

SPECTACULAR END OF YEAR BOOK SALE

Beginning with this issue and running through the rest of 1982... 25% discount on all books, except a few marked no discount. 30% on many, many books. See inside for lists of these special prices... Minimum order \$10.00... Payment must accompany all orders... We reserve the right to limit quantities... Prices subject to change

without notice, if we have to reorder books... Now is the time to stock up on good religious books... Churches: Why not order a supply of books for your church library? Why not order some books for your pastor? Send all orders to Calvary Baptist Church Book Store, P.O. Box 71, Ashland, Ky., 41105-007.

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

LETTER FROM HALLIMAN...

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. 39

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, DECEMBER 4, 1982

WHOLE NUMBER 2395

THE FAMILY UNIT

by James E. Hobbs
South Shore, Ky.

"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church; and He is the Saviour of the body. Therefore, as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it... So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh, but



James Hobbs

nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church... Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband" (Eph. 5:22-33).

One of the most important things that God gave us is marriage and the family unit. In fact, that was the first thing He said concerning Adam. "And The Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him" (Gen. 2:18).

We see in this day and age a concerted effort to destroy marriage and the family unit. People advocating the practice of "living together" without the benefit of marriage, and changing the role of the husband,

(Continued on Page 5 Column 4)

PREACHING JESUS

"Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same Scripture, and preached unto him Jesus" (Acts 8:35).

"But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness" (1 Cor. 1:23).

A friend of mine was pastor in a northern state a number of years ago. He had in his congregation nineteen college professors. Practically all of the heads of the different departments in the college in that town attended, and were members of that particular Baptist Church. He had nineteen college professors to sit in front of him on Sunday. They were more learned in their particular field than he was, and it burdened him greatly as to what he could preach. One day he was talking to his old father. He said to his father, "If I quote literature, the professor of English is sitting there, and he knows much more about literature than I'll ever know." He said, "I don't dare refer to science because the chemistry professor is there, and he knows most everything that could be said about science." He said, "As far as history is concerned, the professor of the history department is present every Sunday morning and I dare not quote from history for fear I misquote, or make some

mistake concerning it." He said to his father, "What can I preach?" The old father said, "If I were you, I would just preach Jesus. In all probability, they know but mighty little about Him."



John Gilpin

Beloved, I suspect the answer that the old father gave was an answer filled with wisdom, for in all probability, they didn't know but mighty little about Jesus.

This is an interesting text in the 8th chapter of the book of Acts, how that Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch got together, and Philip preached Jesus unto him. He didn't have to find a page that referred to Jesus, but he just preached from the page

(Continued on Page 3 Column 1)



Fred Halliman

equivalent thereof. What were these for? Primarily, to inform the people of certain policies to

be enacted, the reasons for them and the needs that it would take to implement such policies.

In this letter I would not call this a "fireside chat," but would rather like to style it a heart-to-heart talk to each of you.

Many of you that read this have known me for well over a quarter of a century and most of that time as missionary to New Guinea. Several of you have known me for all of the twenty-two and a half years that I have actually been on the mission field. Others have known me for less time, but most all of you have known me for many years.

Over the years I have tried as honestly as I know how to give you a regular and detailed report of the mission work that I have been doing. Beloved, it has been a real pleasure to work with you as you have supplied

(Continued on Page 6 Column 2)

NO BIBLICAL REASON FOR THE SEASON

Elder Merrel E. Kaley
Simi Valley, California

(Text: Luke 2:1-20) Many, not all, Baptists will be saying: Oh, no, not another anti-Christmas message! However, it is the duty and privilege of every God-directed minister of the Gospel to preach the truth and expose error.

In our text we see set forth in order by Luke, the account of our dear Saviour's birth! Matthew 1:18-24 provides the only other recorded instance in the whole of the New Testament regarding this event.

Before us is an extremely popular time of the year known as the Christmas or holiday



Merrel E. Kaley

season. As a Baptist pastor accountable to God and the church here in Simi Valley, Cal., I believe there is no reason

(Continued on Page 6 Column 4)

The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor Joseph M. Wilson

HOW TO GET YOUR HEAD CUT OFF

"And he sent and beheaded John in prison" (Matt. 14:10).

Here is a story of courage and faithfulness in the extreme. Surely, one might say of this that it was "above and beyond the call of duty," except it is always our duty to be faithful to God, even unto death. Here is the account of the end of John the Baptist, except it is not the end, it is the beginning of glory for him. In the long ago and far away there was an European road thirty miles long with stakes on both sides every few feet. There was a Baptist head on each stake. If the stakes were thirty feet apart, this would amount to ten thousand Baptist heads. Here again, there is a story of courage and faithfulness.

Now, the way to keep from

getting your head cut off is to be a weak-kneed, compromising, yellow-bellied, sissified, jelly-fished, pussy-footing sort of person. To keep from getting your head cut off, don't believe anything. If you do believe anything, don't let it be known. Be willing to change opinions more often than the weather changes. Go along with the crowd. This is how to keep from getting your head cut off, but, then, that is not my subject at this time.

Let us proceed with the subject. To get your head cut off, have some strong convictions. We live in a terribly weak age of no religious convictions. Men have no convictions as to doctrine. They believe anything or nothing with the same strength. It is an age of no convictions as

to what we should practice in our churches. It is an age of "anything goes" or just do as you please for it does not matter. There are no convictions as to how one ought to live. Not only should we have strong convictions, but these convictions should be according to the Word of God. Other convictions are not worth arguing about, much less dying for. A lady gave me her reason for not taking wine in the Lord's Supper — that she had a conviction against drinking wine. Her conviction was contrary to the Word of God, and thus sinful instead of praiseworthy. A preacher told me that he knew he could not prove it from the Bible, but he had a conviction that some heathen were saved without the

(Continued on Page 2 Column 1)

REMEMBER

Subscription
Rates
Now
\$6.00
Per Year

★ AT LAST ★
**1981 TBE
BOUND
VOLUMES
NOW READY!**

- 51 Issues Neatly Bound In Book
- Ideal For Libraries, Schools and Pastors

Price \$15.00

Plus Postage. See Table, Page 8

**Limited Supply
ORDER TODAY!**

**CALVARY BAPTIST
CHURCH BOOKSTORE**

P.O. Box 71

Ashland, Kentucky 41105-0071
Ky. Residents Add Sales Tax

The Baptist Examiner

THE BAPTIST PAPER FOR
THE BAPTIST PEOPLE

JOSEPH M. WILSON, Editor
JOHN R. GILPIN, JR., Asst. Editor
Editorial Department, located in
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, where all subscrip-
tions and communications should be sent.
Address: P.O. Box 71, Zip Code 41105-0071.

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

The publication of an article does not necessarily mean 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.

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

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY with paid circulation in every state and many foreign countries.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year \$ 6.00
Two years \$11.00
When you subscribe for others or
secure subscriptions each \$ 4.00
BUNDLES: 10 to 50 copies to one address — \$30.00 for
each 10 yearly; 60 to 100 copies to one address —
\$25.00 for each 10 yearly.

FOREIGN: Same as in the United States.

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

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

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The
Baptist Examiner, P. O. Box 71, Ashland,
Kentucky 41105-0071.

HOW

(Continued from Page 1)

gospel. Another preacher would not help in ordaining a divorced man, because he had a conviction against divorced men preaching. Brother, I have no sympathy with or praise for the man who is willing to stand for his convictions when those convictions are not based on the Word of God. You will tell me that a man should stand for what he believes. Yes! If he believes the Bible. If his beliefs do not come from the Bible, he should not stand for them — he should change them.

These convictions should be Spirit-wrought. One reason men compromise and change their doctrines is because they learned them in the flesh. They learned them in and with human wisdom. They were never taught them by the Holy Spirit of God. You see, human teachers can not "learn" you. They can only teach you. You have to learn for yourself. But it is not like this with the Holy Spirit. He can "learn" you. And when the Holy Spirit "learns" you a doctrine, it is my firm conviction that you will never change on that point. Here, I believe, is the reason so many men have changed so much in recent years. They never learned that from which they have changed by the effectual teaching of the Holy Spirit, but only in the energy of the flesh. When men are taught and "learned" by the Holy Spirit, they will die for such. But when taught by the flesh, they would "rather switch than fight."

Now, these convictions for which one should be willing to get his head cut off, should be about major and important things. We will not die for the minor matters, will we? Further, the things one will give his head for are the things that mean something to him. They are the things that thrill his soul, that feed and bless him. Oh, the precious truths God has taught me! How they bless my soul! I could not give them up. I must die for them if need be. I cannot

change or compromise on the precious truths of the Word of God which have been wrought into my very soul by the blessed Holy Spirit.

Now, in order for one to get his head cut off, he must not only have convictions, but must let



Joe Wilson

those convictions be known. "...we also believe, and therefore speak" (II Cor. 4:13) is the language of true convictions. There may be something which goes by the name "belief" which is silent, but I feel it is a misnomer to call it such. I have a conviction that what a man truly believes, he will speak forth and let be known. I know that a thing that is not worth telling is not worth believing. Now, we are to speak our convictions, no matter what. That is, no matter what company we are in. We speak the same things at home that we do in Sovereign Grace Bible Conferences. We are not Sovereign Grace here and Arminian at home. We speak the same thing wherever we are. I am very suspicious of the preacher who is welcome at Sovereign Grace and also at Arminian churches. I am suspicious of the Sovereign Grace preacher who is frequently invited to speak in the Arminian churches. I take that back. I am not just suspicious. I know that he is a weak-kneed compromiser who will not speak the same thing wherever he is. When I see a Sovereign Grace preacher getting along "buddy-buddy" with the Arminian, I know who the compromiser is. It is the Sovereign Gracer. Arminians won't compromise their heresy.

To get your head cut off, you speak what you believe no matter what others say or think about you. You are more concerned about the approval of God than that of your fellow man. You fear no man, but you greatly fear the Lord. You speak what you believe anytime and anywhere. You are always ready to tell what you believe and ready to give the Bible reasons why you believe such.

