

Only God can fully satisfy the hungry heart of man.

DO WE HAVE A CAUSE

by Gene Kiger
Winston Salem, N.C.

I Samuel 17:26-29, "And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God? And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that killeth him. And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he



Gene Kiger

spake unto the man; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? And with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle. And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?

We have before us one of the most familiar portions of the Word of God. One that all Christians are familiar with, and I dare say that most of the world knows, also. That of the battle of David and Goliath.

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HOW THE LORD JESUS CHRIST SAVED ME

by Adriano Ragracias, Sr.
The Philippines

When I was a small boy my parents were very devout Roman Catholic by religion. I was the second son of my parents followed by three sisters, but only my second sister survived. Two had died while they were young. My home town was Talalora, Samar,



Adriano Ragracias, Sr.
Philippines.

One day my father told me, "Son, when you grow older, you should study to become a Roman Catholic Priest and you will have many friends and much money!" And I said: "Yes, father, I will study hard and become a Priest!" But before I reached high school my father died. I cried so sadly, for I could not find any other who could support me in my student life. I thought that I would not be able to pursue my father's vi-

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MISSIONARY

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BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

The Baptist Examiner

Baptist Is Our Middle Name

Paid Circulation in All States and in Many Foreign Countries

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

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THE BELIEVER AT PLAY

by Medford Caudill
Goshen, Ind.

The old adage is that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." It may also be true that "all play and no work makes Jack bored, broke, and bothersome." We have more leisure time today than at any other period in the world's history. The standard work day is only eight hours, while the work week is usually five days. Our forefathers struggled, on the other hand, through ten or twelve hour days, six days a week. Sometime take a sheet of paper and a pencil with you all



Medford Caudill

day and write down just exactly how you spend every minute. You might be surprised at the actual amount of time you give over to T.V. watching, eating or just doing nothing. You have a lot more time than you think.

Time is important to a Christian because he knows that God has numbered his days. We only have a brief amount of time to serve God on this earth and ought to use it to the best of our ability to glorify Him. Like

(Continued on Page 3 Column 5)

THE BELIEVER AT HOME

by James Hobbs
McDermott, Oh.

"A man's home is his castle." Have you not heard that expression many times? The idea behind it is that when we are in our own homes we can do as we please. In a sense that is true, but in another sense, it is not true. One can't break the civil law because to do so would mean that the authorities would take him to court. It is also true that we can't break God's law without answering to Him. This article is for the purpose of considering how the believer should act at home.



James Hobbs

"...For we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men" (I Cor. 4:9). The word "spectacle" can also be translated "theatre." We are an open theatre to the world and angels. This means that we are being watched or observed in every aspect of our life. Therefore, whether we are at home or in public, we must live a godly Christian life. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all

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THE BELIEVER AT WORK

by Sammy West
Griffin, Ga.

Text: Ephesians 2:10; Titus 3:8; Romans 12.

Ephesians 2:10 makes the statement "created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." We make the mistake many times of confining our works to Sundays and Wednesday night prayer services. We should realize, as Christians, we owe Christ Jesus good works all day and every day of our lives.

We are responsible to our Lord to take our Christian lives



Sammy West

to our jobs. On our jobs we become an effective witness for the Lord.

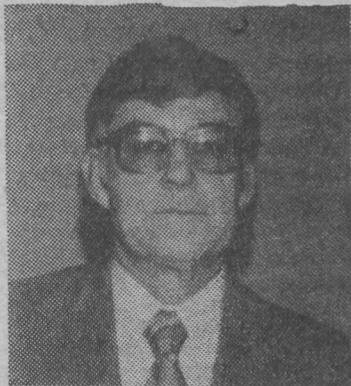
Our employer where we are working expects honesty from us. Notice please Romans 12:17 "Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men." Also read II Corinthians 8:21, "Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men."

(Continued on Page 3 Column 3)

EXAMINE YOURSELVES

by Ray Brown
Indore, W. Va.

We want to read a few verses of Scripture that Apostle Paul wrote to the Church at Corinth. Then we want to look at some very awesome words that the Lord Jesus Christ spake. Now these Scriptures represent a different time period. The first Scriptures that I am going to read to you are in present tense and the second Scriptures that I am going to read to you are future. II Corinthians 13:5, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith;



Ray Brown

prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates. Now I pray to God that ye do no evil; not that we should appear approved, but that ye should do that which is honest, though we be as reprobates. For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth."

