

Sinner, remember thy time is almost gone.

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# The Baptist Examiner

Baptist Is Our Middle Name

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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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## SALVATION IS OF THE LORD

by Don Mikitta  
Red Wing, Minn.

"But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. SALVATION IS OF THE LORD" (Jonah 2:9).

Jonah sets forth a precedent — God delivered him from certain physical death and from the very belly of the God-prepared and God-sent fish. This is typical of saint's deliverance from sin and we are encouraged by the Scriptures to likewise praise God for our spiritual redemption and salvation. "By him (Jesus) therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name" (Heb. 13:15).

**GOD'S PREVIOUS WORKS**  
Since "salvation is of the Lord," we must face the Biblical facts that prove God delivers His people. Luke records that when the Gentiles heard the Word of God, they became glad and glorified the Word of the Lord; so that "...as many as were ordained to eternal life believed" (Acts 13:48). Election is clearly taught in the Scriptures, the Father so decreed to the Son a heritage which He has bought with the price supreme "...the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin" (I John 1:7). Even Christ's name declares the doctrine of election, for the

## SALVATION IS OF THE LORD

by Bill Burke, Jr.  
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The fact that conversion and salvation are of God is an humbling truth. Beause of its humbling character men do not like it. For one to be told that if he is to be saved, God must save him, to tell one that he is in God's hand as clay is in the hands of the potter greatly offends the natural pride of fallen man. Even more repugnant to man is the doctrine of sovereign unconditional election. I stand among those who believe and teach that eternal, sovereign, unconditional, particular and immutable act of God whereby He selected some from among all mankind and every nation under heaven to be redeemed and everlastingly saved by Christ.

Equally repugnant is that hated doctrine of Absolute Predestination. This is that eternal, unconditional, particular and irreversible act of the Divine Will whereby, in matchless love and in adorable sovereignty God determined within himself to deliver a certain number of Adam's degenerate offspring out of that sinful and miserable estate into

(Continued on Page 6 Column 4)

## THE PURE FROM THE IMPURE

by John R. Gilpin  
(Now in Glory)

"But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the Lord doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel" (Ex. 11:7).

Frankly, beloved, this is not a familiar text. I doubt very seriously if any of you have ever heard it preached from before. I stumbled on to it, humanly speaking, by chance several years ago, and the Lord gave me a message thereby, concerning the differences between the

John R. Gilpin  
(Now in Glory)

Egyptians and Israelites.

First of all, when God started to plague the land of Egypt, He did not make any difference between the Egyptians and the Israelites. For example, when God brought the plague of the water turned into blood, there was no difference between the Israelites and the Egyptians, for they suffered alike. The same was true in regard to the plague of the frogs. God did not make any difference. The Israelites suffered from the frogs just the same as the Egyptians did, and the same was true when God caused the plague of lice, the

third of the plagues to come upon the land of Egypt. Israel suffered just the same as the Egyptians. However, when the plague of the flies came, which was the fourth plague that fell upon the land of Egypt, God made a difference. While there were flies in the land of Egypt, there was not a single fly in the land of Goshen — where Israel dwelt. God, we might say, put up an invisible barrier whereby all of the flies were kept in the land of Egypt, and not a fly plagued the land of Goshen where the children of Israel were.

The same was true for the balance of those plagues. When the murrain fell upon the beasts and the cattle died, and when all the balance of the plagues fell, God made a difference to the extent that the plague never came upon the land of Goshen where the children of Israel were, but the plagues fell upon the Egyptians. The fourth, fifth, and sixth, and all the rest of the plagues fell, with a difference being made between the children of Israel and the Egyptians. Now God is getting ready for the death of the first born throughout all the land of Egypt, and God told the people, through Moses, that He was going to do something to let everybody know that He had put a difference between the Egyptians and the Israelites.

If you will read carefully, beloved, this story of the plagues upon the land of Egypt, you will find that God has made a tremendous difference in it all. Whereas God blessed Israel, God cursed the land of Egypt. Everything that God did became a benediction upon the

(Continued on Page 5 Column 3)

## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor Joseph M. Wilson

### THE FIRST NO-HELLER

"And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die" (Gen. 3:4).

In determining the truthfulness or falsehood of a doctrine, it is important to know its origin: when, where, and by whom. There is a hell, a burning and eternal hell for all who die without Jesus Christ. The Bible teaches this clearly, prominently, and repeatedly. "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power" (II Thess. 1:8-9). "...and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of

the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and forever: and they have no rest day nor night..." (Rev. 14:10-11). "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:15). I am glad that "whosoever" here does not mean everyone who ever lives here, as the Arminians teach it does in other places. Again and again, the Bible teaches the reality of hell for the unsaved.

Jesus taught much about hell. There are those who magnify the Love of Jesus — and it should be magnified — but we should not forget the "wrath of the Lamb"; we should not

by Raymond A. Waugh, Sr.  
Midland, Tex.  
Part I

In this hour, an attempt will be made to provide some insight into one of the most difficult subjects that ever troubles the minds of men; namely, "Elect" and "Election," and a corollary subject, "Chosen"! The nature of our humanity is such that we resist even the concept which the Scriptural Words bring to our minds. "Elect," "Election," and "Chosen" speak to the sovereignty of God and His Sovereign Purposes in the earth. The cry of our human hearts and our human minds, however, is as that of the poet:

"It matters not how strait the gate,

"How charged with punishments the scroll,

"I am the master of my fate;

"I am the captain of my soul."

Even Christian and Religious men cannot handle the Word of Truth as it is, for the depraved nature of man is such that shows God to be Sovereign and Omnipotent. Though men may claim to be believers in the Word of God, in finality, "There is none righteous, no, not one. There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one."

The teaching of God with respect to the utter depravity of men would seem to be absolute. Nevertheless, some men spend their lives attempting to explain away this truth. These, understandably, have no place in their theology for a Sovereign, Omnipotent God. Thereby, they despise the "Elect," "Election," and the idea that God "Chooses" some to everlasting life, "making them vessels unto honor!"

The truth is, the whole of the human race is involved in an effect to elevate men in their own eyes. Men despise, "Thus saith the Lord," but they delight in, "Yea, hath God said?" Understandably, then, men despise, "I am the Lord, and beside me there is no other!"

It is no marvel, then, that the whole of the human race seemingly lives to denigrate God as Sovereign and as Lord. On occasion, these may appear to reference "the goodness of God," but with the same breath such will reference "the goodness of men." God, however, has declared from everlasting, "There is none righteous, no, not one!"

Morning, noon, and night, men seem to live with one objective; namely, countering the declared teaching of God with respect to the depravity of men. Ever, their cry is, "What good thing must I do to inherit eternal life?" And ever there is the response of God, "There is none righteous, no, not one!" In their depravity, men want no part of the truth, "Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used



Raymond A. Waugh, Sr.

deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips; whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness; their feet are swift to shed blood; destruction and misery are in their ways; and the way of peace have they not known; there is no fear of God before their eyes."

Such thinking and device of men is quite different from that of the Apostle who, toward the conclusion of his 30-year ministry, announced, "O wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from this body of death (sin)?" Some men — Christian and religious men, if you will — walk in the midst of deep spiritual darkness and call it "light"! They would have us

(Continued on Page 3 Column 3)

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## The Baptist Examiner

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THE BAPTIST PEOPLE

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## NO-HELLER

(Continued from Page 1)

rich man (not a parable, but a description of a reality), and tells of the torments of the rich man in hell. Yes, Jesus Christ — who is the faithful and true witness — taught much about hell.

Hell is a reality, terrible beyond the power of words to describe or the ability of the mind to fully comprehend. I oppose the religious movie "Hell," because I am convinced that no human actor can properly or adequately portray the awful suffering of hell. No matter how awfully one could picture hell to be, those in hell will say "the half was not told me." Jonathan Edwards, a great preacher on hell, was severely criticized for his vivid description of the torments of hell; but those who criticized him, if and upon going to hell, have learned that his terrible descriptions were much, much less than the awful reality. There is terrible pain in hell beyond that ever suffered by man upon this earth. Sometimes, especially before the pain killers of today, one would suffer greatly; then that one would die. Someone would say of such, "He is out of his misery and suffering now." Well, that all depends. If saved, yes, out of misery into glorious blessedness. If unsaved, no, into a suffering immeasurably more terrible than any suffered heretofore. If one could take all the suffering of all men through all time, and place it on one man, that suffering would not equal the torment of a few hours in hell — and remember, hell is forever. There is weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth in the extreme agony of the suffering in hell. Man will be sustained, body and soul, in continued, conscious existence throughout the eternal sufferings of hell.

Hell is eternal. Oh, of all the horrors of hell, this must surely be the worst part. One can endure great suffering, if he is sustained by the hope that it will

eventually end. But, how despair must settle in deep horror on the soul of that one in hell as he realizes that there will never, never be an end to his awful torments! No hope in hell! No hope in hell! And men in hell will know this. They will be no longer deceived by the false hopes of false teachings of men. They will then know the awful truth of the eternal punishment of those who die without Jesus Christ. The Bible speaks of "everlasting punishment" many times. The Bible speaks of "being tormented day and night, forever and forever." The word



JOE WILSON

"everlasting," which is used to describe the torments of hell, is also used to describe the existence of God, as well as the blessedness of the saved. Dear friend, as long as there is God, as long as the saved are gloriously happy in heaven, so long will the lost scream in agony in the flames — the literal flames — of hell.