Further, to get one's head cut off, one must stand for his convictions. He has convictions. He tells what they are. He stands like a rock right there. He will not stop speaking. He will not change. You can stop him by cutting his head off, but you can't let him live and stop or change him. The martyrs come from men who stand and will not change or be silent.

Now, there is the matter of weak churches. Preachers will tell us that their church is weak, and therefore, they cannot preach the strong doctrines they believe in such churches. They say they do not want to tear up the church. I wonder what it really is they do not want to tear up; the church, or their playhouse and their livelihood. They tell me that if two people live together long enough, they will begin to look alike. I hope that is not true. Poor Katie, if

that is true. But I have a theory that a church will eventually become like the preacher — or get rid of him. Where do weak churches come from? They come from weak preachers. How do churches continue to be weak? They continue such because of weak preachers. Hear me, my brother, the only remedy for a weak church is strong preaching. You make a weak church strong the same way mother makes a sick child well. She holds the child's nose so it cannot breathe, and when it opens its mouth to breathe, she pours the medicine to it. Preacher, that is how you cure a weak church. You pour strong medicine down her throat til it runs out her ears. You fill her full of strong doctrine. Now, you might get your head cut off, or you might eventually have a strong church, but this is your duty no matter what the consequence might be.

How do many people feel about these matters? They tell us that we must take it easy. We must be careful we don't hurt anybody. What they really mean is they don't want to hurt themselves. A lady in Tulsa told me that when we moved to our permanent location, we would have to take it easy and give the truth in small doses because of the kind of people in the community. I informed her that I just did not do it that way. Brother, you don't cure bad sicknesses with small doses. It was said of a certain preacher, "he knows how to handle the doctrines of grace." Yes, he did. I knew he did. He preached them fairly strong when he was with grace believers. He left them alone when he was with the other crowd. In his own church, he mentioned them on occasions few and far between, and the rest of the time played "footsie-wootsie" with the Arminians in the congregation. He knew how to handle these doctrines alright—how to handle them so as to partly ease his conscience about them — but not to get into too much trouble. Now that is the way to do it if you want to spare your precious head, but I am preaching on "How to get your head cut off."

Here is the way we should do it: We should romp and stomp and scream and hollow. We should get the sugar-sweet out of our voice and attitude, and be bold as lions. We should preach what we believe strong, often, hard and loud. Away with mealy-mouthed, syrupy-sweet, soft-spoken, apologetic messages. We do not preach with an "excuse me for believing this" attitude. We walk tall and strong, and speak often, long and loudly, and tell it like it is. We not only preach it, but we practice it, too. We sing it in our songs. We practice it in the way we close our services. We stand for it in the things we support. We not only preach it ourselves, but we insist that visiting preachers preach the same thing we do — or they preach somewhere else. Some preachers tell the visiting preacher that there are no strings on him in the pulpit — that he is free to preach whatever he desires. Brother, in my pulpit, you are free to preach the same thing I preach. If you want to preach something else, you are free to do so—somewhere else. Brother, we are to have convictions, preach them, stand for them, and let the axe fall where it may. If it falls on our head and cuts it off, well, praise the Lord!

Let me tell you some things that just might get your head cut off. You need to know what they

FROM THE EDITOR

Next issue, we will begin a new column for a period of time. How long depends upon the material received, and how the column is received by the readers. Comments on this, as upon everything in The Baptist Examiner, are invited, welcomed, and will be prayerfully considered. The new column is at the suggestion of a dear preacher friend. It will be called: FROM A PASTOR'S NOTEBOOK. It will consist of a sermon outline sent in by different pastors with the pastor's name given. So, preacher brethren, send me some of your outlines.

I mentioned the following in an earlier edition, and will elaborate somewhat at this time. We are Sovereign Grace Landmark Baptists. We will not budge in anywise on these matters, and do not plan to publicize, advertise, or use men who do not fit this category: that is, living men. Four serious errors have invaded the ranks of our kind of people in recent years. I refer to: 1. Post-tribulationism. 2. Amillennialism. 3. Priesthood of the church. 4. Hardshellism on the gospel. I suppose these terms are well understood, and if not, I will be happy to set forth what I understand by them. By the last of them, I refer to the teaching that the gospel is not used in the giving of spiritual life. This is, what I call, "New Hardshellism." It sounds much like the "Old Hardshellism," but still wears the "Missionary" name. This name is held by a hair-splitting defining of 'born again' and 'saved,' or hair-splitting as to 'regeneration' and 'conversion.'

This paper, and its editor are vehemently opposed to all four of these — shall I use the term — yes, I will — heresies. I am a hard-headed preacher (Eze. 3:9) as to these four matters. These four things — not one of them — can be preached at Calvary Baptist Church, or printed in The Baptist Examiner. Believe me, brother, as I am very serious about these things. The preacher who would try it at the church in my presence, would be set down, or corrected when he finished his sermon, depending upon how much he said on the subject. The preacher who would send an article to T.B.E. containing either of these will have that article rejected forthwith. If such should appear in the pages of this paper, it will be an oversight, and will upon realization, be apologized for.

However, for the present, it will be my policy that men who hold either or all of these four things, but are truly Sovereign Grace Landmark Baptists will be allowed to preach in this church and to write in The Baptist Examiner upon other subjects. I feel that this is a very fair policy and that no one holding any or all of these four things can properly criticize me in this. I imagine some of them will. I suppose that some of my friends, who stand with me against these four things, will also criticize me for this policy. Brethren, I am not infallible, and do not pretend to be. I can be wrong, and I hope I will be willing to change when proven wrong as to doctrine or practice. Feel free to write me your own opinion as to this editorial. God bless you all!

are. Then, if you are a weak-kneed sissy, you can leave them alone and take it nice, safe and easy. If you are willing to get your head cut off for the Word of God, you can learn them and stand for them. I mention some things that could get your head cut off. Believe, preach that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice. Do not budge an inch. Insist on men giving a "Thus saith the Lord" for all they preach and practice. Let men know that you care not for their opinions, but only for the Bible.

Here is a dangerous sword that might get your head cut off. Preach the doctrines of grace. Preach that men are totally depraved and cannot do anything to save or help save themselves and that they are doomed for an eternity in hell unless God intervenes in their behalf. Preach that out of totally depraved mankind, God has sovereignly and unconditionally elected a multitude and predestinated them to be saved. Preach that Jesus Christ died savingly for, and only for, the elect of God. Preach that God does not love everyone, but that His love is limited to the elect of God. Preach that men are not saved by the persuasive power of the 'soul-winning' evangelist, or the exercise of their 'free-will,' but by the effectual and irresistible power of the Holy Spirit. Preach that the ones who are elected by the Father, redeemed by the Son and called by the Spirit are saved forever and forever. Don't compromise on this! Don't sing Arminian invitation songs and give Arminian invitations. Do this, and you just might get your head cut off.

Here is another 'head-chopper'. Preach that there is no universal, invisible church and that most saved people today are not in the Lord's

church. Preach that the church is a local, visible assembly of Scripturally baptized believers, Scripturally organized for a Scriptural purpose. Preach that a Sovereign Grace Landmark Missionary Baptist Church is the only true church there is. That Jesus started this kind of church and promised her perpetuity, and has accomplished that promise. That the Lord's work is given only to this kind of church. That this kind of church is the only church that can administer Scriptural baptism or set the Lord's Supper. Preach that faithful members of this kind of church are the only people who will be in the "Bride of Christ." Preach that other so-called churches, mission boards, free lance preachers and religious works are not of God, but are all of man — or worse. Preach these things and you just might get your head cut off.

Here is another 'head-chopper.' Preach the truth about the woman's place in the church. Preach that the women ought to have their heads covered in the church meeting, and that they are not permitted to speak in the church, or to teach or usurp authority over the man. Boy, you preach this and stand for it, and you surely might get your head cut off. Here is a good one. "Preach that xmas and easter are heathen holidays and should not be observed at all. Especially that they should not be observed by saved people. Doubly, especially that they should not be observed by Baptist churches. Stand for this. Do not allow xmas and easter (small letters deliberate) songs to be sung in the church at those times when the world observes these heathen holidays. Be adamant on this matter, and you might get your head cut off.

Here is a good 'head-chopper'. Preach, (Continued on Page 3 Column 1)

When you feel down in the mouth, think of Jonah. He came out all right.

HOW

(Continued from Page 2)

believe in, and practice church discipline. Insist that the church have some standards relative to the beliefs, practices and lives of its church members. Insist that the church exclude members who do not meet these standards. Don't compromise on church discipline, and you might get your head cut off.

Here is another good one. Preach sanctified, dedicated, separated from the world, holy living by people who claim to be saved. Wow! This is a good "head-chopper." But it is true. It is Bible. We should believe it. And, bless God, we should preach it and practice it. Tell folk that if they don't want to live right, to get out of the church. If they won't get out, put them out. Insist on holiness in the Lord's Church. Do this, and you will have a good clean church — or get your head cut off.

Well, what if we do get our heads cut off? We are going to die anyway if the rapture does not occur first. If we do get our head cut off for having convictions, speaking them, standing for them — we won't be the first ones. We will be in mighty good company. Think of those who had their heads cut off before we were born. Would that not be a good crowd of which to be a part? Would you rather stand with the weak-kneed compromisers who failed man and God, or with the true and faithful and brave who had their heads cut off for standing true to the Bible?

Brother, believe something taught in the Bible, wrought in your soul by the Holy Spirit, speak it forth, stand for it without compromise. If you get your head cut off, God will give it back to you — a glorified head with a crown upon it. May God bless you all!

JESUS

(Continued from Page 1)

they were reading. He didn't have to get into another page to find Jesus, but all he has to do was start preaching Jesus out of the page they were reading.

I am contending that is true throughout all the Bible. You can find Jesus on every page of the Bible. As Philip began at the same Scripture and preached unto him, Jesus, I am of the opinion that this is the way we ought to present the Son of God day by day to everyone we meet.

Now how should we preach Jesus?