Now let's look at some more very awesome words spoken by the Lord Jesus Christ. I tell you, it is going to be terrible when the

(Continued on Page 5 Column 5)

HEAVEN: OUR HAPPY HOPE

by Raymond Waugh
Midland, Tex.

Part II

Heaven: Saints' Dwelling Place

We have noted previously that there are three heavens. Two of these we enjoy at this very moment. Though we are human and though we are limited immeasurably by our humanity, God, in His Holy



Raymond Waugh

Word, enables us to know that we can be benefited wonderfully by our knowledge of and our experience in these two heavens. As David, in another day declared, "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth His Handiwork." We, then, can rejoice in the experiences which we can have in the heaven of the earth in which we make our way

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The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor Joseph M. Wilson

DO YOU LOVE JESUS CHRIST?

"So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. ...He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?... And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee..." (John 21:15-17).

The question of all questions is the one contained in my text and subject. Do you love Jesus Christ? In the matter of salvation, this is the question; for if you do not love Jesus Christ, you are not saved. In the matter of the restoration of the backslider, this is the question; for the one, complete, and only trouble with the backslider is the

lack of proper love for Jesus Christ. In the matter of revival, this is the question; for a revival is the burning heart of love for Jesus Christ. In the matter of service, this is the question; for it is love for Christ that motivates and continues one in the service that is acceptable to our Lord. David Brainerd — who rode horseback through the New England wilderness, in the dead of winter, to preach the gospel to the Indians, and suffered greatly thereby — said, "I deserve hell every day for not loving my Lord more." Dear friend, this is the question of all questions, Do you love Jesus Christ? Let me gauge the depth, height, breadth, and temperature of your love for Jesus; and I will tell you the true

condition of your soul before God.

This chapter, John 21, deals with the service of saved people; it does not deal with the matter of salvation. Here we see a wandering sheep restored to sweet fellowship with the shepherd. Here we see a backslider restored. And here we see such a one re-commissioned to do the work of the Lord. From this chapter we learn that true love for Jesus Christ is the one and only proper motive of service to mankind.

I will only briefly expound these verses. Notice the extreme gentleness of our Lord's dealing with Simon Peter. Oh, how wonderfully tender and compassionate is our Lord! He always

(Continued on Page 2 Column 1)

A gem cannot be polished without friction, nor can a Christian be perfected without adversity.

The Baptist Examiner

THE BAPTIST PAPER FOR
THE BAPTIST PEOPLE

JOSEPH M. WILSON, Editor

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LOVE

(Continued from Page 1)

uses the sweetest and kindest of methods with His erring children at first; and when He must use harder methods, even sore chastisement, He always acts in love. I will not enter into the two different words used for "love" in these verses, though I do regard this significant. Let me comment briefly on the words "more than these" in v. 15. Jesus could have meant, do you love Jesus more than you love the other disciples? He could have meant, do you love Jesus more than you love this business, your way of making a living? Jesus could have meant, do you love me more than you love this form of recreation, play and entertainment? I think it is likely that Jesus meant, do you love Jesus more than these other disciples love Him? I think this was a rebuke to Peter's implied profession of superior love when he said in Mark 14:29 "...Although all shall be offended, yet will not I." It seems that Peter felt he was stronger than any of the other disciples, that, though they might forsake Jesus, he never would. I feel that Jesus is here bringing this rash boast to Peter's remembrance, and bringing him to deep humility thereby. Note Peter's reference to the Omniscience of Jesus Christ in the words, "thou knowest all things." Dear friend, Jesus knows all about you. He knows the falseness or the reality of your profession of salvation. He knows the true depth of your spirituality. You might fool man, but you can not deceive the eye of omniscience. Please note that, despite Peter's sin, and his humility in answering these questions, still he knew that he truly did love Jesus Christ. I believe that each one does know, at least can and should know, whether or not he truly loves Jesus Christ. I know of a verity that, if we truly want to know, we can know the real

answer to this question of all questions.

True love is what Jesus desires of us more than all else put together. Love for Jesus gives beauty and value to all else we do. All other things we might do for the Lord are as nothing compared to this. In fact, we cannot perform one good and acceptable service for the Lord, except we do it out of love for Jesus Christ. How many of the works of even saved men will be burned in the fire of the judgment seat of Christ because they were not done out of love for Jesus Christ? I do not know all that might enter into one's doing a work for the Lord, but I do know that there must be therein a generous portion of true love for Jesus Christ, or the work is null and void, and might as well be undone so far as rewards are concerned.

