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# ATTENTION

## START MAKING PLANS NOW FOR OUR MEMORIAL DAY BIBLE CONFERENCE

Calvary Baptist Church will have the 1983 Bible Conference Memorial Day weekend, May 27th-29th.  
Please plan to be with us for this great event.

### THE GREATEST MIRACLE IN THE BOOK OF JONAH

by  
Don Pennington  
Warren, Ohio

INTRODUCTION: There are many great miracles in the book of Jonah, all of which teach us great and wonderful lessons. Jonah is truly a message for our times. Beloved, if you study it out, I think you will find that the greatest of all the miracles in the book of Jonah is that the great city of Nineveh repented. Let us consider:

**THE CITY OF NINEVEH.** The exceeding great city of Nineveh was the proud capital of Assyria. Assyria was the long time enemy of Israel. History shows their relationship was long and bloody, great in wickedness. Listen, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me" (Jonah 1:2). It was called the Robber City, because it overran and robbed other countries to enrich itself. It was located two hundred eighty miles North of Babylon on the East bank of the Tigris, just across from modern Mosul. The wicked Nimrod is created as their founder (Genesis 10:9-12). It was a great city even then. They were not ignorant people. There was found in this ancient city a library of over one hundred thousand volumes, many about creation and the world flood in Noah's day. They were not a God-fearing people. They



Don Pennington

were not just sitting there waiting and hungry for someone to preach the gospel to them.

**THE MESSENGER.** He was a mere man. If man does anything right, God has to be in it. He was a disobedient man (Jonah 1:3). He wanted to get out from the very presence of his Lord. He was out of fellowship with the great God of this world. What a pitiful place to be!

When a man is out of fellowship, he gets to thinking he knows what is best, better than God. Jonah thought it better for the judgment to fall on them than for them to repent. He did not want them to be saved, he wanted them to be an-

(Continued on Page 6 Column 1)

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

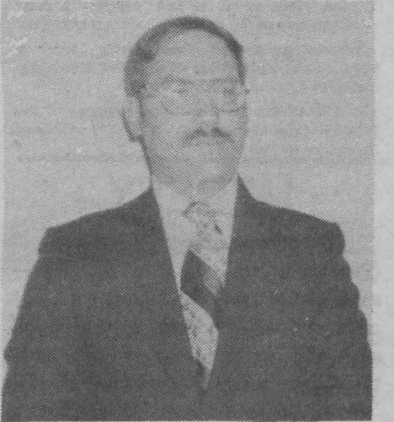
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BAPTISTIC

### CHRISTIAN UNITY

by Medford Caudill  
Saipan Missionary  
"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3).

Christian unity is desirable. When one looks at the number of professing Christians in one community and then counts the costs of their divided efforts, the maintenance of separate buildings, the salary of separate



Medford Caudill

pastors, etc., it is truly lamentable that the money which is paid out because of their separateness does not go to mission work, publishing Bibles and so many other worthy causes.

Now I will propose a solution to the division of the Lord's people into so many different bodies. This is a solution that, if tried, will always result in the furtherance of the Lord's work and will increase the amount going to missions, etc. It is a proposal which, if followed, will mean that all Christians in a community can meet in one building with one pastor. It is a proposal which will end all the divisions among those who call themselves Christians. It is a

(Continued on Page 5 Column 1)

## The Baptist Examiner

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

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WHOLE NUMBER 2400

### MANASSEH

II Kings 21

by John M. Alber  
Flagstaff, Ariz.

through the fires and he often made personal sacrifices and burnt incenses in the high places which, from the stand point of God, was an evil thing.

2. Instead of turning toward



John M. Alber

God for help, this one, AHAZ, sought outside alliance with the King of Assyria.

3. AHAZ observed the heathen sacrifices, a form of wor-

Introduction:

Of all the Kings of Judah (Southern) and Israel (Northern), none of Israel did that which was right in the sight of God. Judah did not have a very good record either, only six of her kings did that which was right in the heart of God. However, perhaps the worst of the lot was Manasseh as is found in our text.

Note with me his Grandfather and his father: Ahaz — one of the most wicked kings of Judah: Hezekiah — one of the best kings of Judah.

First, AHAZ. He was the Grandfather of this man and his name means, "Jehovah hath reigned or sustains." He was the Son of Jothan, a King of Judah of which the Bible says he did that which was right in the sight of God. Ahaz was the eleventh King of Judah and only reigned for some sixteen years. King Ahaz is thus known for his many great sins.

1. Ahaz made his sons to pass

### The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor Joseph M. Wilson

### PRIESTHOOD OF THE CHURCH HERESY

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ" (I Pet. 2:5).

Let me first define what I mean by heresy. I do most assuredly not mean that those who hold this doctrine are unsaved. In Bible school, I was taught (but it did not take) that heresy related only to doctrines that would damn one's soul in hell. However, we learn in II Peter 2:1 that there are "damnable heresies," and I understand this to mean that there are heresies that do damn forever, and there are heresies which do not. By heresy in this article I mean doctrines that are contrary to the Word of God, and, by this definition, surely "the priesthood of the church" is a heresy.

We can understand this by understanding the things said in this paragraph. There are many things which belong to

believers as believers, altogether apart from their being members of the Lord's church. Then there are things which are restricted to the Lord's church and to those who are members thereof. It is very, very important that we distinguish between these two matters.

Let me say early in this sermon that I yield to no man in love for and respect for the Lord's true churches. I believe and preach, emphatically and repeatedly, that every saved person should be a member of a Sovereign Grace Landmark Baptist Church. I stand adamantly on this position. But I stand just as adamantly against making too much of the church and taking from the believer who is not in a true church that which God's Word gives to him.

Let us define "priesthood of the church" though the whole of the sermon will add to and clarify such definition. It is the doctrine that the church today

takes the place which the Levitical Priesthood had during the days of the Old Testament. This involves the teaching that the only way of approach to God is through the church. Now, how did this doctrine originate? Well, it originated the same way all heresy — or nearly all — originates. There is first the matter of truth — in this case, church truth. The devil will endeavor to get one to reject or oppose the truth. If unsuccessful in this, he will attempt to get one to pervert the truth, and remember, that perverted truth is total error. Let me illustrate this. The Bible teaches sanctification. When men will not oppose sanctification, the devil seeks to get them to go into sinless perfection heresy. The Bible teaches sovereign grace. When men will not reject or oppose this truth, the devil seeks to get them to go into hardshellism — and oh, how he has succeeded in this! This Bible teaches

(Continued on Page 2 Column 1)

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## HERESY

(Continued from Page 1)

church truth — yes, it does — and when men will not reject and oppose this truth, the devil seeks to make them pervert this wonderful truth into "priesthood of the church" heresy.

Here is how this heresy has developed. First, men said that we should serve God in and through the church. The first men I heard preach this heresy told me that this was all they meant by it. But this is not all they now mean by it. I told these men that I believed we should serve God in and through the church, but why give it this new name. This doctrine is a "new doctrine." I do not see how its strongest advocates can deny this. "Ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls" (Jer. 6:16). Just call me "Jeremiah" Joe. I like the old paths. I am exceedingly fearful of these new doctrines. In fact, if it is new, it is definitely not Biblical. Brothers, it seems to me that some men are afflicted with the terrible disease of "Athenitus." This is the insatiable desire to tell and hear something new. I could name some men — but I won't — who seem utterly unable to just take the Bible as it reads. They have to search between the lines and see if they can come up with something no one else ever heard of. When they do they are like a child with a new toy, but they are not like children in tiring of their new plaything for they will not give it up, but demand that everyone else accept this new doctrine of theirs. They insist that those of us who "walk in the old paths," are not able to learn anything. But we answer that they are those who are "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (II Tim. 3:7).

Now, this new doctrine is an ever-developing one. It is not yet finished, and who but God knows where it will all end? Among the number of "our men" who have adopted this

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER  
FEBRUARY 12, 1983

PAGE TWO

Get right within, and you will be right without.

heresy, it seems closely connected with some other heresies. Now, understand that I am not saying that all who hold this, or one of the about-to-be-mentioned heresies hold all of them. However, there are many who do, and there seems thus to be an affinity here. And is not this the way with all heresy? Heresies are connected together so that one leads to another, to another and to another. Here is one reason we need to be so careful in searching out and holding onto truth. When we go off into one heresy, there is no telling what other heresies this will lead to. Men who started



Joe Wilson

down this road of "priesthood of the church," I am sure never dreamed that it would lead them as far as it has. How about it "priesthood of the church" men? Am I telling it like it is? Did you dream, when you told me that all you meant was that we should serve God in the church, that you would go as far as you now have? But there is an almost fatal power and attraction about heresy, and it seems that, when one starts down that road, he just will not stop until he reaches the end thereof.

Now, with many men, this heresy is closely connected with, 1. Post-tribulation heresy. 2. Hardshellism on the gospel. 3. Amillennialism. Some "priesthood of the church" men have even gone on to some of the following awful, wicked, absurd and terrible heresies, 1. No sin except doctrinal and church sins. Such men should be excluded (and will be from a decent and true church) from their churches as heretics of the worst sort, amen and amen! 2. No knowledge outside the church. 3. No faith outside the church. 4. No justification outside the church. 5. Sanctified by Christ outside the church, but not sanctified in Christ. 6. A child of God, but not a son of God unless in the church. Why don't you men wake up and stop your absurd foolishness? A little common horse-sense would deliver men from such foolish, hair-splitting, wicked and sinful distinctions. 7. Not joined to Christ unless in the church. 8. Regenerated, but not saved. How ridiculous! 9. A partial rapture theory. 10. A real side-splitter: the preacher laying hands on the candidate for baptism and thus putting him in the priesthood, Ha! Ha! 11. No Holy Spirit unless in the church. This has three phases in its development. a. You don't have the Holy Spirit as a comforter unless in the church. b. You are not indwelt by the Holy Spirit unless in the church. c. No believer is indwelt by the Holy Spirit, but only the church.