I. I PREACH JESUS AS POWERFUL

You may sometimes sing of Jesus as the lowly Nazarene. Beloved, the Jesus I preach to you is not the lowly Nazarene. He was a lowly Nazarene when He was here in the world, but He is not today. He is the Lordly Nazarene today. He was one of weakness when He was here in the days of His flesh, but He is not today. He is the Christ of power. Listen:

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **ALL POWER IS GIVEN UNTO ME** in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen" (Matt. 28:18-20).

This is the Great Commis-

sion, and you will notice that Jesus prefaces it by saying, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." What power! Horse power, steam power, electric power, gas power, man power, atomic energy power, yes, even Heavenly power — all power belongs to the Lord Jesus Christ. He is back of it all.

I am contending that if we preach the Christ of the Bible, we ought to preach Jesus Christ as powerful. He is not a "namby-pamby" that stands at the door and knocks to gain admission into your heart. He is not, as the Arminians present Him, standing meekly, exhorting you to be saved, but having nothing to do about it, and exercising no power concerning your salvation. He is not, as the Arminians preach, a Christ that has done everything He can, and is now frustrated because men won't let Him save them. Rather, beloved, He is the Christ of power.

Notice again:

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God" (Col. 3:1).

"Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come" (Eph. 1:21).

Beloved, He is above all — not just barely above all, but far above all principalities, power, and might. I tell you, the Lord Jesus Christ is a Christ of power.

When Paul wrote to the church of Philippi, he said:

"Wherefore God also hath **HIGHLY EXALTED HIM**, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil. 2:9-11).

I tell you, beloved, I am preaching Christ as powerful. He had power over nature when He was here. Did He not walk upon the water? Did He not turn water into wine? Was't not true that the Lord Jesus Christ was able to overcome all the laws of nature?

He had power over disease when He was here, for the Son of God spoke to an individual with a withered arm, and he was completely healed. I say He had power over disease, because every person that came into His presence with any kind of disease went away with a whole body. Lame feet, withered hands, stopped ears, blind eyes — regardless of what the physical condition might be, the individual went away completely healed. I tell you, the Lord Jesus Christ had power over all disease.

He had power over the grave. As I have often said, the Lord Jesus broke up every funeral that He ever attended. As far as we know, He never went to but three funerals — the funeral of Lazarus, who had been dead for four days (John 11:43, 44); the funeral of the son of the widow of Nain (Luke 7:12-15), who was being carried forth to his burial; and the funeral of the little girl, Jairus daughter (Matt. 9:25), that had just died. In each case, the Lord Jesus Christ restored the dead one back to the relative. I tell you, He had power over the grave.

Beloved, He had power to

(Continued on Page 4 Column 4)



The Baptist Examiner

BIBLE STUDY LESSON

By WILLARD PYLE

Pastor — Naples Park Baptist Church of Naples Park, Florida

Psalms 37:1-7

Intro: In this Psalm we have godly instructions to cure or prevent disappointment, discouragement, and envy, brought on by the outward prosperity and pleasure of the wicked. These conditions still are prevalent in our day, but in a different degree because of the prosperity of many professing Christians and churches. This surely should concern us and receive our attention.

VERSE 1

"Fret not thyself." Advice addressed to the adherents of salvation who are passed by and outdistanced by the wicked in regards to the temporal things of this life; for it is a fleshly temptation to look on the fields that are well watered, and to the storehouses of the wicked, which are well stocked, and to be agitated thereby. This would, or could, cause a rise in blood pressure, and to murmuring.

"Because of evildoers." Those who make it a common practice to perform to the Devil's music, and live in disobedience to the moral teachings of the Word of God; those who practice evil with both hands.

"Neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity." Those laboring long and hard on the assembly line of the "prince and power of the air." Those who use their time and talent to promote the cause of the Devil.

"For they shall soon be cut down like the grass." They may flourish in the hothouse of the Devil, and grow unhindered to a great height, but when the scythe of the Righteous Judge shall be unsheathed, they shall be removed from the field of the world and cast into the furnace of Divine wrath. This will be sudden and soon.

"And wither as the green herb." Their productivity and prestige will diminish, even if they are allowed to live to old age.

VERSE 3

"Trust in the Lord." We have now a list of positive exhortations which will eliminate the cause for fretting or envying. The first is to "trust in the Lord." Since the child of God has the exceeding great and precious promises of God, he should ever lift up his eyes to the Source of help (Ps. 121). This is true, both in times of prosperity,

and in times of poverty. He is to be content in whatever state he is in, for all things are working together for good to the elect. Let the wicked trust in his houses and lands (Luke 12:19);

BIBLE VERSE

Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish. MATTHEW 18:14



the child of God is to trust in the Creator of the heavens and the earth.

"And do good." The saints are to do good unto all men, especially unto the household of faith (Gal. 6:10), even if it is not appreciated or immediately rewarded, for in due season they shall reap. Where you find true faith, you will find obedience; the tree of faith produces a godly life.

"So shall thou dwell in the land." The believer will be preserved and protected in the land of promise by the Shepherd (Psalm 23:1). Lack of faith would cause us, like Abraham, to flee to Egypt, but faith will cause us to dwell in the land and wait patiently on the Lord, even in the midst of famine or affliction and persecution.

"And verily thou shalt be fed." Faith feeds on the manna from Heaven, as the Father sets the table for His sons, even in the presence of the enemy (Psa. 23:5). The daily bread or the meal will never diminish; therefore may we faithfully follow the Shepherd.

VERSE 4

"Delight thyself also in the Lord." Again, we have a great contrast, for the world of the wicked or of the unbelievers find their satisfaction and enjoyment in the pleasures of sin, which are but for a season. They get their kicks from the worship of the idols of silver and gold, and from the wild parties provided by the Belshazzars of the world (Dan. 5:1-4), not knowing they will reap what they sow; but the child of God finds his delight in the Lord (Psa. 27:4). He loves to attend the house of God to

behold the beauty of the Lord (Psa. 27:4); to sit at the feet of Jesus and hear His Word (Lk. 10:39); to be able to be a doorkeeper in the house of God, etc. Yes, he delights in the attributes of the Lord. He stands in awe at His power and divine providence. He loves to tell of the wonderful works of God (Acts 2:11). Moreover, he delights to look forward to the inheritance provided by the Lord.

"And He shall give thee the desires of thine heart." We have here assurance and certainty based on "He shall." As the child of God trusts and delights in the Lord, which results in doing "His will," it is evidenced that God has worked in Him. Therefore, the desires of his heart are in accordance with the Word of God and shall be honored. The true desire, which is inclusive of all other desires, is "to God be the glory." "Unto Him be glory in the church" (Eph. 3:21).

VERSE 5

"Commit thy way unto the Lord." We not only are to commit the keeping of our souls unto the Lord (II Tim. 1:12; I Pet. 4:19), but also are to present our bodies a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1), and cry out, "What wilt Thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6); and then depend on the Lord to direct and order our steps (Pro. 3:5). In this way we will not fret when the way is through the wilderness, or that the wicked seem to have a smoother course.

"Trust also in Him." He is faithful that promised (I Thess. 5:24), and cannot fail.

"And He shall bring it to pass." In due time, and with the means He deems best, judgment will come to the wicked, and deliverance to the saints.

VERSE 6

"And He shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday." The saints do not need to spend their time in proving they are right; nor in seeking to bring vengeance on the wicked, for God will manifest who's who. He will bring to light the right and the wrong. He will free His people from bondage, and open the Red Sea, while binding the wicked for judgment.

VERSE 7

"Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him." The child of God can find rest in the hardest of places as they rest in the Lord and then can look forward to God's deliverance.

"Fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass." We do not have to be over-anxious because of the man who is prosperous because of the invention of wicked devices, because God is well aware of it.

Conclusion: A theme of utmost importance because it is a continual need among the saints.

(EDITORS NOTE: If you would like to write to Bro. Pyle expressing your appreciation for the lessons or ask him questions about his exposition of the Scripture his address is Rt. 22, Box 1198, Fort Myers, Fla. 33908).

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
DECEMBER 4, 1982
PAGE THREE

SPECIALS 30%

Hardeman-Bogard Debate	reg. \$ 7.50
Nashville Debate (Moody & Harding)	\$ 8.00
Webster's Collegiate Dictionary	\$10.95
Commentary on Hebrews by Gouge	\$24.95
The Total Woman by Morgan (cloth)	\$ 6.95
	(paper) \$2.25
Body of Divinity by Watson	\$ 8.95
The Plague of Plagues by Venning	\$ 1.95
Treasury of Quotations on Religious Subjects	\$14.95
Baker's Bible Atlas by Pfeiffer	\$ 9.95
Earth's Earliest Ages by Pember	\$ 5.95
The Marxist Minstrels by Noebel	\$ 2.00
The Fountain of Life by Flavel	\$ 3.95
The Method of Grace by Flavel	\$ 3.95
History of the Welsh Baptists by Davis	\$15.00

The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER — P.O. BOX 71 — ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 41105-0071

How did the original twelve become a total of 120 as outlined in Acts 1:15?

JAMES HOBBS

Rt. 2, Box 182
McDermott, Ohio
45652

PASTOR

Kings Addition
Baptist Church
South Shore, Ky.



After Christ called the 12 to follow Him, He organized the church. "And it came to pass in those days, that He went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, He called unto Him His disciples: and of them He chose twelve, whom also He named apostles" (Luke 6:12, 13). This was the first church as shown in I Cor. 12:28: "And God hath set some in the church, first apostles..."

These 12 began baptizing. "When therefore, the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John, (though Jesus Himself baptized not, but His disciples,...)" (John 4:1, 2).

We know that they were a church because Jesus taught them what to do as far as discipline was concerned in Matthew 18:15-20, as well as, giving them the great commission in Matthew 28:19-20.

The end total of members as recorded in Acts 1:15 are 120 members.

HANSFORD HOLMES

506 Bream St.
Charleston, W. Va.
25312

LAYMAN,
TEACHER
and
WRITER



At the conclusion of Christ's post-resurrection ministry of "forty days" (Acts 1:3), the original twelve apostles (minus Judas and plus Matthias) did not become a total of 120 apostles but, rather, they were a part of that number, whom the Lord commanded "that they should not depart from Jerusalem but wait (10 days until Pentecost) for the promise of the Father" (Acts 1:4) to "be baptized with the Holy Spirit," which would qualify them for their coming ministry.