And let me point out this blessed truth. That which Jesus desires most of all — which means most to Him — even true love for Jesus Christ — is something that every born-again child of God can give. Some



JOE WILSON

cannot sing beautiful specials which bless the souls of the listeners. Some cannot preach the blessed Word of God, for God has not called or gifted them thereto. There may be many things that some cannot do. But, dearly beloved, with all your lack of talents and abilities, you can give to your Lord that which means most to Him, even a heart full of love to Him.

Love for Jesus Christ is the fruit of salvation. "We love him, because he first loved us" (I John 4:19). This love does not grow in the depraved soil of the natural heart of man. God must give a new heart as the only source of this love. That love, which is a necessary part of true salvation is a gift of God and a work of the Spirit. How this shows us the depravity of man, the helplessness of man to save himself, and the fact that salvation is and must be of the Lord Himself. No man ever has or ever will, of himself, apart from the effectual and irresistible working of the Holy Spirit, have that true love for Jesus Christ.

This love, which is the fruit of an experience of saving grace, thus becomes the evidence that one is truly saved. "...everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God" (I John 4:7). I know that I did not love the Lord. I know that I could not, of myself, produce that love. I know that I do love Jesus Christ; not as much as I should, but I do, praise His name forevermore, have some love for Him. Knowing that I have this love that I did not produce, that only He could produce, I know that I have salvation. Love for Jesus is the sure evidence that one is saved.

Love for Jesus Christ produces obedience to the Lord in one's daily life. "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). "...If a man love me, he will keep my words..."

(John 4:23). No obedience — no love. It is as simple as that. One might sing "O, how I love Jesus" til the cows come home; but if there is no daily obedience to the commands of Jesus Christ, there is no real love for Jesus. It is not the loudness of our speech, but the obedience of our lives that proves our love to Jesus Christ. I am not speaking of perfect obedience. Who then would be a saved person? But, dear friend, there must be a measure of obedience in your life, or you are not saved. Are you concerned about the matter of obeying God? This will greatly help to answer the question of, do you love Jesus Christ. How about the obedience of Scriptural Baptism? How about church membership in a true church? How about faithfulness to the church? How about tithing? Witnessing? Praying? How about endeavoring to just live a decent life before the world? How about witnessing to others? Dear friend, you can read the reality of one's love in the acts of one's daily life.

Love for Jesus Christ produces love for others. This true love for Him cannot exist alone. It expands, reaches out, and touches others. There will be love for the church and its services. There will be love for the Word of God. Oh, one who loves the Lord will delight himself in the Word of the Lord, will read it, believe it, meditate upon it, and seek to obey it.

Some men may go overboard on the matter of love, but let me suggest that their going overboard consists of leaving out other important things, not of having too much love. Surely one of the greatest of needs in our dark, cold, heartless, sinful world today is for someone to love others. Love for Jesus Christ will produce a compassionate and active love for others. There will be love for our brothers and sisters in the church of which we are a member. This is one of the great needs of our churches today. This going in late, rushing out early, never bothering with one another from one service to the next — this is a curse to our churches. We should love to meet with the brothers and sisters at the church house. We should desire to get there early and fellowship, to stay around awhile and fellowship. We should have contact with one another between services. We should love one another, be concerned about and interested in one another. We should weep with one another. We should rejoice with one another. We should help one another. We should pray for one another. Our Lord said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35). I say again that this is a missing note in our churches today. I look back, as I write this, over forty years in the ministry. I can see that the greatest thing (at least one of the greatest) missing in the churches I have been privileged to pastor has been a genuine and active love of the members for one another. I could tell stories of criticism, bitterness, gossip, etc. Oh, the stories I could tell! But I cannot tell the stories of love that I should be able to. God help us! And the reason we do not love our fellow church members as we should is because we do not love Jesus as we should.

Love for Jesus will cause us to love our brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ even though they are not members of our own church, and even though they

are members of false churches. Love for Jesus will produce a family love, and the family of God is wider than the membership of any one church, or any certain kind of church. Let me stand against false churches. Let me stand like a rock against the false doctrines such churches proclaim. But let me be just as adamant, just as strong, just as determined to have and show love for my brothers and sisters wherever they might be. And let me be very charitable in my judgment of who is and who is not my brother. Let me be very, very slow in saying of one who professes to believe in the virgin-born son of God who died on the cross and rose from the dead as his Lord and Saviour — let me be very slow in saying that he is not a saved brother in Christ.