Now, brethren, I know whereof I speak. I have heard all the above things — or read them — put forth by "priesthood" men. Would you believe it? Can men who in other things are sane, sensible, reasonable men actually and

seriously put forth such foolish absurdities? Can truly saved men actually put forth such sinful and wicked doctrines? Yes, they can and they do! I would not have thought that men with whom I have had sweet fellowship in the days gone by, could ever come up with such things. I grieve greatly over such. I call upon these men, as I wrote one who has long been a dear friend — Stop! Please stop! Can't you see how far you have departed from "church truth"? Please, return to the truth and stop going down this awful road of "priesthood of the church heresy." Now, I call on these men, give me one — I don't ask for two, or a dozen, or so — just give me one verse of Scripture anywhere in the Bible to support such foolish and wicked heresy as described before. I do thank God that some of these men have not gone as far down this road as others.

At a Bible conference in 1972, I was asked what I thought of this new doctrine. It was not nearly so far advanced as it now is. I replied that three things troubled me greatly about it and caused me to stand by and watch it and see what came of it, and to shun it. 1. It was a new doctrine. 2. It used too much Old Testament Scripture, whereas the church is a New Testament institution. 3. I wanted to wait and see what they did with salvation. Well, I have seen what they have done with it — at least, some of them. They have shut up salvation inside a Baptist Church, and have made the way to be saved to be baptized into a Baptist church. Don't argue with me, I have read this from some of them, and many of them teach it whether they admit it or not. They are more Campbellite and Roman Catholic on "church doctrine" than they are Baptist. Hear me, you priesthood men. What is your answer to this charge?

Now, a proper and safe attitude as to the matter of the believer and the church is as follows: Give the believer, as a believer, everything that God's Word gives him. The believer is a born-again child of God, is justified, has the indwelling Holy Spirit, has some knowledge, has faith, is a Son of God, is sanctified in Christ, can serve God somewhat, can have some rewards (many dispute this who are not priesthood men), can pray to God and other things. Now the believer must be a member of a true church in order to properly serve God, to have the best and highest, rewards, to learn the whole of truth, to have the possibility of being in the Bride of Christ and to glorify God to the highest degree. Now, let us leave it at this. Let us magnify the Lord's church. Let us preach that every believer should be in a true church. Let us preach that there are some things that one cannot have apart from being in the church. But let us not — a thousand, million times — let us not rob the believer of that which God's Word gives him.

Let us notice some of the dangers of this awful and foolish heresy. I do not know if it is more foolish or more wicked. Pride seems to be a consequence of this doctrine. I have noticed that most of its adherents seem awfully proud of their ability to see what others have been unable to see. I have noticed many of its adherents becoming very, very critical of those who are not able to learn (?) these new truths. However, I declare to you the fact of the awful ig-

(Continued on Page 3 Column 1)

## FROM THE EDITOR

"...for we are not ignorant of his (Satan's) devices" (II Cor. 2:11)

If we have the wisdom to escape Satan's devices, we should give God the glory. Satan is wiser than man, but the Holy Spirit is wiser than Satan and gives us wisdom to defeat the devices of Satan.

Calvary Baptist Church, The Baptist Examiner and pastor-editor Joe Wilson are vehemently and adamantly opposed to hardshellism, be it the old hardshellism which is honest enough to wear the name, or be it the new hardshellism which deceitfully wears the "Missionary" name. Since being editor of this paper, I have tried to make it very clear that hardshellism will not be preached in Calvary Baptist Church nor will it appear in the pages of The Baptist Examiner. I will not budge a hair's breadth on this matter.

Some hardshell heretics have sought to defeat my purpose in this by challenging me to debate the matter in the pages of T.B.E. The Holy Spirit has enabled me to see the "device" of Satan in this challenge. For should I engage in such a debate, the heresies of the hardshells would thus appear in the pages of this "Missionary Baptist" paper. It has been suggested that "since you made the charges and issued the challenge to, and about Hardshells, as a sincere and ethical editor you should print any and all replies to your charges and challenge."

I have and do make the charge that those who teach that the gospel is not used in giving spiritual life are "hardshell on the gospel" no matter what name they wear. And I do wish they would be honest enough to wear the name "hardshell" and not pretend to be "Missionary." I have and do make the charge that this doctrine is hardshell heresy. I did say and I say again, "Come on, you hardshells, let me hear from you if you have any Bible to support your doctrine." I will be glad to hear from any hardshell heretic on the matter and will study any Scripture he might give for his heresy. I did not and do not challenge such to a debate in T.B.E. I will not publish his heresies in a paper that is authorized by, supported by, and dedicated to the printing of Missionary Baptist Truth.

When I print the truth in this paper and make charges against heresy, that does not obligate me to print the charges and replies of the heretics. My sincerity and ethics are not compromised by my refusal to print heresy in this paper.

Let me just now make it very, very clear that I have no intentions now or ever of printing any debate of any kind in the pages of The Baptist Examiner. This paper is dedicated to the publishing of truth and will not be deceived by the "devices" of Satan into publishing error.



Sister Katie Wilson

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord" (Prov. 18:22).

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies" (Prov. 31:10).

These two Scriptures certainly do fit Katie Wilson: wife of editor, Joseph M. Wilson. Few things are more important to a preacher than his wife. She can be a great help. She certainly fills the purpose of God in creating woman: that is, that man might have a "help meet." I do truly praise God for Katie. She has been a great help to me in the ministry. She is very sound in the faith. She is very dedicated to the work of the Lord. She helps her husband in his ministry more than anyone can even imagine.

Now, that I am in the task here at Calvary Baptist Church, and editing The Baptist Examiner; Katie is even more of a help and a blessing to me than ever before. I truly thank God for her. I truly believe that, when I found her, I obtained a great favor from the Lord. She has stood by me and helped me

in so very many ways in my ministry. I feel that the Lord brought us together, and has been preparing us for the task here.

Those who know her, in the different churches I have pastored since we married, and in Bible conferences in different places, know that she is a fine, wonderful Christian. Many have been blessed spiritually and physically by fellowship with her. She is a wonderful hostess to the many friends who have visited us through the years. She provides our visitors with love, spiritual fellowship, hospitality in every way and especially in her kitchen.

Pray for her. Being a pastor's wife takes special grace from the Lord. It requires much more than just being an ordinary wife. I ask readers of T.B.E. to remember this fine Christian wife of the editor, and pray for her. She would want me to say, you all come and see us sometime. You will enjoy a visit in our home, and a great part of your enjoyment will be due to Sister Katie Wilson.

The Editor



## HERESY

(Continued from Page 2)

norance of those who hold this heresy. I say that ignorance of the Bible is the mother and daughter of this heresy. Then this doctrine is a great robber of the children of God. It causes those who hold it to take from the children of God — or at least, attempt to — much of that which The Bible gives them. So these three things: great pride, abysmal ignorance and terrible robbery are the necessary adjuncts of this "priesthood of the church" heresy.

Now, what does "the priesthood" mean? Who is a priest unto God? The priest has the great privilege of approaching unto God, and has the obligation of worshipping God and offering sacrifices to God. I insist, and the Bible beyond any honest or reasonable question teaches, that every believing child of God in this age is truly a priest unto God. Brother, if anything can be proven beyond doubt by the Bible, this can. Look at I Peter, which is the stronghold of these heretics on this subject. I Peter 2:5 calls some priests. Who are these priests? I Peter 1:2 tells us this is written to the elect of God. Therefore, the elect are priests. Those who are sprinkled with the blood of Jesus (1:2) are priests. Those who are begotten again (1:3) are priests. Those who have faith (1:5) are priests. Those who are saved (1:9) are priests. Those who are redeemed (1:18) are priests. The newborn babes (2:1) are priests. Those who have tasted that the Lord is gracious (2:3) are priests. Those who have come to Christ (2:4) are priests. Those who are living stones (2:5) are priests. Those who believe are priests (2:7). I could go on and on. If I Peter teaches anything about who are priests, it teaches that all the believing, born-again children of God are priests. The one who cannot see this is blinded by his prejudice.

Revelation 1:5-6 teaches us that all who are washed in Christ's blood are priests. Revelation 5:9-10 teaches that all who are redeemed by the blood are priests. This also teaches that all the redeemed are kings. I said many years ago when I heard this "priesthood" foolishness, that the next heresy would be "the kingdom of the church." I have lived to see that come to pass, for I have heard "priesthood men" say that we are now in the millennium in the church. Revelation 20:6 teaches that all who partake of the first resurrection are priests. Hebrews 10:16-19 teaches that all who are regenerated and have their sins forgiven are priests unto God. Brethren, what could be more plain in the Word of God than the fact that all saved people are priests unto God in this age?