This Church-nucleus of 120 beheld Jesus when "He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9).

Consequently, they, in obedience to the command of Jesus to wait, went up into an upper room with the apostles, where they "all continued with one accord in prayer and supplications, with the women, and with Mary, the mother of Jesus, and with the brethren" (Acts 1:12-14).

This was when Matthias was

chosen in preference to Joseph, called Barsabbas and surnamed Justus, by giving forth their lots, in order to determine which would be an apostle to replace Judas according to the will of God, as it is written: "The lot is cast into the lap, but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord" (Prov. 16:33).

Too, in that meditation period, it is of interest that Mary, the mother of Jesus, is distinguished from the other women in a manner which excludes the idea of her having any pre-eminence over any other disciples. In this, we find her, in common, praying with the rest to her glorified Son. This is the last mention of her in the New Testament, and excludes the fable of the Assumption of the Virgin.

Too, though the number in the upper room was given as "about an hundred and twenty," I have no problem in trying to determine how that many disciples could accumulate from the ministry of the twelve apostles in such a short time after the resurrection of Jesus, when I consider both the ministry of Jesus before His crucifixion and after His resurrection, as a great moving factor in converting multitudes. This accumulating factor was noted by Apostle Paul, when he affirmed that "He (Christ) was seen (after His resurrection) of about five hundred brethren at once..." (I Cor. 15:6), who must have remained in Galilee. Yet, though this and many other believers, at that time, did not belong to this select Church-nucleus of about 120, they, no doubt, were among "about 3,000 souls," when "the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:41, 47).

When Jesus affirmed, "I will build My church" (Mt. 16:18), we find that He did a great job in beginning it. Also, we find that this is consistent with the pre-science of God, concerning "such as should be saved," as "according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began" (2 Tim. 1:9). So, in this, "God set the members, every one of them, in the body, as it hath pleased Him" (I Cor. 12:13).

SAM WILSON

1490 North
Spring St.
Gladwin, Michigan
48624

PASTOR

Grace
Baptist Church
Gladwin, Michigan



When Jesus saves people it is not his plan that they remain idle. Salvation brings with it great responsibility. Perhaps the greatest responsibility is that of being a witness to others. We find that once the disciples were saved, they began to seek others. They began by the commandment of Christ to preach the gospel. It pleased God to use their preaching in the saving of many. The New Testament way

was after salvation one was baptized into the Church. (I emphasize The Church as there was only one and that one, local and visible). It is in this manner that the original twelve became one hundred and twenty. By the preaching of the gospel, The Spirit using that gospel and baptism, we find later the church grew even larger.

May we Baptist of today seek to add to our churches in like manner.

OSCAR MINK

219 North Street
Crestline, Ohio
44827

PASTOR

Mansfield
Missionary
Baptist Church
Mansfield, Ohio
44906



John 4:2, "...Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John." Jesus used His disciples to baptize those who professed faith in Him, and this is how the original disciples became one hundred and twenty.

The one hundred and twenty is not the total sum of the church at this time, but is the number in the "upper room" on the day of Pentecost, and on this same day the First Baptist Church of Jerusalem has "added unto them about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41). Later, in the book of Acts we read of an additional five thousand men being saved (Acts 4:4), and through the succeeding centuries the Lord has been saving His people from their sins and infinite is the number that have been added to the church which He purchased with His own blood (Acts 20:28).

CLYDE T. EVERMAN

108 Burdall Ave.
Ft. Mitchell, Ky.
41017

Deacon

Calvary
Baptist Church
Ashland, Ky.



"When therefore, the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John. (Though Jesus Himself baptized not, but His disciples) He left Judea, and departed again into Galilee" (John 4:1-3). The Apostle Paul tells us, "After that, He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep" (I Cor. 15:6). From these passages we see that from the time that Christ organized His church until His ascension into Heaven, there were many added to His church.

To me the question is not how the twelve increased to 120, but where were all the other church members that should have been with the 120. It seems that even in the first church there was a problem of non-attendance of her members. The writer of

Hebrews warns, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is;—" (Heb. 10:25).

PREACHING JESUS

(Continued from Page 3)

give life. Listen:

"As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him... For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me" (John 17:28).

Beloved, I don't present to you a Christ of helplessness, nor a Christ who is aged and decrepit, nor a Christ who was once a Christ of power, but today, has lost His power. Rather, I preach Christ to you as powerful, for He is powerful in every phase of life.

II. I PREACH JESUS AS PREEMINENT.

We read:

"And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead: that in all things HE MIGHT HAVE THE PREEMINENCE" (Col. 1:18).

Some people would make Christ prominent, but the Bible says He is preeminent.

Notice again:

"Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Being made so MUCH BETTER THAN THE ANGELS, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they" (Heb. 1:3, 4).

Talk about preeminence, if you will read this same chapter, and the verses that follow, you will find that He is not only preeminent over man, and over creation, and over Moses and the law, but He is actually preeminent over the angels of God. I tell you, I am preaching Christ today a preeminent.

His birth — wasn't it preeminent, when two worlds gathered at His cradle? The angels came down from above, and sang the first Hallelujah chorus, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." The shepherds came from the fields and bowed in worship before the Christ. I tell you. His was a preeminent birth. When was there ever a star hung in the heavens heralding the birth of a child? It took place when Jesus was born. When was it ever true that all the events which took place concerning the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ took place at the birth of any human being? Beloved, His birth was a preeminent birth.

Christ is also preeminent in the Bible. Read the Bible, and whose story is it? It is the story of the Lord Jesus Christ from beginning to end. Somebody once said that history is His story, and that is true, but the Bible is also His story. Anywhere you read in the Bible, you are reading the story of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is preeminent in the Bible.

About 40 years ago a preacher one rainy day was "riding herd" on his children. He gave them a picture puzzle to put together thinking it would take them the biggest part of the day. He was surprised some 15 minutes later to find that they had it already completely assembled. When he asked them how it was, they said that on the back side there was a picture of man and they just saw where his arms, legs, head, and trunk went, and they put it all together on that side and turned it over.

You know, beloved, if you will just notice where the Lord Jesus Christ is found in the Bible, you will be able to understand the Word of God, because the Bible is the story of the Lord Jesus. He is preeminent in the Bible.

He was also preeminent in His death. When was there anyone who died like the Lord Jesus Christ? You and I, if our Saviour does not come for us in the skies, will lie down some of these days and die, and we will die, because we cannot help ourselves. We will die because there is no way for us to live any longer. But that wasn't the way that Jesus died. His death wasn't a natural death. It was a supernatural death. The Word of God tells us that He dismissed His spirit. He didn't die as we die, but He died supernaturally. He dismissed His spirit. The word for "dismissed" (Matt. 27:50), is a word that indicates an act of volition on His part. It was His own act whereby He dismissed His spirit back to God. Never was there a death like the death of the Son of God. He is preeminent in His death.

He is preeminent in His church, for we read:

"He is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead: that in all things he might have the preeminence" (Col. 1:18).

I wouldn't say that He is preeminent in every church, because He does not claim to own all the churches, but He is preeminent in His church. He is the Head and Founder of His church. He has the right to tell us what kind of doctrine that we are to believe. He has the right to tell us what kind of baptism to administer. He has a right to tell us who can come for fellowship to the Lord's Supper. He has a right in everything so far as His church is concerned, because Jesus Christ is preeminent in His church. It is true that most churches don't even make Him prominent, but in His church, He is preeminent.

The Lord Jesus Christ is preeminent in His coming again. Never has anybody come to this world and lived and died and gone back to Glory and returned as Jesus Christ is going to do.

If you go into a doctor's office, maybe there will be a little face of a clock on the door, with the hands pointing to some certain hour, and there will be a message on the face of the clock that says, "Doctor is out; will be back at —."

Beloved, the Lord Jesus Christ is out today, but He will be back. I can't tell you the exact time, but He is going to be back some of these days. He went away, and He is coming again. He is preeminent in His second coming — in His return. I would urge you to notice this truth as I preach Jesus to you. I don't just say that Jesus is prominent, but I say He is preeminent. He is not just prominent in His birth, but He is preeminent

(Continued on Page 5 Column 1)

PREACHING JESUS

(Continued from Page 4)

in His birth. He is not just prominent in the Bible, but He is preeminent in the Bible. He is not just prominent in His death, but He is preeminent in His church, but He is preeminent in His church. He is not just prominent in His second coming, but He is preeminent in His second coming. I say to you, I preach Jesus Christ as preeminent.

III. I PREACH JESUS AS PURE.

I am afraid that we fail to comprehend the purity of the Son of God. We are so impure ourselves, and have so much of the flesh about us, and are so corrupt, I am afraid we fail to understand the purity of the Son of God. Beloved, believe me, when I tell you that Jesus Christ was purity personified. Listen:

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a LAMB WITHOUT BLEMISH AND WITHOUT SPOT" (I Peter 1:18, 19).

"For he hath made him, to be sin for us (WHO KNEW NO SIN); that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (II Cor 5:21).

"For such an high priest became us, who is HOLY, HARMLESS, UNDEFILED, SEPARATE FROM SINNERS, and made higher than the heavens" (Heb. 7:26).

May I present Him to you not only as powerful and preeminent, but as pure? Do you know why He had to be pure? To be my Saviour. Jesus Christ couldn't have been the Saviour of any of us if He hadn't been pure. If there had been one single sin stain in His life. He would have needed a Saviour just like each of us. He couldn't have been our Redeemer. He would have needed a redeemer Himself, if He had not been pure.

As an illustration, I have often said that Jesus Christ rode into the city of Jerusalem on a donkey. What would have happened if the disciples had brought a strapping stallion for Him to straddle that day? What would have happened if they had brought back a beautiful horse and the Son of God had put a saddle upon that horse and had ridden into the city of Jerusalem as a conqueror? He would have violated the Scriptures, because the Scriptures had said that He was going to ride into the city of Jerusalem on a donkey. What would have happened? I tell you, beloved, He would have needed a Saviour. He had to ride a donkey, or He would have been a sinner, who would have needed a Saviour. If the Son of God had violated the Word in one particular, He could have never been our Saviour, and He would have needed a Saviour Himself.

