halliman



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that such relationship could not help them in finality.

Multitudes, and I mean multitudes of others, in every country and in every clime take a little different direction with their "do" religion, but the issue is the same; namely, eternal loss. We hear them in their piteous appeals as they suppose that they can "pray through." With them, there are those whose appeals are to what they call "the sacrament of Baptism" — meaning by this anyone of a dozen modes, though the Scriptures have only one — "the sacrament of the Eucharist" or as others will say, "The Lord's Supper" or "Communion."

These despise the way of faith! They will have none of the Word of the Lord, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man comes to the Father except by me." They make their appeals to religious rites as they attempt to appeal to God or to impress God despite the fact that He has said most finally and vigorously, "I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies. Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them; neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts. Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not

(Continued on Page 8 Column 1)

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PAGE SEVEN



When God has an especially bright crown for a soul, He first imparts an equally heavy cross.

### TUNE IN TO THE CALL TO CALVARY

Station	Time	Dial:	Watts:
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## WHAT

(Continued from Page 7)

hear the melody of thy viols."

These may be naming the name of the Lord Jesus Christ in their assemblies, but their delight is in men, and their allegiance is to men. As they avow their obeisance before Peter or Luther, Calvin or Campbell, or anyone of a thousand others such as Moon or Smith, White or McPherson, they demonstrate how violently they despise the word, "Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?" The pattern of depravity of depraved men has remained the same across the ages. The Lord specifies this truth in a rather final manner in, "Woe unto you! For ye build the sepulchres of the prophets and your fathers killed them."

### Third

If anyone of the devices — religious or otherwise — to which men appeal had any saving efficacy or even any security efficacy, then the Lord Jesus died in vain, and His death, burial, and resurrection were a waste. If a man by having Abraham as his father or his membership in the Commonwealth of Israel could effect his own salvation or that of any other, then Jesus left heaven's glory all for nought!

Too, if perchance it were possible that any of the things

that men do in the realm of religion could have anything whatever to do with the salvation or the security of one mortal, then the Lord's, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" is slapstick comedy. Further, if men, by partaking of what they call "The Lord's Supper," "The Communion," or "The Eucharist" could somehow effect their salvation or their security in the Lord Jesus Christ, then the cry of the Lord Jesus Christ from the Cross, "It is finished," was wasted wind in the midst of one of man's wanton days.

If men, by means of what they call "Baptism," "Church attendance," or "Good Works" of any design or sort could effect or supposedly improve upon their salvation or their security, then the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus was simply a dramatic "Tragedy" in the vein of Greek Tragedy to which that piteous people gave their lives to their eternal loss. Were there some saving efficacy or sacramental power in the confessing, repenting, or praying that men can do or even should do, then God made an everlasting mockery of the Word to which all who will be saved are directed, "He that believeth on the Son has everlasting life."

If we have any understanding whatever, we should be able to comprehend the direction of the Word of the Lord when He specified before the natural sons

of Abraham, "If ye believe not that I am He, ye shall die in your sins," indicating, thereby, that Hell would be their eternal doom! Too, God, through the Apostle, declares most unequivocally, "I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness (salvation) comes by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."

Though the devices of men and the schemes of men in the realm of religion are seemingly endless, and though the multitudes of men pursue the same as though God were the "Inventor," if you will, God to the contrary is most exact. Every such effort of men is forever condemned and forever damned by one explicit word, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." God eternally dramatizes for us this truth concerning the only means of reconciliation in, "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Men may indulge in a myriad of religious rites which they call sacrifices, and millions may routinely practice what they call "The sacrifice of Mass" and suppose that there is in it some saving efficacy, but their efforts are satanic devices. Forever and forever — eternally, if you will — God declares, "But Christ being come a high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." Herein and only herein is His "one sacrifice for sins," after which He "forever sat down on the right hand of God."

In their incorrigible depravity, the religious hosts of earth may direct our attention to a myriad of names to which we might presumably appeal for salvation or, at least, the promise of security. In this, however, they are liars, and the truth is not in them. God is eternally absolute in His, "This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

It is this Jesus alone who left heaven's glory. It is this Jesus alone who was born of a virgin, and then laid in a manger. It was Jesus alone who died on Calvary's Cross, was buried, and then resurrected. We all may have names, but there is only "one name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Therefore, if we would have a right relationship with God, we must hear. "He that believeth on the son has everlasting life, having known the promise, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER  
AUGUST 28, 1982  
PAGE EIGHT

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