Now what is the obligation of priests? To offer sacrifices unto God. What sacrifices are New Testament priests to offer? Romans 12:1 teaches that the believer-priests are to offer their bodies as living sacrifice to God. We are to dedicate all we are and all we have to the service of God. This is our reasonable service. Hebrews 13:15 teaches that the believer-priest is to offer a continual sacrifice of praise to God. Hebrews 13:16 teaches that the believer-priest is to offer the sacrifices of good works and sharing of material things to God.

Let us stand against the "priesthood of the church" heresy. Let us thank God that all believers are priests unto

(Continued on Page 5 Column 1)

Faith is the acorn from which the oak of holiness will grow.

## TRAIL OF BLOOD

by Willard Willis

Our fathers, in a sense of speaking, dug their own graves when they renounced false churches, but they also dug their own graves when they spoke against pagan priests, their altars and sacrifices. The success of the gospel, in fact, enraged the pagan priests. The pagan priests, in an effort to stop the growth of Christianity, made all sorts of accusations against the Christians to the governor of the land. G.H. Orchard, when writing on this matter, said:

"The first Christians were poor; and their benevolence toward each other was calculated to keep them free of worldly incumbrances, yet it is equally evident they were numerous, and the success of the gospel enraged the pagan priests, who reported to the governor the vilest accusations against them. Those vile reports were ably refuted by apologists, whose works were presented to the emperor. The insinuations of the enemy were but too credulously regarded, and often regulated the policy of the presiding governor. The priests lived by the altars. In the public games, merchants, tradesmen, mechanics, servants, and the rustic (rural, plain, simple) who sold the sacrifices, were all interested in maintaining the pagan worship. Hence the popular ridicule, contempt and persecution, which governments sometimes durst not, or could not, control. Whenever religion influenced the heart, whether of parent or child, it proved a kind of restless leaven, which attempted, by every silent and lawful means, to impregnate the whole body with which it stood connected, so that Christianity was often accused of disturbing the previous harmony of families, and of infusing sectarian principles into the inhabitants of town and provinces..." G.H. Orchard — "A Concise History of Baptists."

Christians refused to walk hand and glove with those around them. They said, and rightly so, "our way is the right way and the only way to live." Christianity, therefore, carried on its head the offensive character of a monopoly.

"It did not confine to the denial or rejection of every other system: it carried on its forehead all the offensive character of a monopoly, which, when understood, spread an alarm over the Roman empire for the security of its establishments" (Chalmer's Evid. Christianity, c4, p. 105).

Our father's were blamed for every calamity that struck the land or people. The heathen believed their Gods were angry because of the Christians who were in their midst. These facts, of course, brought the strong arm of the governments down upon our fathers. Mr. Orchard, when speaking on this matter, said:

"Every awakening province, as earthquake, famine, drought, plague, etc., was by pagans attributed to the anger of their gods against the followers of the cross; this view of things being impressed on the minds of the multitude, often occasioned the rabble (mob) to demand the blood and lives of

valuable men. It was also seen that Christianity ever maintained an uncompromising character; it forbade its friends to partake of other men's sins or pour out libations, or throw a grain of incense on the pagan altars; and this unsociable, uncommunicable temper, in matters of religion, could be regarded, by the best of the heathen in no other light, than arising from an aversion to mankind... they consequently, at times, became the



Willard Willis

objects of the most unrelenting fury, for maintaining, in their ecclesiastical community, purity of principle, and purity of practice." G.H. Orchard — "A Concise History of Baptists."

Let us now look for a moment at the early winds of government which blew against Christianity.

Our Lord was born during the reign of Augustus, when the great Roman empire was settling down to an era of two centuries of world peace and prosperity. The Romans, as was true of the Greeks before them under Alexander the Great, came to know and respect the peoples of many different civilizations and the various religions of these people. It is to be remembered that the Romans, at this time, reigned over most of the known world.

The Romans, as was true of many other civilizations, believed in many gods. They, in early times, worshipped nature gods and the gods of household, the Lares and Penates. The Roman state, as it increased in importance borrowed the Greek hierarchy and bestowed Roman names upon them. Zeus became Jove. Nera became Juno. Aphrodite was called Venus and Ares, Mars. Athens became Minerva. These gods were the patrons and protectors of the Roman state so that patriotism and religious allegiance were very closely tied together.

When Alexander the Great conquered the East, he found it necessary to appear before his subjects as the son of Zeus-Amon. The conquered people continued to worship their old gods. But since they had been conquered by the Greeks, it seemed obvious that the god of the Greeks was more powerful than their gods whose names were Marduk, or Bel, or Ashur, or Ra. They simply accepted the new god and added the statue of Zeus or Alexander to the other statues of gods in their temples. Rome followed about the same pattern when she became the great power in the world. The Roman Emperors, in fact, were deified and their statues placed in temples throughout the empire.

It became obvious that the Jewish state had a problem, since it was one of the many states that was under the Roman rule. Their problem was that they owned only one God or

Jehovah. They knew Him to be a jealous God and one who would not allow them to acknowledge, in any way, any other god. The result was that the Jews could not place the Roman gods in their temples. The Jews were fortunate, however, in that God caused the Romans not to insist that the Jews forsake their belief in one God, Jehovah. The Romans, in fact, made the Jews an exception as far as religion was concerned.

The Jews, however, encountered another problem. Such being that all soldiers of the Roman army were required to own allegiance to the Roman Emperor as the deified head of state. Here again the Romans did not press the issue and the Jews were practically exempted from military service.

Christianity, of course, in view of the fact, that many of the early Christians were Jews, encountered the same problem as did the Jewish state.

We know from history that all did not go well with the Jews as far as Rome was concerned, since the Romans completely destroyed Jerusalem in 70 A.D.

The Roman State could win wars and conquer lands, but she failed in ruling the empire she had conquered. She, in fact, failed in establishing a government that provided peace and security and one which commanded the respect and loyalty of her citizens. This, in fact, was the problem which faced Octavius in 29 B.C.

Octavius, according to historians, knew that he could not immediately dispose of all the republican institutions, so he rapidly assumed control over all of them while leaving the impression that he still relied upon them and co-operated with them. His intention, however, was to have complete authority over every institution under his jurisdiction. His name, after all, was Augustus — a name which signified that his power was absolute and autocratic (supreme). As first man in the state, Octavius, now called Augustus, also had himself named Princeps, but his most significant title was Imperator, meaning victorious general, which under him came to mean, general or commander-in-chief of the armies for life and, ultimately, emperor.

He, in order to have control over public religions, exercised the office of Pontifex Maximus (chief priest). He proceeded to initiate a policy in which religion was used to bolster civic loyalty to the state and devotion to himself as its supreme head. He died in 14 A.D. but he had succeeded in advancing the concept of imperial rule — a rule which prevailed for centuries and one which the Pope still clings to.

Augustus permitted the Senate to appoint governors to the older and peaceful provinces, but he appointed his own men to the others. He, of course, was master of every province with the governors (Pontius Pilate — Matthew 27:2 — being one of them) responsible for defense, order, administration, taxation and justice. His governors were from his military, being required to serve in the military for twenty-five years. He thereby created a civil service loyal to him and efficient in the performance of its duties.

I have mentioned these things so as to show you the condition which prevailed when our Lord

built His church and the conditions under which she was to grow. Our Lord, in what appeared to be impossible conditions for growing, planted His church and declared that the forces of the world would not destroy her.

The first church was established at Jerusalem by our Lord during the early part of His personal ministry on earth. The record of the establishment of the church at Jerusalem is found in Luke 6:13, 17:

"And when it was day, He called unto Him His disciples: (an assembly of disciples) and of them He chose twelve, whom also He named apostles; ...And He came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of His disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judea and Jerusalem and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear Him, and to be healed of their diseases." The Lord's church, in Acts 8:1, was called "the church which was at Jerusalem."

We learn from Acts 11:19-26 that members from the church at Jerusalem went to Antioch in Syria and established a church there in 41 A.D. The record also shows that Christians from Jerusalem and probably Antioch went to Rome and organized a church in about 60 A.D. We, in fact, observe from Romans 1:1, 7 that Paul addressed all the saints in Rome. He said, "to all that be in Rome, beloved of God called to be saints..." "The strangers from Rome," who heard Peter preach on the day of Pentecost, were probably the ones who formed the Lord's church at Rome.

Christians from Rome (and the Apostle Paul himself) went to Wales and preached the gospel and established churches in Wales in A.D. 63. Many Welsh soldiers, in fact, joined the Roman army while Paul was a prisoner in Rome and many Welsh families visited Rome. The record shows that among the Welsh families were Prudens and Claudia, his wife, who was also of Caesar's household. Prudens and Claudia heard the gospel from Paul and were saved. They then returned to Wales and presented the gospel to their own countrymen. A.D. 63, (Davis' History of Welsh Baptists, pp. 6-10).

"Do thy diligence to come before winter. Eubulus, greeteth thee, and Prudens and Linus, an Claudie, and all the brethren" (II Timothy 4:21).

Davis, on page 179 of his History of Welsh Baptists, says, "The supposition that Paul preached the gospel in Britain is not altogether without foundation. About six years ago, (18-29 A.D.) a polished stone of about eight feet in length, was found embosomed eight feet deep in the earth near Llandilo Vawr, in Carmarthenshire, with this inscription upon it in the Welsh language. 'Near this place has the Apostle Paul been preaching the gospel - A.D. 64!'"