I say, beloved, the Lord Jesus Christ is pure. We are living in a day when there is much said about pure food laws. You know the purest food that was ever put on the market would fade into insignificance when compared with the purity of the Lord Jesus Christ. The product that boasts of being 99 and 44/100 percent pure is nothing when compared to Jesus. It is vile in comparison

with the purity of the Son of God.

IV. I PREACH JESUS AS PIERCED.

We read:

"But one of the soldiers with a spear PIERCED HIS SIDE, and forthwith came there out blood and water" (John 19:34).

Notice, his side was pierced, Jesus was not only powerful, and preeminent, and pure, but He was pierced.

Go back in the Old Testament and read the story of the offering that was placed upon the brazen altar. There was a grating over the brazen altar, and a fire burned below that grating. When the sacrifice was put upon the brazen altar, it was tied. On each corner of the altar, there was a horn, and the sacrifice was tied to the horns of the altar. There upon the altar, the sacrifice — whether it were a cow, or a bullock, or sheep, or a goat, or whatever it might have been — was tied to the four horns of the altar, and there that sacrifice was killed, and burned, and consumed.

Stand along side the brazen altar as the sacrifice was killed, and then close your eyes and look down the avenues of time to the day when Jesus Christ was tied — not to a brazen altar — but to the cross of Calvary. You can see Him who was pierced for our sins, just the same as the sacrifice in type was for the sin of the officer in the Old Testament.

I think often of the passover lamb we read in the 12th chapter of Exodus. It was said that this lamb was to be taken from among the sheep and the goats, and kept to itself for a certain number of days, then killed on a particular day, and the blood of that passover lamb was to be caught in the basin and was to be sprinkled upon the door posts and the lintel above the door. You can't read this, beloved, without seeing in it that a lamb died. You can't read this without seeing how that lamb was pierced.

I would like to tell you that the lamb that was slain on the night of that first memorable passover was a type of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Lamb of God, who came to Calvary and whose hands and feet were pierced by nails, whose side was pierced by a sword, whose forehead was pierced by a crown of thorns, and whose face was pierced as they plucked the beard therefrom. Beloved, I look at Him, and I would point you to Him, and I would say that I preach Christ to you today as being pierced for your sins. Listen:

"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).

"Who his own self BARE OUR SINS in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sin, should live unto righteousness; by whose STRIPES ye were healed" (I Peter 2:24).

"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 Peter 3:18).

Beloved, I preach Jesus to you this morning, and I preach Him to you as powerful, preeminent, pure and pierced.

V. I PREACH JESUS TO YOU PRECIOUS.

"Unto you therefore which believe HE IS PRECIOUS: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner" (I Peter 2:7).

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (I Peter 1:18, 19).

I say to you, Jesus is precious to every believing sinner. Do I speak to someone who has never yet come to the knowledge of Jesus Christ as Saviour? Then may I remind you that the Son of God may become precious to you. I shall never forget how precious He became to me. I shall never forget how precious I thought Him to be the day that He saved my soul. Yes, beloved, He is precious to the sinner.

He is precious to every sorrowing saint. Do you have troubles today? The Word of God says:

"Many that is born of a woman is of few days, and FULL OF TROUBLE" (Job. 14:1).

How true this is! You hardly get over one problem until another arises. You hardly get beyond one burden until another burden has arisen. We have problems day by day. How wonderful it is to know that Jesus is precious to the sorrowing saint.

The best illustration that I know of is the experience of the Lord Jesus Christ when John the Baptist was decapitated. You remember that Herod made a silly promise to his wife's daughter in which he said to her, "Go ahead and dance for us, and whatever you want, I will give unto you, even unto the half of my kingdom."

Beloved, that girl never thought of that by herself. She wasn't depraved and devilish enough to think of that, herself. Her mother was the one that prompted her, for that mother had been rebuked for her sin. John the Baptist had looked old Herod in the eye and said, "It is not lawful for you to have her." Stung by the rebuke of John the Baptist, she retaliated and told her daughter to ask Herod, for the head of John the Baptist on a charger.

I can see the servants bring that grizzly head of this first Baptist preacher, on a platter, and put it down in front of that silly, giddy girl. I can see the disciples as they picked up the headless torso of John the Baptist to bury it.

The Word of God says:

"And his disciples came, and took up the body, and buried it, AND WENT AND TOLD JESUS" (Matthew 14:12).

Those disciples loved John the Baptist. They sorrowed over the death of John the Baptist. Now that John the Baptist has been decapitated, they take his headless body away to bury it, and immediately they went away and told Jesus. They know by experience He was precious to every sorrowing saint.

Brother, sister, listen to me, Jesus Christ is not only precious to the sinner, but He is precious to the sorrowing saint, such as these disciples of John the Baptist.

Jesus is also precious to every dying saint. Jesus is precious

when we come to die. I have stood by the bedside of many people who have died. I have seen so many people breathe their last in this world. Beloved, Jesus Christ is truly precious to the dying sinner.

I saw a little lad one day several years ago who was dying. He was one of the best young Christians that I ever knew. I saw him turn to his mother and say, "Mother, the only thing between me and heaven is the lace curtain at the window. Jesus is precious to me today."

Oh, I tell you, brother, sister, He is precious when a saint comes to die. He is precious to us in life. He is precious to us when He saves us as sinners. He is precious to us every step of the way as He leads us on. He is precious to us as sorrowing saints and He is especially precious when we come down to die.

CONCLUSION:

Beloved, I am preaching Jesus to you this morning as powerful, preeminent, pure, pierced and precious. May I say to you that this Jesus whom I have spoken to you about, will be the same tomorrow as He is today. Listen:

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever" (Heb. 13:8).

Beloved, He will always be the same to us.

Might it please God this morning to reach down and save someone that is here. Might it please God to grant you salvation. I can't save you, and you can't save yourself. The Lord Jesus Christ — the all powerful one I present to you this morning, He can save you. May He do so this morning.

May God bless you.

UNIT

(Continued from Page 1)

wife, and children. We must not allow this to happen, but rather we must tighten the practice of proper marriage.

The husband has a very important position in the family unit and it must be enforced. The husband is the head of the house and also the head of his wife. Our text makes that perfectly clear and we also see it in I Corinthians 11:3: "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God."

Some people go to the extreme and teach this in such a way as to put the husband-wife relationship as a master-slave position. This is as far from the purpose as it can be. The wife is not a slave, nor can the husband demand things of her that is wrong or ungodly. Some have said that if the husband demands his wife to go to a saloon, she would have to go — not so. With that kind of reasoning he could make her become a thief or play the harlot.

Remember his position as head is contingent on his being under Christ. "...The head of every man is Christ..." No man has the right to demand his place over the wife if he does not submit himself to His head, besides the Bible makes it clear in other ways. Our text tells us that men should love their wives "as their own bodies" (vs. 28) or "as himself" (vs. 33). If he loves his wife as he should, he will not order her to do something that will hurt her or make her look bad. We are told that the husband is to rejoice with his wife.

"Let thy fountain be bless-

ed; and rejoice with the wife of thy youth" (Prov. 5:18). He is to give honour to his wife. "Likewise ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered" (I Pet. 3:7). In fact, we are told that in fleshly matters the husband and wife have equal power over the other. "Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence; and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency" (I Cor. 7:3-5). This passage is dealing with the conjugal relationship of husband and wife and you will note that each has control over the other in that respect, but neither has the right to deny oneself from the other. The only reason for abstinence is fasting and prayer and that only for a short time.

As a father the man is the main disciplinarian. The father and mother both are to teach their children, but the father is considered the one responsible for their behavior. "For I know him (Abraham), that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which He hath spoken of him" (Gen. 18:19). The father that loves his children will chasten them. "He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes" (Prov. 13:24). See also, Prov. 3:12; 19:18; 22:13-15; 29:15-17. Any man who does not take his place as the head over his children and leaves it to his wife is in disobedience to the Lord and should be ashamed. We should not allow anyone to stand ahead of the Lord. "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me" (Matt. 10:37).

Just as the husband has a very important place in the family unit, so does the wife. While the husband is the head, I am convinced that the wife should be consulted before any important decision is made. The husband that truly loves his wife will make her feel an important part of the family. After all, she was given to Adam to be a help meet for him. "And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him" (Gen. 2:18). Some men act as if their wives would hinder them rather than help them, or on the other hand, some wives seem to delight in doing things to hinder their husbands. The wife is to help him. When he is downhearted she should lift him up. When others are accusing him, she should stand behind him. Wherever he goes, she should be there with him. (A man told me years ago that he was called to a mission field and he hoped his wife would be called there, too.)

(Continued on Page 6 Column 1)

UNIT

(Continued from Page 5)

I told him that his wife is called to go wherever he was.) She is to live a good clean or moral life: "A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones" (Prov. 12:4). Her husband should be able to trust in her: "The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil" (Prov. 31:11). She is to do her husband good and not evil: "She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life" (Prov. 31:12). She will dress modestly. "In like manner also that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety..." (I Tim. 2:9). She will wear a head covering in obedience to the Lord and to show her subjection to her husband: "For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn; but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered" (I Cor. 11:6).

The wife has a very definite place in respect to her husband. Her desire is to be to her husband: "Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee" (Gen. 3:16). She is to be in subjection to her husband: "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord" (Col. 3:18). "For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him Lord: whose daughters ye are..." (I Pet. 3:5, 6). She is to have great respect for him: "...and the wife see that she reverence her husband" (Eph. 5:33).

Children have an important place in the family unit, also. "Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right" (Prov. 20:11).

Children should be taught the Word of God. The Psalmist said, "We will not hide them from their children..." (Ps. 78:4, see verses 1-8). Joshua 8:34, 35 tells us, "and afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessings and cursings, according to all that is written in the book of the law. There was not a word of all that Moses commanded, which Joshua read not before all the congregation of Israel, with the women, and the little ones, and the strangers that were conversant among them." They are not to be sent to nurseries but made to listen to the Word of God.