Love for Jesus will cause us to love the unsaved. Oh, how we need this love! We need a love for the unsaved that will take us out into the streets, into the homes, onto the job, bearing faithful witness to the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. We need a love for the unsaved that will manifest itself to them. Oh, dear friend, how many of your unsaved friends and loved ones really know that you love them, that you are concerned about their soul's salvation? Oh, for a love that will make every believer to be an active missionary for Jesus Christ. How can we say we love the unsaved if we do not visit them, do not witness to them, do not pray for them. The greatest missionary need in the world today is the need of love that will make missionaries out of all saved people. How can we talk so loudly of our love for Jesus when we have such little love for the unsaved?

Love for Jesus will give us power over temptation. James 1:12 speaks of "the man that endureth temptation." The same verse speaks of that man

as one who loves the Lord. I appeal to your experience. When your heart is inflamed with love for Jesus, when He is real and precious to your soul; do not the arrows of temptation fall harmless to the ground and fail to pierce your soul and bring you down. But when you are cold and indifferent and far from the Love, do not those same temptations drag you down into the dust of failure, and that with great ease? The increasing of one's love for Jesus will, at the same time, greatly increase one's victory over temptation.

Love for Jesus produces true Christian service. One who loves will want to serve. He will say as Paul did, "...Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6). Those people who do not serve are a people who do not love — or love very little. How can I talk of my great love for Jesus, and sit on the stool of doing nothing? Love is that emotion of the soul which motivates one to act on the behalf of that one who is the object of one's love. Love is, as I have said, a necessary motive for service. That which is not done because one loves the Lord is not acceptable to the Lord and will not be blessed nor rewarded as a good work. Then it is love which will enable one to endure in the matter of service. How much there is to discourage one in serving the Lord! But true love for Jesus will keep us at the task until our testimony is finished and we are called home from the fields of labor.

Love for Jesus will solve every spiritual problem in the individual and in the church. Oh, the excuses I have heard from those who will not do as they should in the matter of living for and serving the Lord. Some of them would be amusing if they were not so tragic. Give me whatever excuse you will. I

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FROM THE EDITOR

"...ye have not passed this way heretofore" (Joshua 3:4). This is the first issue of The Baptist Examiner for this year. The words of my text are surely appropriate for us all as we enter this New Year. Only our Lord knows what awaits each of us during this year. As we face this untrodden and unknown (to us) way, there are three things we have as children of God (among many other): 1. We have the blessings of the past to encourage us. 2. We have His presence in the present to sustain us. 3. We have His promises for the future to give us assured hope. With these we can boldly, confidently, and joyfully begin our journey through the New Year.

It is very probable that some of us will die this year. However, if we are saved, that will be the greatest blessing we shall have during the year, for that would be, "to depart and be with Christ; which is far better" (Phili. 1:23). It is surely possible that the rapture of the saints will occur this year. How wonderfully blessed and glorious that would be for the children of God! We surely have this to look forward to as a very distinct possibility during the year of 1984, for there is not a prophecy of God's Word which must come to pass before that Blessed Event.

As the editor of The Baptist Examiner, I desire for all our readers the very best of God's rich and wonderful blessings during this year. Dear friend, it is my prayer that this might be the best year you have ever had. May our God, if it please Him, give you physical, material, and above all, spiritual blessings during the year. I sincerely desire this for you.

It is my desire to make The Baptist Examiner a better paper this year. I promise you that I shall do my utmost to accomplish this. I will pray more about it. I will work harder at it. I will try to make my writings better. I will do my best to obtain and use as good material as I possibly can for this paper. In so far as it lies in my power, I will try to give you a paper that will be a blessing to your soul.

It is my further and stronger desire that The Baptist Examiner will better glorify God this year. I will try to always keep God's glory before me as I edit this paper. I will sincerely and prayerfully seek God's leadership in putting out a paper that will truly honor and glorify the Lord.

I will try to be more careful as to what I write and what I allow to appear in this paper. I will try my best to be a blessing to our readers. I will do my best to needlessly offend no one. I will stand strong for what I believe to be the truth of the Bible. I will stand adamantly against what I consider contrary to the Word of God. I will endeavor to do this in a spirit of love for all involved.