Now, there is a hell; it is terrible beyond imagination, and it is eternal. All who die without Christ will go to that hell. He is the only Saviour. Jesus Christ, and the glorious gospel of His death, burial, and resurrection is the only way anyone can ever escape the torments of hell. We are all, by nature, guilty and hell-deserving sinners. We were born in sin. We have chosen the way of a life of sin. We have sinned greatly and repeatedly against God and His holy law. We are guilty. We deserve hell. We must all, and we will all, go to hell unless a glorious and effective remedy for sin be found. Praise God, such a remedy has been provided in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ! Baptism won't do it. Good works won't do it, and if they would, we do not have any, and cannot produce any. Church membership, even your name on the roll of a true Baptist Church, will not do it. Only the precious blood of Jesus Christ will wash away the stain and guilt of sin, and deliver from the eternal flames of hell.

Many deny that there is a hell such as is described in the Word of God, or so pervert the matter until there is not much of a hell. Many religions that do not profess to be Christian religions do this, but we are not dealing with them at this time. But, would you believe it? There are many religious groups, who profess — I said profess — I mean falsely pretend — to believe the Bible, who still deny the hell taught therein. The false and wicked cult of so-called Jehovah's Witnesses teach that the grave is hell.

They teach that all the hell there is, is to just die and be buried. Few sins, if any, could be more terrible than to teach such awful lies, and thus deceive and damn the eternal souls of multitudes. A man had better be a drunk, a dope addict, a murderer of the body, a liar, a criminal of darkest hue, than to be a Jehovah's Witness and teach the false doctrines of their

unchristian cult.

There is the "no hell, no wrath-in-God" teaching of the modernists. I sat in a Methodist preacher's office in Winston Salem, N.C. and read to him a Biblical description of hell. Till the day I die, I can hear this terrible wicked, ungodly, so-called preacher say, "Mr. Wilson, I do not care what that book says." He made fun of me. He laughed at the Scriptures I quoted or read to him. He told me that there was no wrath in God. A man had better be an out and out sinner of darkest hue, than to stand in a pulpit, professing to preach the Bible, and mislead the souls of men in such a way. Such men are "blind leaders of the blind," and they will both "fall into the ditch" of the burning flames of an eternal hell. Why will men pretend to be preachers of the Bible, and deny the truths it so plainly teaches? Why will they not do honest work for their living, rather than lie, steal, and deceive? Such men are murderers of the souls of men.

There is the very short hell of the Seventh Day Adventist cult. They teach that man will just be put in the fires of hell and burned up. They teach a hell that is no more than if a man should fall into a terrible hot furnace of fire in this life and in his human body as it now is. How long would a man feel anything if he should fall into such a fiery furnace? Only a few moments. This is the hell of the S.D.A. But, when men are cast into hell fire, God will give them such a body that will continue in conscious suffering forever.

There is the Purgatory of the Roman Catholic False Church. They teach an eternal hell for some. They also teach that nearly all who go to heaven will have a stop-over in purgatory for varying lengths of time. That this purgatory is the same as the sufferings of hell, except that eventually all in purgatory will get out and go to heaven. They teach that man on earth can do certain things (things which greatly enrich the Roman Catholic False Church) which will shorten the time of the suffering of their loved ones in Purgatory. Oh, how wicked! To deceive the poor widow, the poor parents, etc., by telling them that, if they will pay for certain ceremonies performed by the priest, their loved ones will get out of purgatory quicker. This doctrine is a lie. It is not taught in the Word of God. It was invented by the Roman Catholic False church as a means of stealing millions of dollars from their followers. I say "stealing" advisedly, for it is always stealing to take money under false pretences. When the Roman Catholic Priest takes money from grieving ones, promising to perform ceremonies which will shorten the time of their loved ones in the sufferings of Purgatory, he tells them a lie, takes money from them under false pretences, and is a lying thief before God and man.

Then there is the lengthy, but not eternal hell which some teach. There are those who teach, (would you believe it?), that all who die without Christ go to the sufferings of hell, but that eventually all in hell will get out and go to heaven. These men are what we call "Universalists," or a class of such. They teach the ultimate salvation of all men. This is totally contrary to the Word of God.

Now, where does this denial of eternal hell come from? Who started it? Who was the first

preacher of this false doctrine? Where do the men who today preach this doctrine get it? Since the Bible is so very clear on the subject, and since there is absolutely no excuse for anyone, who pretends to believe the Bible, to not believe in eternal hell; where does the denial and

perversion of Bible truth come from? I believe my text in Genesis 3:4 gives the answer. In Genesis three we read the story of the fall of man into sin. We learn of Satan's temptation of Eve, and her succumbing thereto. In the midst of, and as a

(Continued on Page 3 Column 1)

## FROM THE EDITOR

IS THE NAME BAPTIST ENOUGH? I do insist that a true church wear this name. I will not, for my part, and in our day, recognize a church as a true church which does not wear the name "Baptist." Many say that they are "baptistic" but do not wear the name. I immediately want to know why? The religious organization that does not wear the "Baptist" name is not "baptistic" enough to suit me. I consider them to be false churches the same as the organizations which wear other names.

But is the name "Baptist" enough to prove that an organization is a true church? Certainly not. There are many who wear this name with other identifying designations, such as "Free-Will," "Primitive," etc. I do not refer to these at all. Of course they are not true churches. I refer to those who refer to themselves as "Missionary Baptists." My question is, is this name enough? My answer is, no. Understand me please. I say that the name "Baptist" is necessary to a church being a true church. I also say that it, itself, is not all that is necessary. An organization may wear this name and still be a false church. In fact, most who wear this name are false. I say this without apology.

There was a time when the name "Baptist" on the outside told you pretty much what you would find on the inside. This is no longer true. This name, with its long, glorious, bloody history no longer means all it once did. This name is dearer than life to us, but to many, it has lost its significance. You can find about anything you can desire or imagine masquerading under this name. Free-Will, Arminianism, Hardshell heresy, Holy-rollerism, Modernism of the worst sort, well-nigh popedom, etc., all wear this name in our day. Putting the name "Baptist" on the outside does not change or justify the awful heresies that are taught and practiced on the inside. There are a multitude who "wear the name," but do not "play the game." In many ways, these people and organizations are worse than those who make no pretense of being "Baptists." Hypocrisy is a great sin, and for one to pretend to be a Baptist, when he does not believe or practice the historical faith of Baptists is to play the hypocrite.

The name is essential, but it takes more than the name to be a true Baptist. Now, since the church is the "pillar and ground of the truth," then, holding the truths of the Word of God is essential to an organization being a true church. If Christ's promise of the perpetuity of His church includes the awful heresies of many who wear the "Baptist" name today, then that promise does not mean what I thought it did. I am convinced that it means the perpetuity of churches of like faith and order as the one Jesus started in His earthly ministry. If it means the perpetuity of that which is totally unlike, even antagonistic to the one He started, then it means very little. Is this not true?

Now, of course, none of us are going to insist that an organization be exactly true in every detail of belief and practice in order to be a true church. We are going to recognize, as true churches, those who differ with us in some things. The great problem before us is, where do we draw the line in this matter? How far can an organization go in error in faith and practice, and still be recognized as a true church? I think we will all confess that the Bible is not as clear on this point as we would like for it to be. I think we all would confess that some go too far, and some not far enough in what they expect out of an organization calling itself a Baptist Church. Surely, we will all agree that wearing the name is not enough, but we will likely disagree in how much more is expected.

I suppose we all, of our kind, will agree that a church must be started on the authority of another true church. We will agree that they must be reasonably sound on the two ordinances of the church. We surely will agree that they must be sound on the glorious saving gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. We will agree on much that we expect, and even demand, of an organization before we recognize it as a true church.

For my part, I do not recognize an Arminian organization as a true church of Jesus Christ. Arminianism is heresy of the worst sort and in a vital matter. I do not see how sound, strong, Sovereign Grace Baptists can recognize such as true churches. Understand that I do not mean a church that is weak on Sovereign Grace. I do not even demand that such believe all five points. But, when an organization is opposed to, fights against, even excludes members for teaching the sovereign grace of God in salvation, surely such is not a true church of Jesus Christ.

I would say that an organization teaching that one must be a Baptist to be saved is not a true church. How can it be when it denies the very gospel of Jesus Christ? I would surely say that organizations which do not practice proper church government — I do not mean in every detail — are not true churches. Well, I could go on and on, but I write this mainly to get the subject before you. I think it would be good for our kind to come to some agreement on this matter. At least it would be worthy of our consideration. I welcome comment on this matter, in fact, I encourage it. However, we must be very careful on this point. Since, so far as I know, the Bible does not specify just what points of practice and doctrine are essential to being a true church, we must be careful in this. We must not be over strict in unchurching true churches of Christ. We must not be too liberal in recognizing everything wearing the "Baptist" name as a true church. Surely, the matter deserves careful and prayerful thought. Surely, we will all agree that some things are necessary to being a true church; that some things are not necessary thereto. The problem is that we will not all agree as to which are which. But I desire and welcome the comments of others on this matter. May God bless you all!





**QUESTION:** — Who recommended that old women should not drink too much wine?  
**ANSWER:** — Paul, Titus 2:3, "The aged women likewise, that they be... not given to much wine..."

## NO-HELLER

(Continued from Page 2)

part of that temptation, we read, "...Ye shall not surely die" (Gen. 3:4). This statement by the Devil is the origin of the no-hell doctrine. The Devil was the first no-heller.