The book of Proverbs is full of instructions to children. "Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways" (Prov. 8:32). "My son, if thine heart be wise, my heart shall rejoice, even mine. Yea, my reins shall rejoice, when thy lips speak right things" (Prov. 23:15, 16). "A wise son heareth his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke" (Prov. 13:1). These are just a few examples of instructions found in the book of Proverbs.

Jesus gave instructions to children as recorded in Matthew 15:4: "For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death."

Children are to obey their parents: "Children, obey your parents in all things; for this is well pleasing unto the Lord" (Col. 3:20). (When Abraham was preparing to offer Isaac as a sacrifice to God he was approximately 126 years old while Isaac was 26, yet Isaac obeyed Abraham even though he could easily have overcome his father — see Genesis 22:9). One thing that disturbs me greatly is to see children telling their parents what to do, or talking back to their parents. When I see a little child yell "no" at their parents, or refuse to obey them, and get by with it, I cringe inside, because I know that if he is allowed to continue, he will be a law breaker when he gets older. This new idea of letting the child "express himself" is ungodly, unscriptural, and will do the child more harm than people realize. It is a tool of Satan to destroy the family unit. No organization whether it is a family unit or big government can stand unless there are rules and enforcement of those rules.

The children are not to shame their parents: "Cursed be he that setteth light (lightly esteems) by his father or mother. And all the people shall say, Amen" (Deut. 27:16). "Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son: but he that is a companion of riotous men shameth his father" (Prov. 28:7).

A family unit where the father is the head of the house, the mother is a help meet, and the children give honour to the law and their parents is indeed blessed. Brethren, it can and should be practiced. Teach your children right and wrong, punish wrong and praise them when they do right. Insist that they show respect to their parents and to God's Word.

Satan is trying to destroy this family unit. Television, radio, books, and new laws all tend to work toward separating families. Sin is sin, and wrong is wrong, regardless of whether the Hollywood stars or the federal judges say they are all right or not. Insist on high morals, honesty and integrity in your family. This will cause a return to the proper respect for marriage, families, and God's Word in the individual life as well as home and church.

May the Lord bless you!

SUPPORTERS

(Continued from Page 1)

the means financially and prayed for me in that far away country. Many times in my own prayer life I have been drawn so close to those of you that I know personally that at times I felt as though I could reach out and touch you. The impact upon my life as a result of our being able to work together in this mission work has been tremendous.

In the providence of God I have had to work under conditions, especially for the past twelve years, that have caused me to lay hold of God's promise in II Corinthians 12:9, "My grace is sufficient for thee," almost daily, in order to continue on. But I have found God's promise to be true and He has honored my ministry and



QUESTION: — What bachelor of forty years married two women who were a grief to his parents?

ANSWER: — Esau, Genesis 26:34-35. — "And Esau was forty years old when he took to wife Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Bashemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite: Which were a grief of mind unto Isaac and to Rebekah."

tremendously blessed the work.

Over the years we have never changed our doctrinal stand in order to gain support for the work, although we have been asked to do so on several occasions. However, we have had to make many changes in the administration of the work due to several factors, some of which we will mention. In 1980 several churches and individuals that had supported the work for a long time dropped their support. This, of course, is a privilege of any church or individual and we never question any church or individual who feels they can no longer support the work for whatever reason. Due to this loss in support the work has suffered greatly. Another thing that has hurt tremendously in the past few years is the steady climbing inflationary prices. One of our most used items in the mission work is fuel for the vehicle, which costs us now \$3.00 per gallon — due to the expansion of the work we have to use the vehicle now almost daily. To operate the work as we have been doing, our vehicle is the most expensive thing connected with the work. The perimeter of the work now covers over 200 miles and there is no way I could cover this area by walking most of the time as I used to do. What is true concerning the expense of the vehicle could be applied to all phases of the work.

Another thing that most people overlook is the fact that the actual value of every dollar that I receive automatically drops to about sixty-five cents when changed into New Guinea money. In other words, a one-thousand dollar check when received and deposited in New Guinea looks more like six-hundred and fifty dollars. Of course, the rate of money exchange varies, for several months I was only getting about fifty-five cents to the dollar. For many years it has not gone above about sixty-eight.

In the past few years we have cut every corner we know of to continue operating the work in a manner that will cause it to ever be reaching out to new areas. There are many areas in New Guinea that are completely untouched. The hardest thing I have ever encountered is to have a group or delegation of people come to visit me and ask that I come and visit them with a view of starting permanent services with them and, due to the lack of proper finances, have to tell them they will have to wait. We have had to turn down many such requests in the past couple of years. There are other phases of the work we have had to either sharply curtail or cut out

completely as a result of the lack of funds.

Beloved, we realize that the economy here in America, and world wide, is in worse shape than at any other time since the Great Depression and this has a direct bearing upon, not only the Lord's work, but our every day lives. We do feel, however, that in many areas all of us could do a little belt tightening and give more for the Lord's work. Many of the greatest blessings that I have ever received in my life has come as a result of my giving of my time and my means until it hurt. Few people today really know what it means to sacrifice to help further the cause of Christ.

Beloved, this letter has not been intended to sound as though I am begging you to reconsider starting support of the New Guinea mission work or to beg you to give more if you are already a supporter. I have tried to honestly lay before you the needs and to let you know that without support we will be unable to expand any farther and will, in fact, have to further cut back on what we have already started. We only ask you to seriously pray about the matter and then ask the Lord to give you grace to do as you have been led. May the Lord richly bless each of you!

REASON

(Continued from Page 1)

for the season — Scripturally speaking! If indeed there is any reason for the season, it is that which is conjured up by the "papists," the uninformed, the ignorant and the commercial business establishments of the world system. Businesses prey yearly on the sentimentality of afore-mentioned folk.

Several weeks ago (in response to several letters to the editor that I had written to our local newspaper denouncing the practice of Christmas keeping), a well-known pastor of a large local assembly, announced that he would be preaching a sermon entitled: "The Reason For the Season," from our above named text. Intrigued, I asked for, and received a cassette copy of that sermon. While I am hardly surprised anymore at some of the inane ramblings of so-called preachers, this particular man still held in my eyes some measure of respect. (He had been my pastor for some ten years — not Baptist). Upon listening, I was treated to some eighteen minutes of sentimental slush regarding wood burning fires, snow, sleighbells, Mom's pies and cookies, etc., etc. Not so much as a single Scripture was used! Now, beloved, I, too, love all these things. But what have they to do with a "scriptural" reason for Christmas keeping? Finally, Exodus 34:14 was used. (Really a rebuke to his preaching.) Then immediately Jeremiah 10:1-5 with another twelve minutes of defending the "Christmas tree," and the explanation that the verses of Jeremiah were speaking of a "totem pole" and not a Christmas tree! Now I will not bore you learned readers by seeking to prove that Jeremiah 10:1-5 is our modern day Christmas tree — for we know it is not. Still, can any deny the striking similarity to today's Christmas tree? Again, can any deny that it was and is the forerunner to today's heathen practice? Let us examine carefully verse two of chapter ten in Jeremiah. (For I fear that many Christians and some Baptists

miss the entire point of these Scriptures). "Thus saith the Lord, learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of Heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them." Clearly we have a "thus saith the Lord" here, and pertaining to "God's people" learning (taking up) the way (customs, traditions) of the ungodly — yea, even the haters of God and His dear Son! Wherein are we, as believers, instructed or commanded to do such? Yet, hand-in-hand and side-by-side we see even good Baptist people flocking to the "Xmas tree" lots and carrying home (for they must needs be borne) dying trees right along with the most treacherous sinners (even the infamous mafia members celebrate Christmas). Nay, my brethren, we have learned the way of the heathen — and sadly, delight in it.

Let us now examine first:

I. The professing Christians — reasons for the season. First, we see set forth the "birth" of the baby Jesus as supposedly the reason. Our text, Luke 2:1-20 is brought as evidence before us. To be sure, there was a birth. To be sure, it must have occurred on a certain given day. But what day? No one knows, and even Roman Catholic scholars admit this date of December 25th was not the day. Nor do they know what day it might have been. In fact, no scholar has ever been able to ascertain the date of our Saviour's birth. Why this hidden date? Did our Sovereign God forget to give the date to Matthew or Dr. Luke? Surely not. Certainly such an important event (if meant to be kept) of such worldwide importance (as it has surely become) to both Christian and heathen, would not be overlooked in Holy Writ? Or is it not only just possible, and completely true, that God never intended it to be kept by Bible believing and understanding Christians?

Myself, and sound Baptists should and do prefer the latter. Why? Because, always and ever, we should seek for whatever we do, a "Thus saith the Lord" — for any action we take in His name. If any good Baptist out there can show me a single Scripture in the Old or New Testament asking, instructing or commanding us to "keep Christmas" I will forthwith send him or her a \$100.00 bill. I have no fear that I will lose the money.

You may say, Bro. Kaley, do we need instruction or commandment to keep Christmas? Well said. "Yes," hear God's Word on the matter; II Timothy 3:16, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." Remember, when these words were penned, Paul to the beloved Timothy, the New Testament did not yet exist. Timothy's instruction then, came from Old Testament teachings. What can we learn from this? (1) "All" Scripture is profitable for instruction. And (2) We can look to the Old Testament not only for doctrine (or types), but for example of how God treated and expected certain "special" or "holy days" to be kept. Let us look at Genesis 2:1-3, "Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because that in it He

(Continued on Page 8 Column 1)

BRIEF STUDIES IN REVELATION

By The Editor

"...Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter" (Rev. 4:1).

Chapters 4 and 5 of Revelation describe scenes in heaven following the rapture. Again I say that you must fit the contents of this Book into the inspired outline in 1:19 in order to understand the Book. There we learn that the Book is about "The things which thou has seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter." The vision of the glorified Christ in Chapter one is the first part. The churches and the church age is the things that now are. From chapter 4:1 to the end of the book is the things which shall be after the things that now are. Therefore, nothing in this section will begin to occur until after the church age ends with the rapture of the saints. Chapters 4 & 5 constitute an immediate postlude to the rapture as well as a prelude to the great tribulation.