"The Vale of Olchon in Wales," says Davis, "is situated between mountains

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# The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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

Concerning the judgment of the nations in Matthew 25:31-46: When will this take place? Who are the sheep? Who are the goats? Who are the brethren? Does this involve nations as such, or individuals as such?

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There are many things that will take place during the events of the last days. The judgment of the nations is one of the final events. During Christ's millennial reign, the nations will be under Christ's reign. Some nations however will rebel against His reign. "And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain." (Zech. 14:17). "For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted." (Isaiah 60:12).

In those nations will be people who serve God and those who do not. The sheep will be separated from the goats, thus we will have nations who are obedient and nations who are not. (Sheep nations and goat nations). Out of these will be individual sheep and goats who will be separated.

The brethren of Matthew 25:40 are those who have been saved by the grace of God. Anyone who helps a servant of God, regardless of his position in life or color, will be blessed.

The judgment involves both nations and individuals.

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It is interesting to observe the number of questions asked this time that are related to prophetic matters. There certainly seems to be a great interest by God's people about prophecy. Maybe this revival of interest is God's way of warning that the return of Christ draweth nigh. Let this be our prayer.

Let us answer these questions one at a time. Let me make one thing clear from the beginning; this judgment by no means is to determine who is saved and who is not. If this were true then we would be forced to believe salvation by works which we know is not true.

Question one: When will this judgment take place? I think a key phrase in these verses is the reference to the kingdom. I believe this is referring to the millennium. Therefore the tribulation is at its end and the kingdom is about to begin. This judgment will take place at the end of the tribulation and at the

start of the millennium. There is the mention in verse 31 of the Son of Man coming in His glory. This must refer to the coming of Christ as the end of the tribulation. It also mentions Him sitting on His throne from which He will reign for a thousand years. I know of no other time in history in which this event could take place.

Question two: Who are the sheep? Important in answering this question is to understand the meaning of the word nations. This is the Greek word "ethnos." According to Strong's Concordance this word is translated "people" twice, "heathen" five times, "nations" sixty-four times, and "Gentiles" ninety-three times. Based on this and the distinction between goats and brethren, I believe the sheep here represent those Gentiles who are saved in the tribulation and live through this horrible time.

Question three: Who are the goats? Again the word nations is important in understanding who the goats are. The word nations refers both to the sheep and the goats, yet is distinguished from the brethren. Remember the Greek word "ethnos" is translated Gentiles ninety-three times. Based on this, I believe the goats represent lost Gentiles who live through the tribulation and after the tribulation are gathered together for this judgment.

Question four: Who are the brethren? The brethren are distinguished from the sheep and goats. Let us remember that Christ was a Jew, therefore Israel was both His brethren by blood and by salvation. The Bible in Revelation 7:4-8 tells us of 144,000 Jews who will be saved and sealed throughout the tribulation period. I believe the brethren are the Jews who live through the tribulation.

Question five: Is this a judgment of nations or individuals? First, the word for nation in the Greek can be and is used in the Bible for individuals. (Matt. 6:31-32, 12:21, 20:19, Acts 15:3, etc.) Secondly, I know of no way God could judge a whole nation. If it is a national judgment then all would be condemned or saved based on decisions made by high ranking officials. A whole nation could not enter the Kingdom for surely there would be lost people in that nation and no lost people will enter the millennium. Thirdly, The works mentioned as the basis of the judgment are best performed by individuals and not a whole nation. Fourthly, all other judgments in God's program are individual and not national. We know that every individual is responsible for himself. I believe this will be a judgment of individuals concerning their treatment of the Jews during the Tribulation period. The Sheep are those that received the message of the Jews and were saved and treated them as brethren. The Goats are those who rejected the message and mistreated the Jews. The Sheep are allowed to enter into the

Millennium with the brethren. The goats are cast into Hell.

It is possible that there are people living today who could be present at this judgment. May this judgment, as all other prophecy, exhort us to be witnesses for Christ to our lost loved ones; realizing that unless saved they could be the goats at this judgment.

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Involving companies of individuals as nations, this particular Scripture, no doubt, relates to jurisprudence under millennial conditions.

Under such conditions, please note that, in national groupings, there are only two kinds of people, who are designated as "sheep" and "goats."

Please note also that, as to date, no such nationalities are so identified, as relating to "sheep" and "goat" nations, according to Mt. 25:31-46, where they are judicially arranged to be separated by our Lord, which would leave the "sheep" (elect-people) on His right hand and the "goat" (non-elect people) on His left hand.

Relating also to this particular time, I refer you to Isaiah 2:4 where we read that "...He (Christ) shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, and neither shall they learn war any more."

Also, it is then that Israel (as a nation born "in one day," Isa. 66:7-9) will realize their high destiny of being a blessing among and to all nations (Gen. 12:3; Isa. 2:5), when, as redeemed, they will "walk as children of light" (Eph. 5:8).

Continuing, we find that "...in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills, and people shall flow into it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths; for the law shall go forth from Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And He shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off" (Mic. 4:1-3).

As to identity, this momentous time looks beyond the rapture of the Church; yes, even beyond Daniel's prophecy of the 70th week of seven years, which will be terminated in the battle of Armageddon, as concluding the great tribulation period of 3½ years, known as the time of

Jacob's trouble.

Consequently, in preparation for this millennial reign, the timing is announced to be "When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory. And before Him shall be gathered all the nations; and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats" (Mt. 25:31, 32).

But, previous to this particular coming of the Lord, He will have come to rapture His Church saints (I Thess. 4:13-18) out of the world to remain with Him until after the battle of Armageddon, when He will come "with all His saints." This return to reign, no doubt, in being conclusive of "all saints," will also include Old Testament saints, as well as "all the holy angels" (Mt. 25:31).

Then, in separating the "sheep" nations from the "goat" nations, He will "say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world..." (Mt. 25:34-44).

Then, regarding the "goat" nations and the "sheep" nations, His summation is, as to destiny, that "these (the "goat" nations) shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous ("sheep" nations) into life eternal" (Mt. 25:46). This particular jurisprudence, in judgment, wisely discriminated between those who did, or did not, have Christ Himself as the Supreme Personal object of all their deeds, which is also applicable to this Church Age.

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"When the Son of Man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory: and before Him shall be gathered all nations:—" (Matt. 25:31, 32).

This passage tells us that this judgment will take place when Christ comes back to set up His kingdom. This will be at the end of the great tribulation described in Revelation. This judgment is to be of the living, therefore it is not to be confused with the great white throne judgment of Revelation 20 where all the wicked dead are to be judged.

Although the word "nations," according to Strong's concordance is translated "people" twice, it is translated "nation" sixty-four times and "gentiles" ninety-three times. From this it seems that this judgment is a judgment of the Gentile nations at the close of the tribulation.

The nations will be judged as to how they received the message brought unto them by the brethren, "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me" (Matt. 25:40). Joel 3:2 tells us that Israel is concerned in this judgment, "I will also gather all nations — and will plead with them there for My people and for My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the na-

tions and parted My land." In Isaiah 66 it seems that this reference to Israel is restricted to a specific group of believing witnesses for we are told, "And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, — and they shall declare My glory among the Gentiles" (Isa. 66:19-20). Their message will be the gospel for we are told, "—this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14).

In the seventh chapter of Revelation it is recorded that there will be 144,000 believing Jews who are sealed to be witnesses of God during the tribulation period. In verses 9-17 we see some of the fruits of their witnessing where we are told that a great multitude from all nations, kindreds, people, and tongues have been redeemed.

From this it seems that the "brethren" are the Jewish witnesses who will be witnessing to the nations during the tribulation period.

In summary, I believe the goats are the Gentile nations who rejected the message and the messengers and will therefore receive their just punishment. The sheep are the Gentile nations who receive and believe the message of the witnesses (My brethren) and treat them in kindness. They show their faith by their actions toward these witnesses, by feeding, clothing, and visiting them in prison.

As to the question of whether this judgment will involve nations on a national basis or on an individual basis is a question hard to answer as there seems to be grounds for each position. I believe it to be on a national basis. I base this on the fact that individuals will be judged at the great white throne judgment of Revelation 20 and that God in the past has punished nations on a national basis by banishing them from the face of the earth for mistreating His people, the Jews. We need only to read of what happened to Moab and Edom, Babylon, Assyria, Chaldea, and other nations who mistreated the Jews. (See Jeremiah 45-52). In Revelation 12:5 we are told that Christ will, "rule all nations with a rod of iron." From this we see there will be nations during His reign.

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"Concerning the judgment of the nations in Matthew 25:31-46: When will this take place?" Chronologically the judgment of the nations comes soon after the defeat of the Antichrist and his armies in the battle of Armageddon, and the restoration of Israel to their covenant land (Matt. 25:32; Joel 3:1, 2).

"When will this take place?" At the second advent of Christ to earth (Matt. 25:31).

"Who are the sheep?" Of the forty-three times the term "sheep" is used in the N.T., it is used forty times to designate the elect of God, and of the three remaining usages none are in the derogatory sense. Furthermore, the sheep are seen sitting in the

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## FORUM

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place of favor, the right hand of Christ (Mt. 15:33). The metaphor "sheep" is used to represent all the Gentile elect who have physically survived the Antichrist tribulation, and they shall enter the millennial earth and be used to further populate it.

"Who are the goats?" The "goats" are synonymous with the "tares" of Matthew 13:30, who are gathered in religious and political bundles that they might be burned. The bundling process is now in progress, and shall realize its ultimate in the seven year tribulation period. But their efforts shall all be in vain, and the number of them whom God allows to escape His tribulation vengeance on the Antichrist shall appear at the left hand of Christ with their damnable mark of the beast.