This sermon by the Devil was the first sermon ever preached by a created being. Yes, the devil is a preacher. He has many other preachers, called by himself to preach the lies of hell. Let us examine this first sermon by a created being somewhat. Satan preached, "Do your own thing, whatever turns you on, whatever makes you happy." The devil preached, "Don't let anyone, even God Almighty, tell you what to do." The devil preached, in this first sermon, "It is very doubtful that we have any word from God." He preached doubt as to whether or not God has spoken to man. The devil preached that, "If there is any word from God, it is not true." Oh what awful lies, preached by the father of lies, by the murderer of souls! These things are still being preached by Satan and his multitude of preachers, and still being believed by a multitude of the unsaved. Dear friend, the preaching of Satan is to your own hurt and eternal damnation. The preaching of the gospel is to your good and eternal salvation. Which preaching will you listen to? Which will you believe? Your eternal destiny hinges on which preaching you listen to, respond to, and believe. The devil further preached, in this first creature-sermon, that "you will not be punished for your sin. Go on in sin, do whatever you please to do, don't let God tell you what to do — and you will never be punished for this." The devil said, "Ye shall not surely die." God had said, "...in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." The devil said, "ye shall not surely die." Which told the truth? Which will you believe? Yes, the devil is the first no-heller.

Why did, and why does the devil promote this lie. Jesus told us that the devil is a liar and the father of it. Jesus told us the devil was a murderer from the beginning. It is because the devil is a liar and a murderer that he promotes the "no-hell" lie. The devil is an enemy of God, and does all he can to defeat the eternal and saving purposes of the sovereign God of the Bible. Praise God, the devil will fail! But this is why he promotes the "no-hell" lie. The devil is the enemy of man, and the murderer of the souls of men. There is nothing good in the devil. There is no redeeming quality or virtue in him. He is totally malignant. He will do all the hurt he can. Oh, dear unsav-

ed friend, the devil is the enemy of your soul. He is a thief who comes to steal from you all that is good, and blessed. You are listening to the devil. You think that he is your friend and has your happiness at heart (note his promises to Eve in Genesis three). But the devil has deceived you. You will always suffer when you listen to and follow the devil.

Now since the devil is the first "no-heller," since he is the one who originated this doctrine, where does that leave those who, today, preach this doctrine? Listen to me now, and listen good. All men who preach that there is no eternal and terrible hell are preaching a doctrine they got from the devil. They are not God's preachers. They are the devil's ministers. They did not get their doctrine from the pure and precious Word of God. They got it in the seminary of hell, with Satan as the chief teacher. All such are followers of the devil. They are not followers of God. They are worshippers of Satan, and not of the God of the Bible. All "no-hellers" are doing the work of the devil. Pornographers are doing the devil's work. Liquor store owners, and owners of drinking and dancing establishments are doing the devil's work. Nearly all actors and actresses are doing the work of the devil in producing the filth seen in the movies and on television sets. And all who preach that there is no eternal hell are doing the same thing, and are worse than the others mentioned.

"No-hellers" are the great enemies of the souls of men. They are liars and murderers like the devil. There is a knock at your door. You go the door, and there is a rattlesnake, what do you do? You go to the door and there is a tiger, what do you do? Do you say, "Good evening, Mr. Rattlesnake, good evening Mr. Tiger, come into my home and let us visit for awhile"? No, you do not say this, you slam the door, you get your gun, you call the police. You do not invite such dangerous beings into your home and treat them like honored guests. There is another knock at your door. You go to the door. There is a Jehovah's False Witness there, what do you do? There is a Seventh Day Awful Adventist there, what do you do? Well, don't get your gun and shoot them. I do not advise this. But do not let such dangerous agents of the devil into your home. "...receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds" (II John 10-11). These ministers of Satan are more wicked and much more dangerous than a rattlesnake or a tiger. The rules of courtesy do not demand that you receive ministers of the devil into your home and treat them with hospitality. The laws of God demand that you do not. The law of self preservation, the law of love for those in your home — these laws demand that you keep "no-hellers" outside. Remember that they are followers of the devil, doing the work of the devil, and are the enemies of the souls of men.

There is a hell. It is a place of terrible torment. It is eternal. All who die without Christ go to this hell. You should give this matter some serious thought. You should realize that nothing in this world is worth going to hell over. You should realize that the most terrible tragedy of

all is to die without Christ and go to hell. You should consider that this is the most important matter which will ever confront you. Do not be deceived as to this. Your not believing in hell will not change the fact and reality thereof. Your refusing to get concerned about this matter, your joking about hell, your not being afraid of hell will not change anything. You will be afraid then. You will be concerned then. You will not joke about it then. But it will then be too late. I plead with you to give serious consideration to the matter of the awful possibility of your suffering eternally in the flames of hell — of your certainly doing so except you repent and believe on Jesus Christ.

There is a way to escape hell, praise God! But there is only one way. That way is the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. He is God. He was born of a virgin and became the God-man. He lived a perfect life. He died for sin on the cross. He arose from the dead. If you will repent of your sins, and trust Jesus Christ and what He did, you will be saved with an everlasting salvation. You will not go to hell. You will go to heaven, and be greatly blessed, perfectly happy, forever and forever. There is a heaven. There is a hell. You will exist consciously, feelingly, knowingly, in one or the other forever. Jesus Christ is the one and only difference. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

## ELECTION

(Continued from Page 1)

suppose that the Apostle was referencing those years and days when he walked as a lost sinner and was an avowed enemy of Christ Jesus, and the Churches of the Lord Jesus Christ. Nevertheless, it should be clear to all that his references were to the Paul who was speaking, even then.

Such unscriptural rationalization, truly, is forever precluded by the Apostle's earlier words, "For that which I do, I allow not; for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I." Needless to say, these words are not in reference to some past experience. Rather, he was speaking to the reality of that very moment! He was proclaiming in unmistakable terms the condition of the flesh of all men, whether lost or saved! There is no difference!

The plight of men is such that apart from being God's "Elect" and God's "chosen" within the context of God's "Election," doom and damnation is unequivocal and it is absolute. Further, there is nothing any mortal can do to alleviate or alter his "plight," if you will. God explains that all men, apart from the quickening of the Spirit of God, are "dead in trespasses and in sins." One who is "dead in trespasses and in sins" has no more capability of arising from such a condition than a corpse has of bringing himself back to life, despite all of "the tales of coming back from the dead" in which many are delighting in this hour.

One who can recognize this truth should have no problem regarding the Sovereignty of God or His Omnipotence. One who has this measure of understanding should have no real problem with the absoluteness of God's "Election" as it is expressed absolutely and eternally in "Jacob have I lov-

ed, but Esau have I hated." Apart from such Holy Spirit quickening of one's understanding, every man despises a Sovereign God and His Sovereign Purposes in the earth!

Men may devise theological-ly, and they may speculate philosophically. All such efforts, however, are utterly useless. When the final word is in, there is the absolute, "My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Further, God explains that there are **NO HUMAN AUTHORITIES** with, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this world? Hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." God explains further, "The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

Some might suppose that they have found a "fellow traveler" in the person of someone from another day who may have seemed to be an "authority" or who may seem to be an "authority" even now. All such do err, however, and that most seriously and most graphically. When the final tally is in, and when the final word is written, apart from the Word of God, there is no "authority"! Any reference which men may have made concerning the Word of God is still in the Word of God and available for our understanding as God reveals such truths to us by His Spirit. Everything, however, which men have "added" or which men have attempted to "add" to the Word of God, in the course of their theological speculations and their mental gymnastics, is as false today as it was in the hour in which they penned it.

It is no marvel, then, that the Apostle whom Peter spoke of as saying "many things hard to be understood" ever commands, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Neither is it any marvel that the Bereans are spoken of as being "more noble than those in Thessalonica" because "they received the word, and searched the Scriptures daily whether these things were so."

If we are to understand "Elect," "Election," and "Chosen," then, it will be the result of our understanding of the Word of God by the Spirit of God. Our understanding will not come because we have perused or "mastered" the "scholastic efforts" of some of whom some may speak as being "authorities" today. All of these men, even as Luther and Calvin and others, may have begun with the best of intentions. Tragically, however, the very moment that these men "became authorities in their own eyes" or in "the eyes of their peers" — or their "followers," they became the enemies of the Lord Jesus

Christ, the enemies of the Churches of the Lord Jesus Christ, and enemies of the Word of God.

Apart from the Word of God, there is no wisdom and there is no understanding. Hear the word of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, "How can ye believe who receive honor one of another, and seek not the honor that cometh from God only? Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father; there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust. For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me; for he wrote of me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?"

Hear, if you can, the words of Peter, "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." Likewise, if you would have a measure of understanding from the perspective which God, in His Grace, designs, then hear the word of the Prophet, "If they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

Some may say, and that most vociferously, "We share a theology which is pervaded throughout by an essentially Arminian approach. 'Universal redemption (Christ died for all men), free grace, the ability of a man to say 'Yes' or 'no' to God and even to fall away from grace — these are the themes of Arminianism as against predestinarianism." But I think these do err, and that most grievously. For while they may speak of a Sovereign God and salvation by the grace of God, they do not hold to such teachings at all.

If we have any understanding of the truth of the Word of God, however, or any knowledge whatever concerning the things of God, we can know that the natural man has no spiritual competence or capability at all. Rather, we know, and that absolutely, that any understanding and any knowledge which we may have is wholly by the Spirit of God. Truly, it is the Spirit of God who enlightens our hearts and our minds, and He does this by and through the Word of God.

God's Word is unequivocal, "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Therefore, it matters not what the subject may be or what direction the human mind may seem to be taking, we are locked-in finally to God's declaration, "If they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Let men call themselves theologians, let men call themselves scientists, let men call themselves educators, let men call themselves professionals of any sort, "If they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

In this hour, then, we do not appeal to the mental meanderings of men nor the discursive devices to which men, in their depravity, may direct our attention. We appeal, instead, both initially and finally, and in all interim areas, to the Word of

(Continued on Page 4 Column 4)



# The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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

*Was the polygamy right or wrong in the Old Testament? Please comment as to the many of God's men who practice this. Were concubines considered as wives? Were handmaidens and maidservants to be "used" as wives? Please comment.*

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**Deuteronomy 17:17:**  
"Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away; neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold."