Chapter 4:1 is a picture of the rapture. We will someday — and it may be any day so far as we know — hear the shout of Jesus Christ, the trump of God and we will "be caught up to meet the Lord in the air." Note the "opening" of heaven in 4:1 and again in 19:11. The first "opening" is to receive the Previously saved into heaven. The second "opening" is for Christ and His recently married Bride (faithful members of true churches) to come to the battle of Armageddon. Between these two "openings," the Great Tribulation takes place on the earth. The rapture of the saved, which is picture in 4:1 is the fulfillment of much Scripture, and will be the greatest day of the future for the child of God.

John is in the Spirit. He sees a throne in heaven and one sitting on the throne. This one is the Father, as the other Persons of the Trinity are seen later as distinct from this one on the throne. There is an indescribable glory upon the throne and the occupant thereof. Around this throne are twenty-four elders seated upon thrones. Who are these elders? Some think they are angelic beings of special office and special position around the throne of God. I would prefer this interpretation, but the reference to these elders in 5:9 as "redeemed to God by the Blood" forbids it. I am a strong and avid fan of the Textus Receptus from which the King James Version was translated, and so cannot accept the ASV translation of this verse. I would say that the elders are either, twenty-four of the saved from among men, or representative of all the saved until the rapture.

There are lightnings, thunderings, and voices out of the throne which speak of the flashing and sounding forth of the majesty of that throne. The seven spirits of God represent the one Holy Spirit in the seven-fold plenitude of His power and perfections. There is a sea of glass before the throne.

There are four living beings (incorrectly called beasts) round about the throne. Who are these? Some think they are angelic beings of special rank and office, but see 5:9 again.

Some would separate between these four and the twenty-four elders in 5:8 and make only the elders to be singing the song of 5:9. This does seem grammatically far-fetched to me and seems to be due to an effort to make the 24 representative of redeemed men, and the four to be angelic beings. I would say that the four living beings are four from among the redeemed of earth given a special place before the throne. Note their occupation of praising the holiness of the eternal God. What a glorious occupation! None could be greater.

In 4:9-11 we see the living beings and the elders — and, surely, all in heaven though not mentioned here — falling down in worship before the One on the throne. They praise Him because of His creation of and sovereignty over all things.

In Ch. 5:1-7 we see a strange book and one worthy to open it. This book is the prophecies of the coming events of the tribulation whereby Jesus Christ is going to take possession of the earth and establish His kingdom on the earth. This is made clear from the events which take place as the book is unsealed and opened. The question is asked, "Who is worthy to open the Book?" Also involved in the question is the ability to bring to pass the things written therein. No man is found who is worthy or able to do this. Brethren, man will not bring about the glorious Millennium. All the politicians of all time have and will fail in doing this. If we look to man to do this, we will find ourselves weeping as John does here. The saved desire the glorious reign of Christ over and on the earth, and would weep if they thought it would never come to pass.

John's tears are dried by the revelation that there is One who is worthy and able to open this book. Who is this One? It is the lion of the tribe of Judah. It is the Root of David. It is the Lamb who was slain, but is now alive forevermore. Yes, it is our wonderful Lord and Saviour: Jesus Christ. He has the seven fold plenitude of the Spirit upon Him in doing this work.

In verses 8-14 we have a universal praise, worship and adoration of this One who is going to open the Book and bring to pass what is written therein. He is going to pour wrath forth upon the earth. He is going to establish His kingdom. But here, as a postlude to the rapture and a prelude to the Tribulation, we have an adoring worship of this "worthy" One. Note the word "worthy" in this chapter in vs. 2, 4, 9, 12. What do they sing about in heaven? Not the hellish, devilish singing of country music and rock and roll as here. Best get all of that you want in this life. There will be none in hell, for there is weeping and wailing. There will be none in heaven, for there they sing about the Worthy One and His precious Blood.

Verse 5:9 is a Biblical exposition of the words "world" and "all" which the Bible uses to refer to the objects of salvation, and which the Arminians misuse to teach a universal or unlimited atonement. Who are the "world" and the "all" for whom Jesus died? It is "all" kinds

without distinction, not all without exception. They are the "all" elected and redeemed from among "every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation." The Bible is the greatest interpreter of the Bible. Those redeemed by the Blood of Jesus Christ are kings and priests. There is no "priesthood of the church" or "kingdom of the church." All the redeemed are kings and priests. These priests and kings shall reign on the earth. I said on — and the Bible says on. It is not a spiritual reign in the intermediate state. It is a glorious Millennial reign on the earth with Jesus Christ. The Bible teaches a Millennial reign of Christ, and teaches the Pre-millennial coming of Christ to establish that reign. Amen! Praise the Lord!

A hundred million plus millions more of angels join in this praise and worship of the Lord. Though men may not praise Him, He is not without praise. The angels delight to give the praise that is His due. Now, dear saved friend, this is not a fairy tale. These chapters describe what will be a reality. These things will happen. You and I will be there to see them happen and to join therein. And these things will happen immediately following the rapture of the saints. And the rapture may — so far as we know — occur in the next moment of time. You and I may be just a moment, just a twinkling of the eye away from seeing and sharing in this glorious scene. We will share in it when it does occur and it may occur any moment, so far as God has revealed in His Word. Let me just add that, as you study chapter 5 you will find that it is not just only, or just mainly, about The Worthy One, but it is about The Prevailing Atonement of the Worthy One. It is on the basis of His Death on the cross that He prevails to ransom His elect and to establish His and their kingdom over the earth.

Chapter six of Revelation describes the events which take place upon the opening of six of the seven seals of chapter 5:1. Remember that this book is about the things which take place in chapters 6-18. The seven seals cover the entire Great Tribulation. The seventh seal is the seven trumpets and seven vials of wrath. In this chapter we have the events of the first six seals. Now the only way to properly interpret these events is to read them and believe them. Do not try to find mysterious meanings. Just take the meaning that is clearly given. Apart from this literal method of studying the Book, there is no way of understanding it.

The first four seals relate to four horses and riders. These are frequently referred to as the "four horsemen of the Apocalypse." Apocalypse is a synonym for revelation. The first seal or horse sets forth the coming of the anti-christ to begin his reign with a peace and prosperity program. He rides a white horse though he is a wicked being as an effort to deceive the earth. Now, note the two white horses and their riders in 6:2 and 19:11. The first is the anti-christ and the second is the true Christ who rides forth to defeat the anti-christ and set up His own kingdom. The Great Tribulation begins with the riding forth of the anti-christ and concludes with the riding forth of the True Christ. The anti-Christ begins his reign with promises of peace and prosperity — with a program for such

which looks as if it will succeed. The world is waiting for such a person with such a plan. They will gladly receive and worship such a person with such a plan. The second seal and horse show the utter failure of the peace part of the plan. There is worldwide war, looting, rioting and murder. Blood soaks the earth.

The third seal sets forth the failure of the prosperity part of anti-christ's original plan and promise. There is terrible famine throughout the earth. Under the fourth seal and horse there is death and destruction by sword, hunger and wild beasts. Dear friend, under these first four seals, one-fourth of the inhabitants of earth are killed. What horror awaits this world! Peace and prosperity are not just around the corner. The most terrible time the world has ever or will ever see is not far ahead of us. These terrible things start immediately after the rapture of the saints, and so far as we know, that could be at any time. It is entirely possible — yea, even probable — that people living today will see these terrible things take place. Thank God, the saved of this day will not be here to go through such a terrible time.

The opening of the fifth seal sets before us a picture of the saved martyrs of the tribulation period. You see: all the saved before the rapture will be caught up to be with the Lord before the tribulation. However, many will be saved during the tribulation time. Most of these will die under the reign of the anti-christ. They are the ones who are seen under the altar in verses 6:9. There they rest until all the martyrs of the Tribulation are slain, and following the tribulation, they will be raised with glorified bodies to join the previously raptured saints in the Millennium. Those saved before the rapture will be in heaven with glorified bodies during the tribulation on earth. Those saved during the tribulation will get their glorified bodies just prior to the Millennium.

The sixth seal sets forth a terrible time of catastrophic events in the heavens and upon the earth. Pay no attention to the guesses of men as to what these verses mean. Just read them and believe them. These things will literally take place just as described in 6:12-17. With the taking place of the events of these six seals, men will learn that there is a Holy God living in Heaven, who hates sin, and has power to and will punish it. They will cry out for physical death, which they wrongly think will deliver them from the face and wrath of the Lamb upon the throne. What a question is asked in 6:17! The answer is given in 7:14. Only those who are washed in the Blood of Jesus Christ will be able to stand in the day of God's wrath. Beloved, how is it with you? Will you maybe be here to share in, scream in, die in these terrible events of these first six seals? If you are saved, you will not, for the saved till that time will be raptured to heaven before they begin. If unsaved, you may well be living when the Great Tribulation begins on the earth. Flee to the Lamb of God now!

ANNOUNCEMENT

Star Point Sovereign Grace Baptist Church, Hwy. 509 Mansfield, La. weekend meeting, Dec. 2, 3, 4, at 7:00 p.m. Speakers will be: W.O. Durham, G.L. Burr, Ed Graff, and William Peacock. Pastor, Herbert Cade, Ph. 1-318-872-5418.

Missionary To New Guinea Eld. Fred T. Halliman



FRED T. HALLIMAN

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

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

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

LETTER

Dear friends,

Greeting to each of you once again from my home in Kentucky.

Since I last wrote to you I have been privileged to attend another Bible Conference. This time in Simpsonville, South Carolina, and made many new friends and renewed my acquaintance with some folk whom I had not seen for nearly a quarter of a century.

This was truly a great time of fellowship for me and, especially so, inasmuch as it was the first time I had ever visited the Hallmark Baptist Church in Simpsonville. I think I met most, if not all, the members of the Hallmark Baptist Church and they are such a lovely people and exhibit a spirit of Christ not to be found in every Baptist Church. We do not agree on every point of doctrine, but on the other hand, it is virtually impossible these days to find any two people, to say nothing of two different churches, wholly agreeing on everything. I learned to love the folk at Hallmark Baptist Church and would welcome the opportunity sometime in the future to have more fellowship with them.