"Who are the brethren?" In the spiritual sense all the elect of God are the brethren of Christ (Rom. 8:29; Heb. 2:11), but the sense in which it is used in Matthew 25:40 is inclusive of both spiritual and physical relationship, and is a reference to the seed of Israel who came through the great tribulation.

"Does this involve nations as such, or individuals as such?" To involve nations is to involve individuals, for a nation is nothing more than the number of individuals collectively constituting the nation. Prior to the judgment the sheep are separated from the reprobate nations, and the condemned heads and ruling bodies of the ill-destined nations are gathered before the Lord to hear the sad and eternally heart-rending verdict.

## HERESY

(Continued from Page 3)

God. Let us be faithful as priests in offering the spiritual sacrifices unto God which are taught in the Bible. After all, what good is a privilege if we don't use it?

I urge all to carefully study this article. It is my fervent desire and prayer that this study will help strengthen those who believe the truth, and guard them against this heresy. Also, that it might help recall some from the foolish and wicked heresy of "priesthood of the church." May God bless you all!

## UNITY

(Continued from Page 1)

simple proposal. It does not take any complicated steps, nor does it require a large number of committees to implement it. It will work in any community regardless of its size, or the number of denominations which it contains. It is a proposal which is both Scriptural and moral. It contains a good measure of common sense.

My proposal for Christian unity is simply this: This Sunday every person who has really and truly had a conversion experience, every person who is trusting in the blood of Jesus Christ and that alone for his salvation, regardless of their denomination or religious upbringing, ought to attend the services of their local sovereign grace, New Testament, Missionary Baptist Church, and ask that church to baptize them and admit them as members. If all the pastors, deacons and members of every Presbyterian, Methodist, Lutheran, Brethren, Mennonite, Assembly of God,

Church of Christ, and all other denominations would take this simple step it would eliminate all divisions and would unite all Christians in the work of the Lord.

"But that is impossible," you say. Is it? Why? When we begin to look at the question of unity as the question of why doesn't every Christian join a New Testament Baptist Church, we begin to see the truth contained in the text, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"

The first great dividing point between Baptists and all others is the question of salvation. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me" (John 14:6). Ephesians 2:8, 9 tells us, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast." To join a Baptist church you must have already been saved by the grace of God. Other churches do not teach or believe in salvation by grace alone, outside of church membership. They say you are saved by baptism, or by church membership, or by a mixture of grace and works. A disbelief of what the Bible says about salvation keeps many who call themselves Christians from joining a Baptist church. Instead of relying upon what Christ has already done, they wish to rely upon what they can do for themselves.

The second great dividing point between Baptists and all others is the question of baptism. Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist — not Mark the Methodist, Peter the Pentecostal or Luke the Lutheran, but by John THE BAPTIST. Jesus was baptized by immersion. Immersion is the only kind of baptism found in the Scriptures. "And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there..." (John 3:23). "They went down both into the water... and when they were come up out of the water..." (Acts 8:38, 39). The Greek word baptizo as shown in all recognized lexicons and Greek dictionaries means immerse and nothing else.

There are many who disbelieve what the Bible says about baptism. They prefer to follow their vain traditions and sprinkle or pour, then call their act baptism, when it is nothing of the sort. They will not submit to that same act that Jesus and all the New Testament disciples submitted to. They would rather submit to an act of their own choosing, so they will not join the Baptists.

The third great dividing point between Baptists and all others is the question of authority. Baptists believe that when Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build my church:" and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18), He did exactly what He said He would do. Baptists believe that, "Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen" (Ephesians 3:21). All others think that they can glorify God outside of the organization which Jesus Christ instituted. They say they can build their own church, or build on to the church which Calvin or Luther or Wesley started. They say they can do as good a job with their church as what Christ does with His.

Baptists say that Jesus did indeed start a church, just as the Bible says He did. Baptists say that Christ gave power and authority unto that church, just as the Bible says He did. Baptists say a Christian ought to be a member of a body that is just exactly like that body which Christ organized and commissioned. That body which is known as a sovereign grace, landmark, New Testament, Missionary Baptist Church.

The problem of Christian divisions is not the fault of the Baptists. They are willing, and have always been willing, to take in anyone who is truly converted, willing to be baptized with true baptism, and willing to submit themselves to the authority of the local church. The problem of division is caused by those who, for whatever reason, wish to go against the clear teachings of the Scriptures. It is caused by those who believe in works instead of grace, by those who believe in sprinkling instead of baptism, and by those who wish to rebel rather than submit to the authority of the church of Jesus Christ.

If you are a Christian and are not a member of a true church, you ought to consider your position very carefully. Jesus Christ was a Baptist and is the head of every New Testament Baptist Church today. If it is a good enough church for Jesus Christ, isn't it a good enough church for you?

## MANASSEH

(Continued from Page 1)

flourished in his father's reign.

3. Hezekiah broke the Brazen Serpent into many pieces that the people had learned to worship.

4. It was said of Hezekiah, that he completely trusted in God for every matter. He separated himself from the evil alliance with the Assyrians that his father had set up earlier.

NOW, MANASSEH, KNEW BETTER. He knew the differences between what was right and wrong. Let's consider the following about this King:

I. THE CHOICE OF MANASSEH — 2 Kings 21:2-18.

Manasseh means "Forgetting." The Webster Dictionary says, "To be unable to think of or recall, To fail to become mindful of at the proper time, Neglect, Disregard." How true that is of all mankind. He forgot — He did not know the God of his righteous father. God has no Grandchildren. Rather, Manasseh followed in the evil footsteps of his wicked Grandfather, Ahaz. But then, that is not unusual when we consider what the Word of God has to say about mankind. Manasseh was just like the rest of mankind, a sinner that is alienated from God on his own choice.

The Apostle Paul, the Theologian of the New Testament gives to us a very interesting picture concerning man and his relationship to God. As man stands before God, the following can be noted from the third chapter of Romans:

1. The Physician has examined man and found: That his speech has betrayed himself; that his feet are swift to get him into trouble; that his hands have clinched the whole matter. As Isaiah said, Man is sick from the top of his head to the bottom of his foot.

2. The Historian has written the record of man. The job of the historian is to tell what he sees. In the past, the actions of

man has only condemned him. In the present situation, man is condemning himself. And in the future will bring out the same verdict. Man is undone — depraved — unfit — lost — on his way to a Devil's Hell.

3. The Judge of the Universe has thus given HIS DIVINE VERDICT: Man is GUILTY because he is lacking: Righteousness; Understanding; Refuses to seek after Almighty God; Has abandoned the ONLY WAY: and the true traits of man is simply this, he is unprofitable.

Therefore, it is no wonder that Manasseh freely accepted the false teachings of the day as his own way of belief. It was totally in keeping with his nature — It was the natural thing to happen. He was a Sinner and was going in the only direction he could — apart from God. Manasseh allowed the practices of: Moloch worship; Sorcery; Demonism; and Evil was permitted to flourish during his reign.

Manasseh was only twelve years old when he assumed the throne of his father. He had been born during the fifteen additional years God had given to Hezekiah. He knew the difference, but chose to go the other way. His reign is described as an abomination before God and the heathen. He can not be excused for his actions, though he naturally did that which his nature dictated to him.

II. THE CHASTISEMENT OF MANASSEH — 2 Kings 21:10.

First, came the proclamation of that chastisement, — vs. 10-11. WHY? Because for many years, nearly a half century, he deliberately duplicated the DEPRAVITY of the CANAANITES of whom Joshua was commissioned to destroy, because he had murdered many of the righteous men of Jerusalem. Tradition tells us that he had the Prophet Isaiah killed — sawed in two, because the people of God (Israel) tolerated this utter paganism of Manasseh.

Second, the suddenness of this Judgment. It comes when least expected. The Bible teaches, that all will some day stand before God and give an account. Now was the time for Manasseh to answer to God. Thank God, it was BY HIS DIVINE SOVEREIGN WILL that GOD INTERVENED in his behalf, just like God did in the case of Saul of Tarsus.

III. THE CONTRITION OF MANASSEH — 2 Chron. 33:11-13.

The First thing that happened, Manasseh recognized his sinful condition — And it was all his own doing. He had sinned before Almighty God — Rom. 3:23; Ez. 18:4. My friend, you can not be saved until you RECOGNIZE your need. It is God that bring you to that place. Without His Saving Working Power, No One Would Ever Get Saved.

The second thing that happened, he humbled himself before Almighty God. In other words, he REPENTED. John the Baptist came preaching repentance and so did our Lord Jesus Christ. Peter told the people to REPENT on the Day of Pentecost and the Apostle Paul informed the people that God expected all to REPENT — Acts 2:38, 17:30.

The third thing that happened, he prayed to Jehovah God. We know that God heard him, for it is recorded in the Word of God. The Apostle John tells us that God heareth not sinners. The prayer was not for salvation, but rather because he had

already believed God. This man found GRACE not because of something that he had done, but because of what GOD did for him. "Salvation is of the Lord," Jonah 2:9. We are SAVED, not because of our WORKS, but because of HIS SURE MERCY. It is not of WORKS and we have nothing to BOAST. Our SALVATION is of God from the very beginning to the end. He not only SAVES US, but praise God, HE keeps us by the same POWER. He, Jehovah God, is the ONE to whom we owe it all. IT IS ALL OF GRACE.