Let us answer these questions one at a time. The first question is, "Was polygamy right or wrong in the Old Testament? So far as I am concerned, this question is easily answered. Polygamy was, is, and always will be sin in the eyes of God. Because it was a common practice, does not make it right. There are many things today, that are common practices, but that by no means makes them acceptable in the eyes of God. This question should be settled by the first account of marriage in the Bible. When God saw that man should not be alone, He made him one wife. God did not create wives and concubines, but here. He set the proper example for all time. One woman and one man for life. The Bible relationship between a man and his wife could only be carried out by having only one wife. I challenge you to show me any person of renown in The Word of God, who had more than one wife, who did not pay the consequences there. We find that this ungodly relationship always led to trouble. There is nowhere in the Bible where this relationship is praised, there are many places where this relationship or situation is condemned.

Secondly; you ask for a comment as to the many of God's men that practiced this. First, there were some great men of God that had wives and concubines. There are some things we should notice about this. We notice this is never said in a praising sense concerning these men. The Bible never speaks good about their having many wives. We notice that there is indeed evil in the best of God's men. Even in those God uses greatly, there is still the old nature that will raise its head and lead to sin. We notice this situation brought great evil on these men of God. We notice their sin certainly can not be used to excuse us today. We notice their greatness does not excuse their sin. I just want you to realize that just because some great men sinned in this fashion, it does not make it right.

Thirdly; you ask, "Were concubines considered as wives?" Concubines were considered as secondary or half wives. They seemed to be under the "real" wives. Their major purpose seems to have been to serve the sexual appetite of their

"husband" and to bear his children. As far as I am concerned, the concubines were guilty of fornication and the "husband" guilty of adultery.

Your last question deals with handmaidens and maidservants being used as wives. From God's standpoint; no, they were not to be used as wives. No one is to be used as a wife except the wife. I assume you are referring to sexual relations when you use the word "used." Many handmaidens were used in this manner, but I do not believe that was their sole or even their major purpose.

Let me conclude by saying this: Please do not try and use these ungodly practices to excuse sex-related sins. Any relations other than with your married wife is in God's eyes adultery. Remember, it is only what God thinks that matters!

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**Matthew 19:8** "...From the beginning it was not so." God did not at the first create Adam, and Eve, and Jane, and Barbara, and Carol, etc. God in the beginning created one pair, one Eve for one Adam. One husband for one wife. "Male and female created He them," and this to the chagrin of the homosexual recognizes the fundamental nature of sexual characteristics. In the "beginning" Adam could not practice polygamy, for there was not another wife for him to take, and it was never intended that a Baptist preacher should say, "I now pronounce you husband and wives."

Polygamy was allowed of God, but He never sanctioned it, and He certainly never commanded it. God allowed some of His ancient people to practice polygamy, and then He allowed them to suffer the bitter consequence of it, such as the bigamy of Abraham from which came the Ishmaelites, which to this day is an excruciating thorn in the side of Israel. Polygamy was first introduced by the lawless line of Cain (Gen. 4:23), and the decency degrading practice of polygamy prevailed in the land of Canaan, but God in order to protect the leadership of Israel while residing in Canaan gave a law which prohibited the practice of polygamy by the kings of Israel (Deut. 17:17). King David violated this law, and his family suffered a violent disruption and a tumultuous breakdown.

Monogamy is the ideal state for marriage. It was God's original rule, and it is His perpetual rule. Noah, the second father of the human race represents monogamy. The

family of Noah was monogamous, for his sons had only one wife each (Gen. 7:7). In that monogamous marriage is used as the symbol of God's relationship to Israel (Isa. 50:1; Hos. 2), it is not only seen as the highest form of marriage, but as the only form which God approves. Polygamy is not merely a loose form of marriage, but is sexual license which is utterly incompatible with an interest in Christ or His church. N.T. Christianity condemns polygamy and bigamy, and promotes monogamy. The only sure advantage held by wives over concubines was that their children should inherit a larger share, or even the whole of their father's property, i.e. Sarah's claim for Isaac (Gen. 21:10).

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We are told in Genesis 2:24, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall be one flesh." Jesus, in answer to a question asked by the Pharisees, said, "Have ye not read, that He which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Therefore, they are no more twain, but one flesh" (Matt. 19:5, 6).

There is much in the Scripture concerning the relationship of man and wife, but I can find no place where God put His approval on the practice of polygamy. The Lord told the children of Israel, that when they came into the promised land and wanted a king, that king was not to "multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away;" (Deut. 17:17). We know from the Word, that the kings, even David, "a man after God's own heart" and his son, Solomon, did not keep this commandment. To see the results of this disobedience we need only to read of the many troubles David had with his family during his reign and as to Solomon it is said, "And he had seven hundred wives, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart" (I Kings 11:3). It being wrong for the king to practice polygamy, it would follow that it would be wrong for all men.

We need to only look at all the trouble between the Jews and the Arabs at the present time to see some of the results of Abraham's polygamy.

Not only was polygamy wrong in the sight of God in the Old Testament, but also in the New Testament, for in the

qualifications of a bishop and also that of a deacon we are told that he is to be, "the husband of one wife" (I Tim. 3:5, 12; Titus 1:6). Many have twisted these passages to try to make them mean divorce and remarriage, but a study of the Scripture makes it plain that neither the bishop nor the deacon is to have more than one wife, that he is not to be a polygamist.

In answer to the last two questions, as polygamy was wrong in God's sight the answer to both questions is "no."

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Polygamy has never been the acceptable thing as far as marriage is concerned. From the very beginning God made that clear. "And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him" (Gen. 2:18). Then in verse 22 we read, "And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man." Please note that God said man needed "a" help meet so He created "a" woman. Adam said in verse 24, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." When given the specifications for a bishop we are told that he should be the "husband of one wife" in 1 Tim. 3:2.

Adultery is having sex relations with someone other than your mate. Leviticus 20:10 tells us that both parties should be put to death. I Cor. 6:13 tells us that "...the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord..." We see then that any type of sex relations apart from that with one's mate is sin and is breaking God's law. "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law" (I John 3:4).

Concubines were not considered as wives and handmaidens and maidservants were not to be used as wives, for to do so would be committing adultery. It is true that many of God's men practiced polygamy just as they sinned in other ways. God tells us not only of their righteous acts but also of their sinful acts in His word. What we learn is that regardless of our sins, He still uses us.

## ELECTION

(Continued from Page 3)

God, the Scriptures as God has given them and as He provides them.

By the Word of God, we can know that it is not on the basis of what a man knows or what he does not know that truth — the truth of the Word of God — is made available to a human heart and mind. Very simply, if one has any knowledge of the Word, that knowledge of the Word is dependent wholly upon the working of the Spirit of God as He ministers the Word of God to the human heart and mind.

As the Apostle, by inspiration, informs us, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God

hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so, the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Spirit teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual."

This may be the reason why all areas of religion where "authority" resides in some mortal, or where the "authority" is resident in a certain man or a certain group of men are cesspools of desperate heresy. Needless to say, history — His Story — enunciates unequivocally that these cesspools of desperate heresy — and this is without any exception — are religious morasses wherein the "wallowing wayfarers" involved are being brainwashed to delight in blasphemy. Even more, and tragically, they, perhaps, are being "chloroformed for hell," but their plight is such that they take considerable delight in their piteous journey.

It is no marvel, then, that most religious folk want no part of "Elect," "Election," or "Chosen." They delight only in a God who has no place in His Program for Hell and a God who is involved in "a universal redemption." Understandably, these have little interest in a God who redeems by "The Blood of The Lamb." They may reference the Word, but, in doing so, they gloss it, for they have no place in their theories of their theology for, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

Nonetheless, apart from the teaching of the doctrines of grace, one cannot "declare the whole counsel of God." And, apart from declaring "the whole counsel of God," a man

(Continued on Page 8 Column 3)

## SALVATION

by Don Mikitta

(Continued from Page 1)

angel said to call Him Jesus, "for he shall save his people from their sins" (Mt. 1:21).

The gospels set forth the Messiah's life and His final moments on Calvary — His suffering for our sins and three days later how the Lord Jesus Christ arose; victorious over death — King of kings, Lord of lords.

And now we come to the most glorious and assuring acts of God: that is, what He did in one moment in my life — HE SAV-  
ED ME.

## GOD'S PRESENT WORK

It would do us well to "stand still and see the salvation of the Lord" (Ex. 14:13). What we experience as conversion in one moment in our life is actually the sum of seventeen actions of God's saving grace, that produces a redeemed saint. We humans usually have a difficult time doing two things at once, but now let us consider these actions and let us not forget the works of God. (I don't claim each to be perfectly

(Continued on Page 5 Column 1)



# SALVATION

by Don Mikitta

(Continued from Page 4)

chronological and there are some overlapping.)

First, and foremost, "God the Spirit quickens: "...and you hath he quickened who were dead..." (Eph. 2:1). "...quickened together with Christ" (2:5). Chronologically and logically, spiritually dead elect won't repent and believe and be saved! The Spirit quickens (Jn. 6:63) "...the flesh profiteth nothing..." Jesus demands for any to see the kingdom "...Ye must be born again (from above)"; so if the Spirit doesn't quicken one, they won't be saved — with decisionism.