One of the main reasons for my coming home when I did was to have surgery for a hernia. Most of you will recall that I had this type of surgery in Papua New Guinea in 1971, but after about two or three years it broke out worse than at first. As I write this, I have already had the surgery that I came home for. On Monday, the 27th of September, I was operated on in Portsmouth, Ohio. According to the doctor

(Continued on Page 8 Column 1)

TUNE IN TO THE CALL TO CALVARY

Station: WEMM, Huntgn., W. Va. Time: Sun.—7:30-8:00 a.m. Dial: 107.9 Watts: 50000 FM

LETTER

(Continued from Page 7)

that performed the operation, it was much more than just an ordinary hernia operation. He said, according to the mess that he found and all the corrective surgery that he had to perform to get everything back to normal, that whoever operated on me in Papua New Guinea must have been a butcher in the morning and had a part time job at the hospital in the afternoons.

After being operated on on Monday I had an extremely rough time for about 24 hours but after that began to make some progress. After being in the hospital for five days, I was dismissed to come home. I still do not have the stitches out, but am due to have that done tomorrow. I am now convalescing at my home and covet your prayers that God will give me a complete and speedy recovery.

My plans to return to Papua New Guinea.

When I left P.N.G. to come to America, I intended to be back within two months from the time I left. It took me much longer, however, to get the surgery scheduled than I had thought, and then, due to the extra repair work that he had to do, it will take me a bit longer to get back to normal again, i.e., being able to withstand a trip from here to Papua New Guinea.

In the event there are no complications and I continue to improve and gain my strength back, I plan to leave for Papua New Guinea during the first week of December. This will give me an added month with my family and will allow me to attend the Thanksgiving Bible Conference at Calvary Baptist Church.

Inasmuch as I am not visiting the supporting churches this time, I would hope to be able to see many of you at our Bible Conference just before I leave to go back. I have enjoyed my stay here in America with my family and the new friends that I have to fellowship with, but am anxiously awaiting the day when I will be back on the mission field in Papua New Guinea.

REASON

(Continued from Page 6)

had rested from all His work which God created and made." Here we see God blessed and "set aside" (sanctified) a certain and special day. But let us amplify on this; Exodus 16:23-30 (please read). Herein we find God not only sets the seventh day aside, but gives explicit instructions on how it is to be kept. Wherein is such for Christmas?

Can there be any doubt left that God's example has always been that whatsoever special day (sabbath) or feast (passover) was carefully given commandment as to: when, where, and exactly how it was to be kept? Wherein can any comparison to keep Christmas be found? Where is the date? Where is the commandment? The manner (way) in which it is to be observed?

I fear that Christians, indeed many Baptists, have made an ordinance out of the Roman

Catholic date of December 25th with no commandment, instruction, or manner of how, when or why from their Lord! A terrible and fearsome thing! I am reminded of Jeremiah 5:30-31, "A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land. The prophets prophecy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?" Indeed, what will be the end of this pagan nightmare known as Christmas? Have we not seen some of its end? Drunkenness, revelling, office parties and their attendant sexual promiscuousness? At the same party given in the name of Jesus' birth, is not His lovely name bandied about in the vilest filthiest terms? The same man who will gaily decorate a tree, his home, and wish any and all a merry Christmas will slam the door in the face of a pastor or Christian worker coming to his door to share the Gospel. Indeed, Christmas causes strange bedfellows. The same ungodly sinner who will not keep the Lord's day (first day of the week-Sunday) cannot be torn away from keeping Christmas. On the cassette, my preacher friend three times said: only cults and ism's did not celebrate Christmas, and they only were the ones preaching and distributing literature against the keeping of Christmas. What, pray tell, will he call the Christians of the first four centuries, who knew not, nor recorded, any such celebration as Christmas?

On this same cassette, the male choir director is heard to say, "The singing of our cantata is based on Matthew 2:1-11, where gifts were given, and indeed this is the basis of our Christmas exchanging of gifts." Beloved, this same man is a graduate of a large, supposedly fundamental Bible college in Indiana. Yet, he seems woefully ignorant of Scripture. All Bible scholars agree that the arrival of the wise men was many months and more likely two years after the birth of Jesus. The Scripture explains in Matthew 2:11 the gifts were given to Jesus only. Hear again Matthew 2:11; "and when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, His mother, and fell down and worshipped Him; and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts: gold, and frankincense and myrrh."

Please note, beloved reader, the wise men came to a house, not a stable! To a young child, not a babe. They gave gifts to Christ, not exchanged gifts with one another. They worshipped the young child, not His mother Mary. All their attention was on the Holy Infant — a King! Not on Mary, trees, decorations, mistletoe, holly wreaths, nor on any gift exchange.

I personally believe Jesus was about two years old based on Matthew 2:16; "Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceedingly angry and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all its borders, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently

inquired of the wise men." Beloved, please note that Herod ordered the death of two years old and under based on his diligent questioning of the wise men of when they first saw the birth star.

So then, we cannot find that the reason for the season is because of the birth of Jesus — and therefore is to be celebrated. Why? Because we have no command, instruction, nor have we been given any manner of doing so, by our God! It cannot be because of the wise men — they arrived much later! And their gifts were only to the Christ child.

Let us then examine:

II. The non-Christians — reason for the season. It is clearly one of greed, pride, and is entirely of their father, Satan. The why of this date (December 25th) becoming so great and widespread is that it is inspired by Satan, the great enemy of Christ and His people. The appearance and steadily growing influence of Santa Claus is a case in point. Here we see a bewhiskered, jolly, overweight, smiling, and red outfitted man who has stolen the spotlight of almost all remembrance of our Saviour. He calls (as Satan intended) the attention of our dear children — away from — not towards the Lord! He is given attributes only our Sovereign God possesses. He knows all about us, knows if we've been good or bad. Knows when we are asleep or awake. Can traverse the entire earth in a single evening. Fly anywhere, and even cause animals (reindeer) to fly, also. While his bag of gifts is rarely as large as he, yet never runs dry until the last child has been delivered to, reminding one of the lord's miracle of the loaves and fishes — which also never ran out until all were fed — and much was left over! Clever, crafty Satan! All, all to take away from the Lord Jesus and give His honor and glory to a rotund Santa Claus, who later is revealed as a fake, and puts parents as liars to their small children. Our crafty and wily enemy is indeed clever. Satan has managed, through the Roman Catholic murderers of multiplied millions of God's saints, to bring into our homes a similitude of the old mystery Babylon in their idol worship, by the installation of living tree's decorated strikingly like the one of Jeremiah 10:1-5. By the decorations of eye-catching lights (not unlike the neon lights of Las Vegas) on homes and trees and even in places of business (including bars and nightclubs). Tinsel, greed, pride, and drunkenness become the watchword. Daddy's actually stealing and robbing that they might have a nice Christmas for their own children. Mothers and housewives caught in vice-raids, who were selling their bodies rather than see their families go without at Christmas! What abomination we have let ourselves become a party to!

What is the charge of the Lord to them that do such? For those who make excuse for such? Listen — Luke 16:15, "And He said unto them (the religious crowd), Ye are they who justify yourselves before men, but God knoweth your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed before men is abomination in the sight of God." Is there any holiday more highly esteemed among men than Christmas? Matthew

15:8-9 speaks clearly of our Lord's feelings: "This people draweth near unto me with their mouth, and honoreth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." And a crushing charge of God in Jeremiah 5:31, "And my people love to have it so." The Apostle Paul, the great elder-statesman of the Faith, expresses his fear of such; Galatians 4:10-11, "Ye observe days and months and times and years. I am afraid of you, lest I bestowed upon you labor in vain."

Lastly, I speak to those who call themselves sound Baptists. After having heard the truth about Christmas and then continuing in this abomination, you lose the credibility and right to call yourselves sound! In truth, you are rebellious Baptists and compromising Baptists. Sound only in that you are sound asleep. I am reminded of those sound Baptists that will not allow their women to wear head-coverings. These who believe that God gets glory in the church and who would be the first to tell you that the church is the pillar and ground of truth — yet, they fly in the face of their pastor's teaching, and the beliefs of the church. Sitting in the midst of a congregation of ladies with their heads covered — they stand out their wives like a green fly on white wallpaper.

And what of the wife who says, I am being obedient to my husband — he thinks (Ah, the sin of so-called independent thinking) it is unnecessary! But God says, he (or she) who loveth husband or wife more than Me, is unworthy of me! Shall you obey your disobedient husband? or God? Both cases (Christmas keeping and this head covering) are no more than rebelliousness couched in the semantics of: (1). I know better — more than pastor or church or (2). Bride, which says I am an independent thinker and I have arrived at the/my conclusions, contrary to, and independent of both pastor and my church. No matter how it is couched or tried to be explained, it is plain simple rebellion and pride — sin!

In conclusion, let me say this: Christmas-keeping is not for those who love God! We, as believers, and Baptists at that, need no special day to remember His birth. We are constantly reminded as we study His Word. We are also reminded to love not the world, neither the things of the world. I humbly and prayerfully ask that you might consider that, indeed, there is no Biblical reason for the season! Let us, therefore, put away from ourselves and separate ourselves from these vain traditions of men. Let us love and serve only Him, Who to know aright is life eternal! May God bless you all, is my sincere prayer!

At Least Five People To Whom You Can Send TBE YOU KNOW WHO NEEDS IT!

GIVE 5 GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

P. O. Box 71

Ashland, Kentucky 41105-0071

SEND 5 SUBSCRIPTIONS, WE'LL RENEW YOURS FREE!

5 Subs... \$20.00

Have This Paper Delivered Bi-Weekly — For A Whole Year!
(PLEASE PRINT)

- Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
- Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
- Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
- Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____
- Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____

Enclosed \$ _____ for _____ Subs

Your Name _____

Address _____

**GIVE US READERS
We Will Give Them The Truth!**