IV. THE CORRECTION OF HIS PAST LIFE OF SIN: 2 Chron. 33:15-16.

Because of the GRACE OF GOD, his name no longer means or shows what his attitude towards God had been. He was touched by the hand of God. He knew what God expected of him as HIS CHILD. Thus we can see the evidences of GENUINE SALVATION in the life of Manasseh.

First, Manasseh repaired the altar of the Lord that he had previously torn down.

Second, Manasseh made his sacrifices on that altar before God.

Third, Manasseh commanded Judah to serve the TRUE and LIVING GOD.

Fourth, Manasseh rebuilt the wall near the Fish Gate.

Fifth, Manasseh destroyed the idols and the altars from the Temple that he had previously erected.

Conclusion:

Thank God, HE saved a man like Manasseh. There is hope for us today. The Bible says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." In fact, our Lord says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me," John 14:6. Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28).

"Jesus has paid it all" — He died for many that they might live. God chose Manasseh, effected Salvation for him just as He does today. Truly we can say, "Salvation is of the Lord." It is all of GRACE.

## BLOOD

(Continued from Page 3)

almost inaccessible. It is a fact that cannot be controverted that there were Baptists here at the commencement of the Reformation; and no man upon earth can tell when the church was founded, and who began to baptize in this little Piedmont. Whence came these Baptists? It is universally believed that it is the oldest church but how old none can tell. We know that, at the Reformation, in the reign of Charles the First, they had a minister named Howell Vaughan." Mr. Davis says, regarding the "Olchon Church," that they "were plain, strict, apostolic Baptists." (Davis' History p. 10).

Munger, when speaking of the Baptist Churches in Wales, said, "Mr. Davis and many other reputable historians, show the continued existence of Baptist churches in Wales from A.D. 63 up to A. D. 1770."

"Baptists here (Wales) lay claim to great antiquity, affirming that they date back to the first century, and holding

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## MIRACLE

(Continued from Page 1)

nihilated. Good thing for the city of Nineveh. God was judge and not Jonah.

Beloved, do we also want this today? Do we preach repentance to lost people, because we love to see them saved or would we rather they would perish? Jonah had disobeyed God's first commission because revival in Nineveh would not bring safety to Israel according to his view: "And he prayed unto the Lord and said, I pray thee, O Lord, was not this my saying when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil" (Jonah 4:2). Jonah is saying I knew you wouldn't do it, I knew you were too soft. Jonah was impressed with the size of the city. God was concerned with its lost people and their wicked ways (Jonah 3:3). Beloved, are we concerned today? Listen: "For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was" (James 1:23, 24). What kind of a messenger are we today? Do we really care?

THE MESSAGE: Beloved,

## BLOOD

a tradition that the Apostle Paul visited their mountains and preached among them two whole years, founding churches which continued unto this day (A.D. 1874)." (Religions of the World, p. 414).

The Baptists churches in Wales should be of great interest to us Baptists in America, since, according to Benedict's History of Foreign and American Baptists, p. 288, "Most Baptist churches in America originated with the Baptists in England and Wales."

"In the year 1701, Thomas Griffiths and fifteen of the members of the church went to America in the same vessel. They formed themselves into a church at Milford, in the County of Pembroke, South Wales, and Griffiths became their pastor in June, 1701. They embarked on board the ship James and Mary, and on the eighth day of September following they landed at Philadelphia. They were received courteously and advised by the brethren to settle about Penepeck, which they did, and remained there for about a year and a half. While there they received twenty-one more into the church, but finding it inconvenient to abide there they purchased land in the County of Newcastle and gave it the name of Welch Tract, where they built a meeting house. Thomas Griffiths labored among them as their pastor till he died on July 25, 1725 aged 80 years."

"Thomas Griffiths was born in 1645, in the parish of Llanfarnach, county of Pembroke."

"He was baptized and became a member of the church at Rhydwlun in 1677." (Davis History of the Baptists, pp. 72, 73).

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Faith laughs at that which fear weeps over.

when Jonah entered Nineveh his words were few, but they were God's words. "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown." Eight words, but they were God's words. "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (Isa. 55:11). One cannot play with God and escape judgment. Judgment is sure (Hebrews 9:27 and Philippians 2:9-11). Forty days may seem like a short time, how long do you have? Please read Proverbs 27:1, 29:1, and Numbers 23:19. Beloved, judgment is sure.

THE RESULTS: Nineveh was great in population. Revival swept through the whole city, from the person in the highest position to the person in the lowest position. "So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them, even to the least of them" (Jonah 3:5). The people repented, they turned from sin and turned to God. A miracle indeed by God Himself.

CLOSING THOUGHT: Regardless of what they saw in Jonah, Nineveh was convinced of his message. God can use the message in spite of the messenger. They believed God. It does not say they believed Jonah, it says they believed God. Beloved, we should deliver our message in such a way that the people see the message, not us. Listen: "The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here" (Matt. 12:41). Beloved, it is serious business to proclaim God's Word. Salvation, whether a person or a nation, is a miracle of God. The greatest miracle!

## HATH GOD CAST AWAY HIS PEOPLE

by Roy Snell  
Charleston, W. Va.  
(Romans 11:1)

Even as I am able to anticipate the reaction of some, I am about to further express my personal views on the happenings in the Mid East today. Having viewed and studied the various and divergent eschatological theories and reasonings, I yet have remained unabashedly, unashamedly and unapologetically pre-trib and pre-mil. Having adopted this stance without any coercion I consider myself locked in on the status of the Jew, both in the world today and in my sovereign Lord's plans for the future. Here then is where I inevitably arouse the ire of some of those in contemporary Christendom, yea, many Baptists and some who give lip service to the absolute sovereignty of my Lord. The Lord judge between thee and me.

One of those end-time theories is adamant in holding that God has finalized His dealings with the Israelite — and that the covenants and myriad of promises made to His Chosen People have now been conferred upon the church, even as though the Jew no longer exists. I fully respect the rights of any to change both mind and viewpoints, even on Biblical matters, and I see somewhat of an exodus



QUESTION:—What was the first cellar mentioned in the Bible used for?

ANSWER: — Wine, First Chronicles 27:27 — "...over the increase of the vineyards for the wine cellars was Zabdi the Shiphmite."

by some, out of the pre-mil camp and into the A-Millennialism school of thought. Almost to the man, these A-Mil or neo A-Mil adherents deny that my Lord has any further and/or future appointments with the Jew.

While I pray to be charitable and understanding and tolerant, within scriptural bounds and guidelines, I am still aware of a hedge, a barrier between those who have managed to write off the Jew, and myself. Not necessarily a diminishing of friendship humanly speaking, but a restriction and a coolness in regards a spiritual church fellowship. Amos 3:3: "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"

Many of my religious peers are wont to point at Menachim Begin as proof positive that God is not "in" that nation which arose, Phoenix wise, from the ashes, back in 1948. They contend that he is not even an Israelite and are quick to point out the excesses and the transgressions of the man, in his leadership of this beleaguered people. My contention is that if one reads his Bible and allows the Word to speak to him, he must find that the personal conduct of Menachim Begin is neither pertinent, nor relevant, nor does it have any bearing on the motivating force behind all the unrest and violence in the Mid East today.

From time immemorial, at least in Abram's day in 2126 B.C., the Lord God has had an everlasting covenant with His people. The semantics, the terminology, the language entailed in some of these unconditional promises made to His Chosen People just as surely carry the very same weight as the promise of eternal life to the New Testament believer. Hence, we must concede the everlasting, the forever, the eternal promise is surely embodied in those decrees which our changeless Lord has made. A careful study of the prophetic contents of His Word to and for us will just as surely reveal that some of His infallible promises and predictions are yet future. Would you charge that He has deceived us? "For I am the Lord, I change not..." (Malachi 3:6). "...God that cannot lie..." (Titus 1:2). Then it becomes an inescapable fact that there remaineth yet a day when they "shall beat their swords into plowshares... neither shall they learn war anymore" (Micah 4:3). Beloved, we haven't experienced that as of today.

In His dealing with his finite and fallible creatures He just as assuredly has raised up both princes and knaves to do His bidding He maketh the wrath of men to praise Him. He said of Pharaoh: "Even for this purpose have I raised thee up, that I might show my power in thee, and that my name

might be declared throughout all the earth" (Romans 9:17). So whether Menachim Begin is a crook or crusader, benefactor or bandit, bane or boon to the Israeli cause, if my Sovereign Lord designs to use him, who can tell Him nay. Remember, beloved, He made an ass to speak and rebuke Balaam. So He can use Begin whenever and in whatever capacity he wills to do so. "Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with my own" (Matthew 20:15). Everyman is God's "own" by virtue of creation, being born when God willed it and will depart this vale of tears when God says enough. And in the interim man will perform precisely as God permits, even yet, while he knows nothing of grace.

Our Lord has warned His people that for their continuous backslidings and disobedience they would be dispersed throughout the nations of the world, there to be cruelly persecuted and harrassed. This we have seen and are now seeing. In every age and in every generation there have been those who have perpetrated every conceivable outrage against the Jew. Except that our Lord has a future restoration, promised by a God that cannot lie to these people and except that His hand had restrained in a measure, those oppressors, the Jew would have long since vanished from the face of our earth.