We also see that God creates anew: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: (creation)" (2 Cor. 5:17). Whatever God does in this is not fully understood by myself, but that which is created in Christ is changed, "old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

The Spirit is also the agent of God which convicts of sin. John 16:8-11: "And when he is come (the Spirit), he will reprove the world of sin, and righteousness, because I go to my Father and ye see me no more; of judgment because the prince of this world is judged." How sad it is that men push for decisions when the Spirit has not convicted one of sin. This wasn't a practice of the apostles, for on Pentecost the people were "pricked in their hearts..." (Acts 2:37). The practice of neo-evangelicals will but reproduce religious reprobates without hope, how sad their judgment!

Furthermore, God circumcises our hearts, through His skillful hand. "In whom ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands..." (Col. 2:11), in which God puts off the body of sins of the flesh. As an Israelite actually removed skin in circumcision, so God removes the body of sins of the flesh. Circumcision isn't replaced by baptism. The purpose of baptism is to set one in a New Testament assembly and God uses this spiritual circumcision to put off our sins.

Now as God's shining moment continues, we read that He draws us to himself: "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him..." (Jn. 6:44). This verse declares that God, which sent His Son draws the people to Him. Man isn't drawn down an aisle, or to a baptismal, but from himself to God. When He draws us He educates us to come to Him as our all-sufficient God. HALLELUJAH, WHAT A SAVIOR!

The education of God; manifesting our sin, is the instrument that causes us to repent. Romans 2:4 instructs us, "...the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance" when we turn from our sin and grasp the merciful Father, it is unto an eternal salvation, yea! a repentance not to be repented of (2 Cor. 7:10).

If God so causes repentance, then just as assuredly, He causes our belief in the person and work of Jesus Christ. "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ..." (Gal. 2:16). Repentance and faith are inseparable

duties, and to this writer in the "moment of grace," even more inseparable.

Reading on you see that God causes us to obey the gospel. I Peter 1:22 relates, "...ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth..." The truth is God's Word; promising conversion and declaring in the sinner's presence God's power. Paul taught the Romans that, "...the gospel is the power of God unto salvation..." (Romans 1:16). Yes, "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth..." (Jn. 1:18). Oh, how great the testimony of God is against those that deny the necessity of the Word!

Furthermore we die to sin. God slays us as recorded in Romans 6:1-2, "...shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? GOD FORBID. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" By grace the guilty are set free, "But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God; ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life" (Verse 22).

Clearly the Bible teaches that Christ's righteousness is imputed. The work of the Holy One is holy and it is charged to unholy men, such is of grace.

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Cor. 5:21). The Good News Bible teaches He shared in our sin, but not so — He was made to be our sin and so judged.

Likewise, we are taught that the atonement is applied. The shed blood cleanses us. "...We also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement" (Romans 5:11). The crimson flow now makes us appear holy, sins cleansed, redeemed — Oh, for the blood of the lamb!

Modernists are slain in the next fact that God's Spirit seals those that believe, "...ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise" (Eph. 1:13). The sealing is God's down payment of the total redemption, our eternal sonship with the Sovereign God. Sealed to keep us in Christ, but then, who would want to get out of Christ?

Another thing that we are made to do is to love God. God makes His people; which are at enmity with Him (Romans 8:7), whom Christ died for (Romans 5:6-8), love Him — "...because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19).

Gloriously, we are "...justified by faith" (Romans 5:1). Don't we read that "Being justified freely, by his grace..." this means that we are just as if we had never sinned. This is another thing of which we are not worthy, but I am glad that God does it.

Furthermore, we are reconciled to God. Romans 5:10 declares a reconciliation by Christ's death—yea, much more by His life. Reconciliation produces a greater peace than what we have after Vietnam, after the World Wars and even greater than the peace after all wars combined. Peace with God.

We are also predestinated to join God's family by adoption. "Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children..." (Eph. 1:5). Being Spirit led and filled, we are the sons of God (Romans 8:14) and obey God's Word even to cry "Abba, Father" to His every wish. Surely He knows what is best for us and His adoption

isn't of good men, but of those which He has converted and prepared to serve Him.

In finality, we find that He makes us joint heirs, "And if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ..." (Romans 8:17). Under Roman rule an heir couldn't sell or lose his heirship. The poor Arminian that can't keep himself, nor his heirship in Christ must have the ultimate of fits with this truth, but since God doesn't, then I won't!

Beloved, what a glorious moment in our lives! May we ever remember that this salvation is of God.

## GOD'S FUTURE WORKS

He sanctifies us, and glorifies us. He is our King in the millennial kingdom and we serve Him. He is the God of eternity. Oh may we "...Not forget the works of God" (Ps. 78:7).

## PURE

(Continued from Page 1)

Israelites, but at the same time became a malediction upon the Egyptians. Whenever God looked upon the children of Israel, they rejoiced, but whenever God looked upon the Egyptians, they were troubled. Now God tells us that He is going to bring one last grievous plague upon the land so that the whole world would know that He has made a difference between the children of Israel in the land of Goshen, and the Egyptians in the land of Egypt.

Beloved, I would like to allow these Egyptians to represent the world and the children of Israel to represent God's people today, and I would like to show you that there are a lot of differences existing between the children of God and the people of the world. I would like to show you that so far as unsaved people are concerned, they are just base-born Egyptians, and that the children of God are spiritual Israelites. There are a lot of differences between God's born-again spiritual children of Israel, and the base-born Egyptians of this world.

## I. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE AS TO THE PURPOSE OF ALMIGHTY GOD.

In God's eternal purpose, God made a difference in the world of lost people and the elect of God.

"But know that the Lord hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the Lord will hear when I call unto him" (Psa. 4:3).

Even in the eternal purposes of God, God has set apart him that is godly from him that is ungodly. I say to you, beloved, before the angels of God ever sang together, and before the angels ever clapped their hands with seraphic praise, yea, beloved, before this world was ever flung out into space — before a blade of grass ever grew out of the ground, yea, before ever that the ground itself had been made — before the sun and the stars and the moon and the constellations had been fashioned, Almighty God in His eternal purposes had already made a difference between saved people and unsaved.

"According as he hath CHOSEN US in him BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD" (Eph. 1:4).

I do not know how old this world may be. Scientists argue as to whether it is thousands or billions of years of age. I do not know and I am not particularly concerned just now, but I do know one thing, before this

world was ever established, before God had ever made this world, He chose me, and He chose all of the redeemed of the Lord in Christ Jesus, before the foundation of the world. I can look on either side of us and see the rock cliffs overshadowing the river banks, and as I look at these, I wonder how old that those rock cliffs are. I do not know, but I do know that before God ever laid down one single bit of dust, before God ever made one single bit of dirt that makes up this earth, before that one single tiny violet had ever peeped above the sod in the springtime, before Almighty God had ever made this world and caused one tiny drop of rain to fall upon it — God had already chosen you and me, and all the redeemed of the Lord in Christ Jesus.

Beloved, it thrills my heart to know that God chose us before the foundation of the world. Back yonder before the foundation of the world, God had already chosen every man and woman that shall ever be saved. He had already chosen us in Christ Jesus before the foundation of the world. If you are a saved man, you are older than creation. I might ask you how long you have been saved, and you might say that you have been saved for twenty, thirty, forty, or fifty years, and that is true so far as you personally are concerned, but so far as your salvation is concerned, in the mind of God you are older than creation. God chose you in Christ Jesus before the foundation of the world.

## II. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE AS TO THE NATURE OF A SAVED PERSON AND AN UNSAVED PERSON.

I do not know too much about snakes or angels. I have never had any opportunity to have fellowship with angels, and I have never wanted to have an opportunity to have fellowship with snakes. Therefore, I do not know too much about the nature of either, but I can assure you that there is more difference between the nature of an unsaved man, and a saved man, than there is between a snake on one hand, and an angel of God on the other.

"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins: Wherein in time past we walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience" (Eph. 2:1, 2).

Do you want to know what the nature of the unsaved man is? It is dead so far as Almighty God is concerned. I heard a preacher say sometime ago (and a good preacher he was at that, but he was wrong) that an unsaved man has just one nature. It isn't so, beloved, for an unsaved man has two natures. He has a spiritual nature, and he has a fleshly nature. His fleshly nature is alive, but his spiritual nature is dead. He has a spiritual nature, but it is a dead spiritual nature. He died in Adam. The Word of God also tells us concerning the nature of a saved man, we read:

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (II Pet. 1:4).

Beloved, every unsaved man has a dead spiritual nature, while every saved man has a

divine nature. He has been made a partaker of the divine nature of Almighty God. If you are saved, you have something of God on the inside of you. You have the nature of God on the inside of you. That is the reason why I contend that a saved person ought to walk a little like God. He ought to talk a little bit like God, and the world ought to be able to see something of God within his life. I tell you, my brother, there is an awful lot of difference between those of you who are saved and those of you who are unsaved. The unsaved people are just as dead spiritually as a corpse is dead physically in the sight of God, whereas saved people have the nature of God.

## III. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SAVED PEOPLE AND UNSAVED PEOPLE IN THAT THEY DO NOT REACT THE SAME WHEN THEY SIN.

When an unsaved person sins, that unsaved person will have very, very little hurt in his conscience, especially if he has committed that sin a few times. Regarding a child of God, there is a tremendous difference in regard to his reactions when he sins. I tell you, beloved, when a child of God sins, he will get out of his sins just as quickly as he can.

We have a good illustration of that in the case of the raven and the dove. When the raven went out of the ark and found the putrifying and decaying bodies and carcasses floating around in the water, that old raven enjoyed dabbling in the mud and feeding on those rotting carcasses, and didn't come back. In contrast, beloved, when the dove went forth from the ark, it came back. That dove couldn't find any place to light without soiling her foot. Those carcasses that were food unto the raven were abhorred by the dove. The dove came back. Let me tell you something, beloved, there is an awful lot of the raven nature in Baptist churches today. All too few with the nature of the dove are afraid that they are going to get soiled by the sin of the world. The difference between this dove and raven is the difference between saved people and unsaved people.