I need much help in doing these things. Above all, I need God's wisdom and strength. I need the help of preacher brethren, furnishing me good material to put in The Baptist Examiner. I need the prayers of God's people on behalf of myself and this work. Please help me in these things. May God bless you all!



QUESTION: — Who had holy oil on his beard?

ANSWER: — Aaron, Psalm 133:2. "It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard..."

For the recipe for this "oil of holy ointment" and its use, see Exodus 30:22, 23.

LOVE

(Continued from Page 2)

know what the true reason is. You do not love Jesus Christ as you should. I visited a member, and she spent hours telling me why she did not come to church. It seemed that everything and everyone in the church was wrong except herself. I told her that I knew what her one and only problem was: she did not love Jesus Christ as she should. Love for Jesus will solve all our spiritual problems. It will settle the matter of church attendance, of tithing, of Bible study, of praying. It will settle the matter of criticizing, of gossip, of church members not getting along. It will settle the matter of reaching the lost with the gospel. It will settle the matter of good song services, good preaching, good meetings in the church services. I tell you that love for Jesus will settle all our spiritual problems: individual or church problems.

Now let me say this, love for Jesus should be the supreme emotion in our lives. He should be our first and strongest love. We should love Him more than we love the things of the world. More than job. More than home. More than possessions of any and every kind. More than the pleasures of the world. Oh, this matter of worldliness! What a chill it is to the spiritual temperature of one! What a trouble it is to our churches! There are too many of God's people (I hope they are) who are far too interested in the things of this world. I do not mean just T.V., movies, ball games, etc. I mean just the things that are in the world: good things, bad things, necessary things, just the things of the world.

We should love Jesus more than we love anyone else in the world. More than husband, wife, children, parents, anyone at all. He should be first in our lives. How many of God's children allow the desires of others to come before what the Lord would have them do. Dear friend, do you ever allow what some loved one wants to influence you to do and not do as you know the Lord would have you do? How about it?

We should love Jesus more than we love ourselves. That is what self denial means. It does not mean to deny yourself some luxury for a few days. It means to say no to yourself — to your desires, ambitions, plans, etc., and to say yes to whatever you know Jesus wants out of your life. Dear friend, let me say that we ought to love Jesus Christ more than we love everything and everyone in the world all put together, including ourselves — especially, including ourselves.

I close by saying that one must have some love for Jesus Christ or go to hell forever. This is a very serious matter. "If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha" (I Cor. 16:22). That means to go to hell. If one is truly saved, he will have some love for Jesus Christ. If he does not love Him, he is not saved, and will go to hell. That is as plain as I can say it. Let us examine our hearts in the light of the eyes of Him who knoweth all things. Let us be certain that there is love for Jesus in our hearts. Then let us seek to have that love grow and grow and flame higher and higher in our hearts until, with burning hearts, we go forth to live for Him and serve Him to the best of our God-given abilities. May God bless you all!

HOW

(Continued from Page 1)

sion nor my priestly ambition. Yet, I remained a faithful Roman Catholic in spite of my loneliness for my father. My mother was still living, but she earned only a few pesos a week for being a laundry worker. My lone sister stopped schooling in her elementary grade in order to help mother earn our living. Yet, there was a constant reminder in my heart what my father had told me as his departing words: "Son, when you grow older, you should study to become a Roman Catholic Priest, and you will have so many friends and earn much money."

I felt I should not disobey my father's worldly vision nor my ambition. And so, to pursue my priesthood studies I went to Manila where the center of education could be found, especially for my priesthood career. Upon reaching Manila wherein I was somewhat a stranger, I looked for a job wherein I could study my high school even at night classes. This was in 1926. So I pursued my high school during six years that followed up to entering the Recoletos Catholic Seminary for my religious training.

In the Seminary, sometimes our Superior-Priest instructor used to open his Catholic Bible in lecturing about Creation, Noah's flood, and about Moses and the Ten Commandments of God. And so, one day, one of my classmates and I went to a Catholic Bookstore and we bought for each of us a Roman Catholic Bible for our personal reading and study. But when our instructor found us possessing a Bible, we were stopped from reading the Bible, and prevented from possessing the Book, telling us that we will be confused in our studies. Our Bibles were confiscated and deposited in the Superior-Priest's office with a promise to return to us after we were ordained Priests. But after some weeks again my classmate and I bought the so-called Protestant Bible (so-called King James Version) and each of us holds a Bible. But again we were stopped by the Superior-Instructor Priest and our Bibles were confiscated and deposited in the Priest's office telling us that the Protestant Bible is a heretic's Bible, for it is different from the Catholic Bible. And so my classmate and I were astounded and so confounded in our search for God. Consequently, after three months I left the Seminary and one month after my classmate followed me. And when we were set free, again we

bought for each of us one Catholic Bible and one King James version of the Bible and we avail much of studying and reading.