However Hebrews 6:17 and 18 speaks of the immutability of God's promises and the impossibility of Him lying, so thus a remnant of Israel is guaranteed a future glory in and with our Lord, such a glorious future sealed by His own lips.

What the final consummation will entail is pure conjecture, but any God who can call forth the dead from the grave and then catch up we which are alive and remain into the clouds — such an omnipotent Lord will experience no difficulty in catching up the remainder of His scattered and dispersed people and restoring and depositing them, finally for all time, upon those lands now being so bitterly contested for. If you will, a "rapture" for the Jew, even as the rapture for the church — my A-Mil dissenter notwithstanding. Come quickly. Even so, come Lord Jesus.

You discerning readers are seeing biblical history in the making and the prophetic Scriptures unfolding before your very eyes. Your own nation is humiliated by a minute ragtag nation of fanatical bandits — your citizens unlawfully imprisoned and sovereign property confiscated and destroyed. For over a year we fiddle faddle and procrastinate and beg and kowtow, finally committing a foolish and tragic blunder and lose some of our precious fellow men in the act. In their own good time and on their own terms those bandits, having proved their point and made Uncle Sam the laughingstock of the so-called civilized world, agree to release the hostages. Now compare that situation with Israel's reaction to another encounter with a host of murderous terrorists and bandits who would dare to attempt to harass and humiliate God's Chosen People. A fine friend told me just recently that the only mistake the Israelis had made was to stop on the outskirts of the city of Beirut. His contention was that they should have gone straight in and put an end once and for all to the murderous regime of Yassar Arafat and his PLO forces.

Wouldn't you imagine that the United States and at least the free world would express some admiration and gratitude toward Begin and his redoubtable forces? Well, forget it. Such would be contrary to the prophetic word — if the Bible be true the world at large can

(Continued on Page 8 Column 3)

## FROM A PASTOR'S NOTEBOOK

A GLORIOUS INVITATION (Heb. 4:16).

Int: A. One could call this sermon, WHERE TO GET WHAT YOU WANT. B. One could call it ONE-STOP SHOPPING. These would be good and interesting subjects. C. We call it by the above title. D. The homiletical method will be that of questions and answers.

1. What is the basis of this invitation?

(Note the word "therefore.") In the Bible this word is a signpost which usually points backward to some doctrine of blessing, and points forward to consequent duty to be performed.

A. The priestly work of Christ in verses 14-15 forms the basis of this glorious invitation.

1. We do have a great high priest who has performed His priestly work. We know our unworthiness. We come in His name and on the basis of His work.

2. Who is invited to come?

A. Only the "us" who have received Jesus Christ as our High Priest.

B. Not all men.

1. Prayer is the peculiar privilege of the children of God.

3. To what place are we invited to come?

A. The throne of Grace. That place where God bestows His blessings.

4. How are we to come?

A. Boldly. This means telling all. This means with confidence.

B. Continually. Come and come and come again. Keep on coming. Come anytime you want to and stay as long as you desire.

5. For what things are we to come?

A. Mercy and forgiveness for our daily sins.

1. We know we are not without sin. We know we need continual mercy.

2. Thank God, there is forgiveness for the sinning children of God. I John 1:9.

B. For grace to help in the time of need.

1. For any and all of our needs, especially our spiritual needs.

2. For the exact times we need these blessings.

6. Conclusion.

A. This is the kind of Saviour a sinner needs.

B. Saved people should be faithful in responding to this glorious invitation.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Beginning Balance —  
December 1 ..... \$3,267.66  
Receipts ..... 4,067.50  
..... \$7,335.16  
Expenditures:  
Labor ..... \$ 874.80  
Printing ..... 892.90  
Postage ..... 369.70  
Supplies ..... 156.00  
Taxes  
(FICA-Labor) .. 157.80  
Total Expenditures \$2,451.30  
Balance -  
December 31, 1982 \$4,883.86



## BRIEF STUDIES IN REVELATION

By The Editor

You must understand the chronology of the Tribulation period. Time is moving while the seals are opened, the trumpets blown and the vials poured out. The rest is parenthetical dealing with characters and events of the tribulation. The next event following the pouring out of the seventh vial in 16:21 is the coming of the Lord to the Battle of Armageddon in 19:11. Chapters 17 & 18 are parenthetical, dealing with two different Babylons of the end time.

The great whore in chapter seventeen is the Roman Catholic Church. I really see no grounds for anyone to dispute this. The identification is very clear in verses 1-6. Now, true churches are the espoused bride of Jesus Christ. A harlot woman is often pictured in Scripture as the symbol of a false church and of a false religion. I might say that the Roman Catholic Church is the harlot bride of Satan himself. Watching two teams on the football field, one is able to tell the teams apart from the color of their uniforms. The scarlet and purple of verse 4 are the colors of Rome. The pope must wear five articles of scarlet color when installed in his horrible, wicked and anti-christian office. The cardinals wear purple and scarlet at all of the great Roman Catholic festivals. Surely, those who have seen Roman Catholic celebrations in person or on T.V. will recognize this wicked team of this chapter by its colors.

The verses speak of the great whore. We are not looking for that which is small or of little significance. Surely the Roman Catholic Church, if it be a whore, is a great whore. Verses 1 and 15 speak of the worldwide influence of this great whore, and surely picture the tremendous influence of the R.C. Church. Verse 4 speaks of the wealth of this organization. The Roman Catholic Church has become rich by dealing in liquor, trafficking in the souls of men, and by its horrible, man-made, money-stealing scheme of purgatory.

Verse 9 speaks of the "seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth." Even a school boy can immediately identify these as the seven hills of Rome. Verse two speaks of the fornication between this great whore and the kings of the earth. This speaks of the unholy alliance of church and State. The Roman Catholic Church has ever sought alliance with the civil power, and always dominated such when able to do so. The Roman Catholic Church is much more of a political than a religious organization. The Protestant Churches are the harlot daughters mentioned in verse 5, and these have imitated their mother in this fornication with the kings of the earth.

In verse 6, this woman is described as "drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus..." The Roman Catholic Church is the most murderous organization ever to exist on the earth. This is not a matter of opinion. It is an undeniable fact. Last night I read of the murder of the French Huguenots in St. Bar-

tholomew's Day massacre by the Roman Catholics. The Roman Catholic Church makes Hitler's Storm Troopers, Stalin's murderers and the Mafia look like Sunday School choir-boys. It is conservatively estimated that this murderous whore killed over 50,000,000 saints of God in the Dark Ages, and most of them were Baptists. Surely, these marks identify this great whore as the Roman Catholic Church. You will say that it is awful to call this church a great whore. Well, if it is a degrading comparison, it is degrading to a whore. No street-walking prostitute has ever been as wicked, as thieving, or as murderous as the Roman Catholic Church.

Revelation 17:4 tells us of the golden cup in the hands of this whore. This represents her outward appeal to the world. Outwardly, she is an attractive organization. Her religious ceremonies are appealing to the flesh. Her extreme wealth is alluring. Her schools and hospitals present a beautiful outward picture. But one had better check up on how much she does in schools and hospitals in lands where she is in power. She cares not for the bodies, minds, or souls of men. She only pretends such to appeal to men where she is not already in dominating power.

Now, notice the awful contents of this golden cup in verse 4. It is "full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication." Oh, how vile she is on the inside. There are her false doctrines, many of which come directly from heathenism. By her teachings she forever relinquishes the right to be called a Christian Church. She is far more heathen than Christian. This cup is filled with her murderous acts. It is filled with sin. There is no more sinful organization upon this earth than the Roman Catholic Church. Her doctrines lead to and encourage men in the practice of the vilest sins known to human history. Look at her confession, penance, indulgences and purgatory. All these are designed to encourage men to live like the devil on this earth. Look at the pretended celibacy of her priests and pretended virginity of her nuns. This was the standing joke of the Middle Ages. The priest is usually a whore-monger, and the nuns are usually unpaid whores. They are the direct descendants of the sacred prostitutes of heathenism. Show me nuns in the Bible. No wonder the Bible refers to "forbidding to marry" as a "doctrine of devils" (I Tim. 4:1-3).

Notice her "mystery name" in v. 5: "Babylon the Great." Why this name? Because the Roman Catholic Church is the embodiment and culmination of the idolatry which began in ancient Babylon and spread over the known world. The idolatrous, anti-Scriptural doctrines and practices of the Roman Catholic church can be traced easily to the idolatry of ancient Babylon. xmas and easter (small letters deliberate) are prime examples. Thank God, Baptist churches did not come from this great whore.

Note the harlot daughters of

v. 5. True Baptist Churches are the true churches of Jesus Christ. The Protestant churches are the harlot daughters of this great whore. True churches will cease at the Rapture of the saints. The church of the tribulation will be the Roman Catholic Church to which will have been united all false churches. This unionizing movement is progressing rapidly in our day and is a probable indication of the nearness of the rapture.

In verses 7-13, we have the angel's interpretation of the mystery John had seen. Verses 7-8 explain the Beast. Here we see his history; past and present, and his future damnation and the world's wonder (actually religious awe and worship) of the Anti-christ. But, praise God, we see that the elect, whose names were written in the Lamb's book of life from eternity, will not worship the beast. No, Mr. Arminian, names are not written in this book at the time of one's salvation experience. Rather, this book is a closed book from before the foundation of the world. The salvation experience reveals that one's name was written therein from eternity.