"For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again" (Prov. 24:16).

The just man falls seven times, but he rises up again. That is the way a saved person reacts when he sins. There is not a man nor woman in this house tonight who is living perfectly — not one who is half-way perfect — not one of us who lives as good as we could live if we set ourselves to the task of living for the Lord. My brother, there is one thing certain, every saved person, when he falls, rises again. The wicked may fall into mischief and stay there but the saved man, though he falls into it seven times, will rise to walk with God.

## IV. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SAVED PEOPLE AND UNSAVED PEOPLE WHEN THEY ARE UNDER TRIAL.

Does everything go smoothly in your home or at the place where you work, or in the church in which you are a member? Do you have some difficulties and burdens that press your heart and soul from day to day. Everyone of us have our

(Continued on Page 6 Column 1)



## PURE

(Continued from Page 5)

trials and difficulties that vex and worry us from day to day. Beloved, there is a difference in the way in which saved people and unsaved people react.

Many times in my ministry I have been called upon to try to comfort someone when he was in trouble, especially in the hour of death. Beloved, it is interesting when you talk to a saved person and see how that saved man or woman reacts favorably to the seemingly chastening hand of God, realizing that the hand of God has gone out against that one and that the will of God has been done within his life, whereas unsaved people will swear that God has been unfair and that God has not given them what they deserved. I tell you, my brother, my sister, there is a difference between saved people and unsaved people when in trouble.

An unsaved man will take things in his own hands. An unsaved man will try his best to solve his own problems, but a saved man, when he is in trouble, is willing to wait on God. An unsaved man will complain, but a saved man will look up into God's face and will say, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God." While an unsaved man will accuse God of being partial and not fair to him, a child of God will look into the face of God and will say:

**"In everything give thanks: for THIS is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you"** (I Thess. 5:18).

**V. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SAVED PEOPLE AND UNSAVED PEOPLE WHEN THEY GO TO CHURCH.**

An unsaved person goes to the house of God with a different attitude to that of a saved man. Both may sing, both may enter into the service outwardly the same, but when the services are over, the unsaved man goes away soon forgetting that he has ever been in the house of God, while the child of God goes away with a remembrance of the service in his heart, and a song on his lips. An unsaved man will come into God's house and will look at his watch, or he will tudy the knots on the floor beneath him, or he will turn through a song book from one end to the other, and he will wonder why the preacher doesn't hurry up and get through.

The child of God will come into God's house and will revel in an exposition of the Word of God and when the service is over, he will go out rejoicing that he was there to hear God's Word. An unsaved man may go to a baseball game or to some place of worldly amusement and may sit for three hours time and never think of tiring, but when he comes to the house of God and stays through thirty or forty minutes of service, he thinks that it is surely terrible that the preacher has to preach so long. In contrast, the child of God is there for God to fill his soul. I tell you, beloved, there is a lot of difference between saved people and unsaved people.

**VI. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SAVED PEOPLE AND UNSAVED PEOPLE IN THE**

## HOUR OF DEATH.

Did you ever see an unsaved person die? Did you ever see a child of God die? What a contrast! I saw a poor soul who had lived for the flesh, and who had been one of the most worldly of people, pass out of this world unsaved. There isn't a doubt in my mind but what that woman is in torment. There is not one doubt in my mind but what I saw that woman die unsaved, though I had witnessed to her some three or four times in the last days of her illness. There isn't one doubt in my mind but what she is spending her days now, and will spend her days throughout eternity, in a Devil's Hell. I saw her clutch the bed covers and pull them over her head as though she were already suffering the pangs of the damned. Beloved, I have been with over fifty individuals when they died, and this is the only unsaved person that I have ever seen die.

In contrast, in that same hospital, I saw a young girl some seventeen or eighteen years of age, a beautiful Christian character, as she closed her eyes and went out into eternity. You could almost feel God in the room. I heard her say, "I wish I could go home; I want to go home."

I held a revival meeting at McRoberts, Kentucky, some years ago, and I made mention in one message of the difference of the saved and the unsaved, in the hour of death. A man came to me at the close of the service, and said, "Brother Gilpin, there is one thing that I know to be true in my own experience. My wife and my wife's sister died in the same room, in the same house, of the same disease. My wife was saved, but my wife's sister was unsaved. When my wife's sister died, she would scream and cry, and while she was still in the flesh, she would wail because she felt the demons of Hell were reaching down to get her. When my wife died, she looked up at me and said, 'You know I was happy the day we were wed, but you will forgive me when I say that I am happier today than I was on our wedding day.' Then he said, 'My wife sang a hymn and she prayed and she turned to me again and said, 'You know I am happier now than I ever was in all of my life.'"

Beloved, talk about the Egyptians on the one hand and the Israelites on the other as to the differences between them. They are nothing compared to the spiritual Israelites and the base-born Egyptians of the world today.

**VII. THERE IS GOING TO BE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SAVED AND THE UNSAVED WHEN THEY COME TO THE JUDGMENT.**

Now do not misunderstand me: I do not mean that they will come to the same judgment. I believe that the Word of God makes it abundantly clear that there will be one thousand years that will separate the judgment of the saved and the judgment of the unsaved. The judgment of the saved will take place at the beginning of the Millennium, while the judgment of the unsaved will take place at the judgment of the Great White Throne at the close of the Millennium, a thousand years hence. Beloved, what a difference there is going to be at that judgment from the judgment of the saved!

Do you realize when a saved person comes to the judgment bar of God that he is not coming

there to be judged for his sins? All of his sins were judged at Calvary two thousand years ago and were laid on the Person of the Son of God and He bore the penalty of those sins. When you come to the judgment of the saved, you will be judged for the life that you have lived. You will be judged for your rewards. But how about the unsaved? The Word of God tells us that when an unsaved person goes to the judgment, he is going there to meet the deeds that he has done outside of Jesus Christ.

**"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their WORKS"** (Rev. 20:12).

When I stand before God, I will not have to face a single sin, because they were all put on Christ the day that He died on Calvary, but when an unsaved man comes before God, he will have to face the sins of his life.

I wonder how many times the average person sins in his life. Do you suppose that the average person sins ten times a day, 365 days out of the year? That is 3,650 sins a year, and God doesn't forget a one of them. In ten years, that is 36,500 sins. In thirty years, it is over 100,000 sins. If a man lives to be sixty or seventy years of age, he has probably a quarter of a million sins written in the books of God, that he is going to have to face, one by one, at the judgment of the Great White Throne.

Beloved, when I go to the judgment bar of the Lord Jesus Christ, I won't have to meet a single one of my sins because they were all laid on Jesus Christ at Calvary some 1900 years ago, but when the unsaved die and stand before the judgment bar of the Lord Jesus Christ as their judge, they meet the sins and the wrong-doings of their lives — that God has kept a record of every day. I tell you, beloved, there is going to be a difference between saved people and unsaved people at the judgment.

**VII. THERE IS GOING TO BE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SAVED AND THE UNSAVED THROUGHOUT ALL ETERNITY.**

Do you know where saved people are going to be? Every saved person is going to be in Heaven. Do you know where unsaved people are going to be? They are not going to be in Heaven, nor in Purgatory, but unsaved people are going to be in Hell. What a contrast! God's people with the angels, the archangel, the cherubim and the seraphim, and with Jesus throughout eternity. God's people will have a glorious and happy reunion with all of the saints of God who have lived throughout all ages, and will have communion and fellowship with their loved ones throughout eternity. God's people will walk the streets of the New Jerusalem with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and will listen to the songs of the angels. God's people will live a life of celestial bliss in an angel's paradise, throughout a never-ending eternity.

The unsaved will continue with a sinful nature, to hate and continue to hate, to gnash upon one another as dogs gnash and growl over their food in the dark, to stumble through the darkness and to fall continually, as God says, into a bottomless pit, and suffer throughout a

never ending eternity, the suffering of the damned.

Beloved, as I have said, there was a difference in the days of the children of Israel when God separated the children of Israel from the Egyptians, and there is as great a difference between the base-born Egyptians of the world today and God's spiritual Israel. The question is: which are you?

May God bless you!

## SALVATION

by Bill Burke, Jr.

(Continued from Page 1)

which, by his primitive transgression, they fell. Being looked upon and singled out by God to be vessels of grace and salvation (not for anything in them that could recommend them to His favor or entitle them to His notice, but merely because He would show Himself gracious to them) they were, in time, actually redeemed by Christ, are effectually called by the Holy Spirit, justified, adopted, sanctified, and shall one day be glorified. In a word infallibly preserved safe to His heavenly kingdom. I have before me a copy of a religious paper, and there a reader asks "Precisely what does elect mean..." The editor, in his answer to this question, states that those who believe and teach the doctrines of election and predestination misrepresent both God and the Bible.

I respect the right of this dear brother to believe and teach, or not to believe and teach anything he may about election and predestination, but to say we misrepresent both God and the Bible is a gross breach of brotherly charity and I feel I should answer somewhat for us whereof we are accused.

First of all, applaud this dear brother's honesty in admitting that, "There is in the Bible this doctrine of God's foreknowledge, predestination and election." The dear brother even goes so far as to admit that "God has His controlling hand on the affairs of men." He goes on to say "God in his foreknowledge knows who will trust Jesus Christ as Saviour." How does God know this? Foreknowledge. The argument is unanswerable that He also knows who won't, and when did God obtain this information? When we informed Him? Will we be like the evangelist who after the crusade prayed and said "God, guess what happened tonight." God's foreknowledge, like all of His other attributes, is eternal. Where will we look for the chapter and verse that teaches this? My brother please turn to Romans 8:29 and 30 and let us read together, then sin no more: "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover, whom He did predestinate, them He also called, and whom he called, them He also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified." Here it is said that it was people not means that were predestinated. Note the "whom he's" the "them he's" used by the inspired penman. He uses no "ifs" "and" or "buts."