Verse 9 identifies for us the fact that the city of Rome is referred to here. In verses 10-13 we have the seven kings and the beast set forth. This is a very difficult passage. Some believe the reference is to seven world empires beginning with Egypt and continuing through the reign of anti-christ. Others believe the reference is to seven forms of Roman government, one followed by the other. Others believe the reference is to seven personal kings; that the beast is the eighth, and is of the seven: that he is one of the seven returned from the dead and thus is one of the seven, and also, the eighth. I prefer the latter interpretation. Here, also, we learn of the final perdition of the anti-christ.

Verse 14 tells us of the ten kings and their unsuccessful war with the Lamb. The ten kings represent the revived Roman Empire in its ten-kingdom form. The anti-christ takes power over the whole. This war is a preview statement concerning the battle of Armageddon. The Lamb's followers in that battle are called, chosen and faithful: they are the bride of Jesus Christ. Elected and effectually called, as are all the saved, but also faithful in the Lord's church which qualifies them to be a part of the Bride. The Lamb is victorious. We knew He would be. He is Lord of lords and King of kings and no one can defeat Him.

Verses 15-18 describe the destruction of the great whore. Praise God! The Roman Catholic Church was not planted by God and will be uprooted in God's appointed time (Matt. 15:13). The worldwide influence of this great religious whore is again described.

The Beast and his cohorts destroy this religious whore. Goodby, Roman Catholicism! The world has long enough been oppressed by your wickedness. Verse 17 sets forth the sovereignty of God, even over the hearts and minds of wicked men. All men will be so governed by God as to bring about the fulfilling of His eternally predestinated purposes. Amen and amen! This woman is compared to a great city because of her world-wide powers.

What Babylon is that described in chapter 18? Many think this is a continuing description

of Roman Catholicism, but here pictured as a city instead of as a woman. Verse 17:18 lends some support to this view. Some believe that chapter 17 refers to ecclesiastical Babylon, and ch. 18 to political and commercial Babylon. I take the position that the Babylon of ch. 18 is the literal, rebuilt city of Babylon. Isaiah 13:6-9 places the final destruction of Babylon in the Day of the Lord, which is an Old Testament phrase referring to the Tribulation. The prophecies of Isaiah 13 and of Jeremiah 50-51 have never been literally and completely fulfilled, and all prophecy has been literally fulfilled (that which has already been fulfilled) and will and must be literally fulfilled. Revelation ch. 18 is the final, literal and complete fulfillment of the Prophecies of Isaiah and Jeremiah relative to the fall of Babylon. It seems that Zechariah 5:5-11 is a prophecy relating to the establishing of a commercial capital in Babylon in the last days. Then, too, the literal interpretation of Revelation, which I strongly advocate, will lead to the conclusion that this is a literal city.

Now, let us notice some contrasts between the Babylons mentioned in Chapters 17 and 18. The first is a woman, the second is a city. The woman is called mystery Babylon, there is no recorded reason for not understanding the second as literal. The woman is destroyed by the kings of earth, the second one's fall is lamented by these kings. This is positive proof that the two are not the same. The woman is destroyed in the middle of the Tribulation, the city, at its end chapter 18:1 tells us that the events of this chapter occur after the events of the preceding chapter. I feel certain that the Babylon of chapter 18 is rebuilt Babylon, and will be the commercial capital of the kingdom of the anti-christ.

The fall of Babylon is announced in verses 1-3. The announcement is made by a mighty angel crying mightily with a strong voice. The horribly wicked inhabitants of the city are described. Her commercial wickedness is set forth as one of the reasons for her destruction. We might ask if all commercial centers have not eventually become centers of great wickedness? All history answers in the affirmative.

In verses 4-6, God's people are called upon to come out of Babylon. This reminds us of God's deliverance of Lot from Sodom just prior to its destruction. Some of the saved are living in Babylon at this time, and will be delivered from its destruction by this call from God. God knows and remembers the iniquities of Babylon, and tells of her coming destruction.

God's indictments against Babylon are set forth in verses 7-8. Her self-glory and self-confidence are specially condemned. God's speedy and complete destruction of Babylon is announced.

The mourning of the kings of the earth over the destruction of Babylon is described in verses 9-10. This city had meant much to them. They had been supremely interested in her commercialism.

In verses 11-16 the merchants of earth mourn over the fall of Babylon. They had been made rich by the commercialism of this city. This was all they cared for. Note the reference to "the souls of men" in v. 13. Commercialism swallows up and destroys, and makes merchan-

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dise of the souls of men. Note that in verse 14, that which men desire above all else will be lost forever. Oh, the things of this world last but for a season, and then are gone forever! Why not lay up treasures in heaven which will endure eternally?

The shipmasters mourn over the destruction of Babylon in verses 17-19. This commercial capital of anti-christ's kingdom had been the promoting means of their riches. Now note how the kings, the merchants, and the shipmasters all mourn over the fall of this city. Her commercialism had made them rich. Now that was all gone. Earthly treasures were all they wanted, and consequently, all they received. With these gone, all was gone. They had gained a part of the world, but lost their own souls. What a miserable bargain! I do not see how anyone can fail to see that the Babylon of ch. 17 is a religious one, while that of this chapter is a commercial one. The difference is too patent for one to think both chapters refer to the same thing.

Notice in verse 20 how the inhabitants of Heaven rejoice over the fall of Babylon. The difference between the mourning of those on earth and the rejoicing of those in Heaven sets forth the difference of that in which each was interested. Nothing can be a surer test and evidence of character than to note what one is interested in and not interested in. Heaven rejoices over the triumph of God over that which is evil, whereas earth's attitude is the opposite. What is your attitude towards the riches and evils of this earth?

Babylon's utter destruction is pictured and described in verses 21-24. It is pictured as the casting of a great millstone into the sea, showing the com-

(Continued on Page 8 Column 3)



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## BOOK REVIEWS

We have, in our book store, three very good books published by the Hallmark Baptist Church of Simpsonville, S.C. The first is **THE HOUSE OF GOD**. This consists of five sermons on the subject of The Church. Four of these are by Willard A. Ramsey. One is by William C. Hawkins. These are very good sermons on this very important subject. These men take the proper position as to the church being a local, visible institution, and the importance of one being a member of a true church and serving God in and through the church. These sermons constitute in-depth studies of the subject. The author's erroneous view on eschatology shows through slightly in the first sermon. There is a little too much Old Testament usage, for I believe the church to be a New Testament institution. However, it is true that, in every age, God has a special place in which to meet with His people.

The next book is **THE NATURE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH ON EARTH**. This is a very excellent outline study on this subject. It is one of the most complete such studies one can obtain. I suppose that nearly every verse in the New Testament, dealing with the church, is studied herein. The author does

not accept the Baptist Bride position, which detracts from the book. But I do consider this to be one of the best outline studies I have ever seen on this subject. It could very profitably be used by preachers and church members in individual study. It could also be used in class and group studies. I recommend it highly.

The next book is **THE CHRISTIAN HOME**. What subject could be more important than this? Brother Ramsey has done an excellent job here. He deals with every aspect of what such a home ought to be. From courtship and marriage, through proper sex activities, to children and the proper exercise of authority in the home. Every believer, and surely every home could profit from a careful study of this book, and especially, from a prayerful and sincere effort to put its teachings into practice in one's own life and home.

The Christian Home is \$1.00. The New Testament Church Outline Study is \$1.00. The House of God is \$2.75. I suggest that you order all three of these fine books. It would be good for every member of every Baptist church to have and study all three of these books. Order from our book store. Remember, the profit goes into the ministry.

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

Central Baptist Mission of 1675 Starkey Road, Largo, Florida, 33543 has regular services of Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Morning worship at 10:45 a.m. and an afternoon service at 4:00 p.m. The services are conducted by missions pastor: Stephen Shelton. The mission is under the authority of Central Avenue Baptist Church of Tampa Fla. which is pastored by Elder Wayne Crow.

Elder Gordon Buchanan will be the visiting preacher at revival services at the Naples Park Baptist Church of Naples Park, Fla. The church is located at 798 109th Ave., North. Elder Willard Pyle is the pastor of the church.

## SUPER SPECIAL

For some time we will be running monthly super, super specials on certain books from our book store. The order for these books must be dated within the month or one week thereafter. For February we are offering **LET'S STUDY THE LORD'S CHURCHES** by E.G. Cook and **CAMPBELLISM: ITS HISTORY AND HERESIES** at a 50% discount of the regular price. That means you can buy the first book for \$1.50 and the second one for \$1.00 as super, super specials. Why not order several at this price? Your order for these super, super specials may be dated through March 12th.

## GOD CAST

(Continued from Page 6)

only align itself against Israel, and that continually until that final onslaught against the apple of God's eye. Be careful of our own stand, remember the "goat" nations and make doubly sure that you are not a "consenting" member of those on His left hand.

## BRIEF

(Continued from Page 7)

pleteness and the violence of its overthrow. God's power in saving His elect is irresistible. Also, His power in the destruction of the wicked is irresistible. The "stone cut out of the mountain without hands" will fall upon the powers of earth with utterly devastating effect. The destruction of Babylon is set forth as complete and permanent. Here is the final fulfillment of the prophecies of Isaiah and Jeremiah against Babylon. Their prophecies were not completely fulfilled in the fall of Babylon before the Medes and Persians. Therefore, it is essential to prophecy that this city of Revelation ch. 18 be rebuilt, literal Babylon. It is here set forth, that one of the reasons for her destruction is her persecution of the people of God.

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