The editor continues "Nowhere does the Bible teach that God wills for some to go to heaven and others to go to hell." Here is strong language of Scripture that certainly teaches the doctrine of preterition. Please

look at Romans 9:22. Where more than a mere passing by is implied. "What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction." John 17:24 says that He wills for some to be with Him where He is, "Father. I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am..." Matthew 18:14: "Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish." Now can one be produced who perished contrary to the will of the heavenly Father? Is there a verse in the Bible that says He works all things after the counsel of His own will? Who has resisted His will?

I fear the editor is the one who is misrepresenting Holy Scripture, not those who hold that salvation is all of grace. In II Peter 3:9 he plays up the "not willing" and "all" which is a subtle Arminian ploy. The context clearly shows that the "usward" are the ones which He is not willing should perish. Rest assured, beloved, they will not perish! Go to the concordance and see how "all" is used in the Bible. Very seldom is it used to convey the meaning of "without exception." The most common use is that of "without distinction." We read Luke 7:29, "And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John." It is theological dishonesty of the worst sort to say all the people without exception were immersed by the first Baptist because the next verse informs us that the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God "being not baptized of him." In like manner the "usward" qualifies the "all" in other words, all the elect. The same is true of I Timothy 2:4 where He would have all kinds of "men to be saved..." The editor continues further: "No one is predestinated to be saved except he who chooses of his own free will..." Ephesians 2:1 states, "And you hath he quickened who were dead!" Romans 3:11 says that, "There is none that seeketh after God." Man is dead in trespasses and sins, a slave to satan. It is true that man, even in his fallen state, is endowed with a natural freedom of will; yet, because of his depravity, the will of man is enslaved to evil only, and because it is fond of that slavery may be said to be free. I appeal to the Holy Scriptures; look there and see if one can be found "who chooses of his own free will to come to Christ and trust Him for salvation." "And He said unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matt. 4:19). "Jesus... saw a man, named Matthew... and saith unto him follow me... and he... followed him" (Matt. 9:9). "And He goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him" (Mark 3:13). "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him..." (John 6:44). "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you..." (John 15:16). "According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world" (Eph. 1:4).

It is apparent that if any one has come to Christ and trusted Him for salvation it is because

(Continued on Page 7 Column 1)



## SALVATION

(Continued from Page 6)

by Bill Burke, Jr.

that one has, from before the foundation of the world, been chosen in Christ, and not of "his own free will choosing to trust Christ for salvation." That one is dead in trespasses and sins and must be quickened or made alive, and only God gives life, whether it be physical or spiritual; and this spiritual life is given to as many as have been given to Christ by the Father. "As thou hath given Him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given Him" (John 17:2).

"The doctrine that God chose a limited number to be saved wholly contradicts many, many plain Scriptures." The good doctor's examples of "many, many plain Scriptures" is Christ being the "propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:2). My answer to this objection to God choosing to save a predetermined number of Adam's degenerate race is to define "propitiation" and see if this propitiation extends to those who will never be saved. Unless one holds the unitarian view, he is forced to believe that there are some who will never be saved. These are termed in Scripture, the non-elect.

We are all agreed that this propitiation affected the "whole world." The Greek words translated "propitiation" are "Hilaskomai," "Hilasmus," and "Hilasterion"; and these are used in the sense of turning away wrath, placate, conciliate, and appease. These words as well refer to expiration which means to remove the cause which precipitates the wrath. If the cause of wrath is removed the wrath itself will justifiably be turned away from its former object. Sin is the cause of Divine wrath. On the Cross of Calvary the shed blood of the Son of God dealt fully with the sin problem of His people, expiating their sin by His substitutionary death. The result of this Cross work was the taking away of their sin by paying their ransom. He imputed their sins to His own account, thereby establishing peace with God the Father. Thus He reconciled the elect world "the whole world" spoken of by John.

I do not believe that this brother is prepared to say that the advocacy of our Lord extends to the unsaved. I John verse one reads, in part "And if any man sin, WE have an advocate..." The "any man" is there clarified by the "We have an advocate" indisputably proving that His advocacy is not universal and, therefore, neither is the expiation-propitiation which His death affords.

The editor continues: "The Scriptures make it plain that Jesus came to save the world." What world? the physical world? the world which he loved or the one which He did not pray for? Was it the world system? We believe he accomplished that which he undertook to do and that was to save the elect world and this is the world which He loved and died for.

Did He die for all the sins of all people, some of the sins of all people or all the sins of some people? If for some of the sins of all people then all still have sins for which they must pay so none are saved. If for all the sins of all people, then why are not all sav-

ed? You answer because of unbelief. Such a statement is a contradiction in terms, for either their unbelief is a sin or it is not. If not a sin, why are they punished for it? If unbelief is a sin, then by your own affirmation Christ atoned for it and there is nothing more in their unbelief than there is in their other sins to hinder them from partaking of the fruits of Christ's sufferings. The dilemma is yours; choose which horn you please. I say without apology Christ died for all the sins of some men. These are the elect.

"It is true that God definitely ordained and determined some events ahead of time and elected some individuals for His purpose." Says the editor Philistine logic pure and simple. "Take the ark of the Lord... and see if it goeth up by the way of his own coast to Beth-She-Mesh. Then hath HE done us this great evil, But if not we shall know that it is not his hand that smote us, it was a chance that happened to us" (1 Sam. 6:8, 9).

No, dear brother, God did not ordain a few events and leave the rest to chance. He has ordained and determined all things which have or shall come to pass.

The editor concludes by observing "Election has to do with service, never salvation." "But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, Because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth" (II Thess. 2:13). Here are two statements, the one contradictory to the other. Since contradictory statements cannot both be true, one must be false.

We either believe this editor or we believe the inspired writer; there is no middle ground. There is election to service but to say this is the only election taught in the Bible is, at best, dishonest for we have read where election is unto salvation, and it is those who are so chosen who also are elected unto service.

I shall mention one more text and my task will be finished. Acts 13:48b. "As many as were ordained to eternal life believed." This stands like the rock of Gibraltar. No matter how much my Arminian friends may batter this text, it still stands unmoveable. All who were ordained to eternal life will believe. He shall see the travail of His soul and shall be satisfied. This is sure and steadfast. It is founded on shalls and wills, not those of feeble men, but those of the Sovereign God.

## ARE WE LIVING IN THE END TIMES?

You bet!! There are many signs of the times spoken of in Scripture. In Luke 17, starting with verse 22, Jesus foretells His second coming. Verse 26 states that as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the Son of Man. What happened in the days of Noah? Verse 27 tells us they did eat, they drank, they married wives, until the day that Noah entered the ark. You may ask what is wrong with that? The problem was not what they did, but that they completely forgot about God. They had no time for Him.

Verses 28 & 29 tell us that as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built, but the same day Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Again in the days of Lot men forgot God; they didn't need Him. You will recall also that in the days of Lot homosexuality ran rampant, see Genesis 19:4-10. Today we are witnessing the counterpart in the so-called gay movement.

Verse 32: "Remember Lot's wife." Remember she looked back upon Sodom and turned into a pillar of salt. Her looking back indicated that her heart was on Sodom, on the things of this world, rather than on God. This was the sin of that age and it is the same today.

Paul sums it up thus: "This know, also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof from such turn away" (II Tim. 3:1-5).

The most important sign is given by Jesus Himself in the parable of the fig tree. This parable is recorded in three of the four gospels: Mt. 24:32-35; Mk. 13:28-31; & Lk. 21:39-33. The fig tree, of course, represents Israel. Therefore, "when the branch is yet tender" (or when Israel is back in her own land again as a young nation); "and putteth forth leaves" (when she flies her own flags); and begins to bear fruit (produce an Army and a Navy, the "fruit" of a nation), "you know that it is near, even at the door." What is near? The return of our Lord, His second coming. The very next verse declares; "Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled." The generation referred to is the generation which sees these things come to pass, or our present generation, for we now have all the signs before us. Scripture is being fulfilled right before our very eyes.

There are other signs: wars and rumors of wars; nation rising against nation; famines, pestilences, earthquakes; Mt. 24: 6 & 7. False prophets vs. 11; Scoffer's — II Pet. 3: 3 & 4. The rise of the king from the north (Russia) Ezk. 38 & 39. The formation of the European Common Market which marks the restoration of the Old Roman Empire referred to as the ten toed kingdom in the book of Daniel. T.V. and radio which enables the gospel to be preached unto all the world. Plus the increase of knowledge and travel prophesied for the last days.

We are indeed living in the End Times. Those of us who know Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour need not fret, however, because Scripture plainly teaches that before things get too bad our Lord will return to call out His elect. This event is referred to as the rapture which we will explore in a future article.

—Searching The Scriptures" Mobile, Alabama

## JOHN BUNYAN'S STATEMENT ON ELECTION

John Bunyan (1628-1688) wrote "The Pilgrim's Progress" and "The Holy War." He spent many years in jail at Bedford, England for preaching without license. Though he has been accused of being a Congregationalist, it is recorded of him in Fox's Book of Martyrs, page 328 that "His conscience was still further awakened through the persecution of the religious body of Baptists to whom he had joined himself. Before he was 30 years old he had become a leading Baptist preacher."

1. I believe that election is free and permanent, being founded in grace, and the unchangeable will of God. (Rom. 11: 5, 6; 2 Tim. 2:19).

2. I believe that this decree, choice, or election, was before the foundation of the world; and so before the elect themselves, had being in themselves: For "God who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were" (Rom. 4:17), stays not for the being of things, to determine His eternal purpose by; but having all things present to Him, and His wisdom, He made His choice before the world was. (Eph. 1:4; 2 Tim 1:9).

3. I believe that the decree of election is so far off from making works in us foreseen the ground or cause of the choice; that it containeth in the bowels of it, not only the persons, but the graces that accompany their salvation. And hence it is, that it is said; we are predestinated to be conformed to the image of his Son (Rom. 8: 29), not because we are, but "that WE SHOULD be holy and without blame before him in love." (Eph. 1:4, 2:10). He blessed us according as He chose us in Christ. And hence it is again that the salvation and calling of which we are now made partakers, is no other than what was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began; according to His eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord (Eph. 3:8-11; 2 Tim 1:9; Rom 8:29).

4. I believe that Christ Jesus is He in whom the elect are always considered and that without Him there is neither election, grace, nor salvation (Eph. 1:5, 7, 10; Acts 4:12).

5. I believe that there is not any impediment attending the election of God that can hinder their conversion, and eternal salvation (Rom. 8:30-35; 11:7; Jer. 51:5; Acts 9:12-15).

6. I believe that no man can know his election, but by his calling. The vessels of mercy, which God afore prepared unto glory, do thus claim a share therein (Rom. 9:24, 25).

7. I believe therefore, that election doth not forestall or prevent the means which are of God appointed to bring us to Christ, to grace, and to glory; but rather putteth a necessity upon the use and effect thereof; because they are chosen to be brought to Heaven that way; that is, by the faith of Jesus Christ, which is the end of effectual calling (2 Pet 1:10; 2 Thes. 2:13; 1 Pet. 1:12). (Taken from THE WORKS OF JOHN BUNYAN, Volume II, pages 598 & 599).

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



FRED T. HALLIMAN

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

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

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

## BOOK REVIEW

Personally, I consider Hebrews to be one of the greater books of the Bible. Will there ever be too many books on this great Bible book? Hebrews surely exalts the person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ, and, after all, that is what it is all about, isn't it?

We have a commentary on Hebrews in our book store. It is in the form of expository lectures on the Book, covering its entirety. It is called THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS. It is by Adolph Saphir, a converted Jew, one well qualified to deal with this book which has much Jewish flavor about it. It is a hard back book of over 900 pages. It sells for \$14.95, which is a good price for so much material, as books sell today. Remember we give preachers and churches 20 percent discount on most items, including this one.

Many of the writers on Hebrews have consulted, and quoted from this book by Saphir, including Arthur Pink. The book deals well with its subject. It has a juicy, warm, spiritual character; and majors on exalting the person and work of our wonderful Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. It should make a welcome and valuable addition to the section of your library on the Bible book of Hebrews. Order this book from our book store, and remember the profit goes into the ministry.

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER OCTOBER 22, 1983 PAGE SEVEN



## TUNE IN TO THE CALL TO CALVARY

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

## MY IMPRESSIONS

Calvary Baptist Church's 1983 Bible Conference:

Looking around during the conference, I was disappointed at the number of young people in attendance. It's a shame that as the speakers and listeners continue to get up in years, there's no one in sight to fill in and take their places. If our Lord doesn't return shortly, I'm afraid His churches will suffer because of it!

Martin J. Foor, Gladwin, Mi.

\*\*\*

I have counted it a great privilege and honor, to be able to attend, and most of all to be one of the speakers at this great Bible Conference. It has been a time of blessing, and a time of learning. It has been a time of great fellowship with my brothers and sisters in Christ. My prayer is that the Lord will see fit to enable us to have more conferences such as this one has been.

Peter A. Halliman, Garrison, Ky.

\*\*\*

A great time of spiritual refreshment for all who attended. Pastors found a place for spiritual renewal.

Eldon Joslin, Birmingham, Ala.

\*\*\*

Being a recently saved individual, I thoroughly enjoyed the conference and learned a lot. It re-impressed upon my heart the stand of the true Church, the

sovereign grace of God and the many other important doctrines. I pray through this I may stand strong in my belief and be a good witness for my Lord.

Janet Foor, Gladwin, Mi.

\*\*\*

A good conference. It is especially good for young Christians and I wish more folks could come from around the U.S. I'm looking forward to next year.

Tim Foor, Gladwin, Mi.

\*\*\*

We had a great time in the Lord and a sweet spirit in the fellowship of the saints. We heard men speak the truth in love.

Pastor Coy G. Cox, Independence, Ky.

\*\*\*

This is my first conference in Ashland and I'm impressed with the building and all the facilities. I think the speakers have been especially good. I think Brother Joe always has everything well organized. The food and eating arrangements are excellent.

Dorothy Foor, Gladwin, Mi.

\*\*\*

Conference was well organized. I liked the 30-minute time limit the preachers had to stick to. Hospitality was great.

Wayne Smith, Griffin, Ga.

## SPECIAL NOTICE



Ron Boswell

Elder Ron Boswell, of Hagerstown, Maryland, will be preaching a revival meeting (hoping and praying it will be a revival) for Calvary Baptist Church October 22nd-28th. Services will be at 7:30 nightly. Please pray much for this meeting. We desire that all who can will attend these services and hear this able expounder of God's precious Word.

## ELECTION

(Continued from Page 4)

is an enemy of God, an enemy of the Lord Jesus Christ, an enemy of the Word of God, and an enemy of the Churches of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord says most clearly, "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad."

## BOOK REVIEW

We have a book in our bookstore by Eugene Stock. It is PRACTICAL TRUTHS FROM THE PASTORAL EPISTLES. It is a hard back book of over 300 pages, and it sells for \$12.95. Remember we give 20 percent discount to preachers and churches on most items.

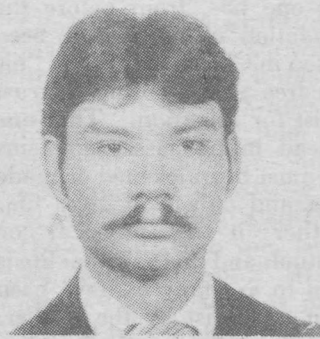
I have found good commentaries on The Pastoral Epistles hard to come by, and feel that I will value this addition to my library. This book is not a verse by verse commentary. Rather, it deals with these Epistles in the way of studying different subjects as they are contained in the three Epistles. It gives a very good introduction to these Epistles, and I have found this greatly needed by the Bible student.

The book is a very practical one, and seems to me that it will be of special help to the preacher in preaching from this portion of the Word of God. Order from our bookstore, and remember the profit goes into the ministry.

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THE BAPTIST EXAMINER  
OCTOBER 22, 1983  
PAGE EIGHT

## URGENT NOTICE



Peter Halliman

Peter Halliman, son of Fred Halliman has announced his call to go to New Guinea. He plans, God willing, to leave around June of 1984. He desires to visit interested churches prior to his leaving. He is in urgent need of a dependable used car to use for this purpose. Does any of our readers have such a vehicle that they would donate to Peter Halliman, or Calvary Baptist Church; or loan to us for this purpose. We would be happy to return vehicle later. If so, please let me know at once. You could bring the vehicle here, or we would send Peter Halliman for it. This would be a great service for mission work at this time. Write me at The Baptist Examiner address, or call me at 606-325-2012.

The editor.

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## APPRECIATED LETTERS

Enclosed is my check... Please renew my subscription to The Baptist Examiner. What a blessing this paper has been to my heart... when I was saved, someone sent me the paper. I have, at times, taken advantage of your specials, sending T.B.E. to others. Most have appreciated it. Sovereign Grace Churches are few and far between in our day.

Mrs. George Spangler, Jr. Charlotte, N.C.

\*\*\*

Here is my offering of... to be used in getting the truth to this sin-sick world in which we live. Would like to send more, but my expenses are so much as a widow. I enjoy T.B.E. so much.

Lucille O. Tatum Paducah, Ky.

\*\*\*

Don't want to miss a copy. Want to renew my subscription for a year. Also send a copy to...

Mrs. O.H. Gibson Longview, Texas

\*\*\*

Dear Brother Wilson, Enclosed is a money order for a contribution towards the expense of publishing The Baptist Examiner. We have enjoyed the studies on The Church. How wonderful it would be to have a place like that to attend. Also the sermons on "How a Lost Sheep Got Home" have been a special joy to our hearts. The whole paper has been a real blessing to us through about 25 years.

John Wolfe, Williamsport, Pa.

\*\*\*

Dear Sirs, I have been receiving your paper for many years

now. I enjoy all of it. I try to read every article as soon after it arrives as I can. May God bless you all is my prayer... Enclosed is my check for renewal...

Mrs. P. Lott Grenada, Miss.

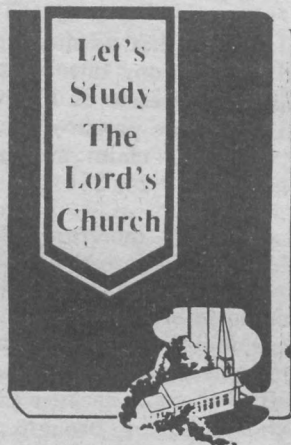
\*\*\*

Dear Brother Wilson, I agree with you that Bro. Fred Halliman is one of God's greatest missionaries, and I pray that God will heal his shoulder and supply all his needs. This check is to be used towards the purchase of a new vehicle for New Guinea Mission work. May God richly bless you and Calvary Baptist Church.

Inis Ingle Jonesville, Va.

## Let's Study The Lord's Church

By E. G. COOK



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(See Page 8 for Postage)

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