One day my former classmate in the said Seminary left, going home to his home province with his parents in Cebu City. However, my two Bibles became my closest companions while I worked as a common laborer. One Saturday afternoon I was invited by a Baptist friend of mine to go with him to attend their Sunday services, telling me that they had an English Baptist Missionary Preacher who is from Scotland and an instructor of the Manila Evangelistic Institute under the First Baptist Church of Manila. And so, I have to carry with me my King James Bible to show that I was interested in seeking God of the Bible.

It was one Sunday morning in April 1932 while the skies were so clear under a bright morning Sun, that I found myself to be studying the Word of God with people who believed and trusted the God of the Bible in Jesus Christ. Upon hearing God's message from His book about the eternal salvation by Grace through our Lord Jesus Christ — right then I trusted the Lord as my own personal Saviour. The following June of that year I entered the Manila Evangelistic Institute under the First Baptist Church and took up a Three-Year Bible School Course. I started to obey "My Heavenly Vision" in contrast to my father's earthly vision.

My first two-year itineraries were in the field under our Baptist Missionary, leading and handling a Mission Gospel Boat for which we used to travel around many of the Western and Southern Islands of the Philippines. Then, in 1935, I entered full time Bible School Work until I graduated in March of 1938. After graduation I was led to return to my home province of Samar where I have preached of our Lord Jesus Christ, His Gospel, up to the present. The Lord has blessed me with a Baptist wife and six living children, all Baptists, while I reached the age of 75 years.

I am a Bible Baptist nourished by The Word of God and helped by others. I am Pre-Millennialist and my family and I are set and ready for the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

WORK

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When we that are believers go to our respective jobs we represent our Lord first of all. Secondly, when we go to our jobs we represent our church. Thirdly, when we go to our jobs we represent our families. Fourthly, when we go to our jobs we represent our true selves.

I'm sure if you believe in the same Lord I do, you would not want to bring shame upon Him. We serve a Lord we should be proud to show forth to the folks on our jobs. After all, He loved us and gave Himself for us. The least we could do is give ourselves for Him. We should recognize the fact that our Lord rules on His mighty throne twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. We are His warriors going off to war and thus should always be ready and willing to take Him on our jobs. Romans 12:1-2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable un-

to God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

We can be a good representative of our church on our jobs. We are part of the body of Christ Jesus. When we read Romans 12:4-5, "For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another," we can readily see we have a responsibility to the church since we are part of that body. What the fellow workers see in us on our jobs will either build up our church or destroy our church. We talk a lot about doing things for our church. Don't you think our every day lives are extremely important to our church? We give the greatest support to our church when our department or our jobs are good. We expect our pastors to live up to their jobs that the church has called them to, why shouldn't each church member live a good example before others. We must be doers of the Word and not just hearers.

We are aware of our dealings on our jobs and our position before others. We should strive to represent our families with a good report. Nothing can be any more damaging to our family than to live before our fellow workers as we ought not to. Many homes are experiencing the man and woman working. No one should allow themselves to become as a non-believer on their jobs. Let's remember who we are and always remember our family.

As we look upon ourselves on our jobs, we should be aware of Christ's precious words in Ephesians 5:1-4, "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints. Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks." Some things we hear that comes out of professed Christians mouths would make one shudder. Beloved, living before men daily is a great responsibility. We should always live before others an honourable life. We should not be guilty of someone saying of us "if that's Christianity I don't need or want that." I love the Scripture when our Lord says in Proverbs 22:1 "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold."

We need not go into much detail as to our responsibility toward our jobs. We can see we need jobs to provide for our own and if we don't provide for our own what the Lord thinks of us. Notice I Timothy 5:8, "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." Brother, that is pretty strong language, isn't it? Don't be slothful on the job and expect the job to give favor to you. Be on time and work with a good attitude while on the job. Our covenant with our church is to be faithful in all engagements,

that includes our jobs.

Let's remember what the Lord says in Romans 14:12, "So then everyone of us shall give account of himself to God." We must know this and remember to take heed, lest we fall.

Then I want us to see the whole subject in the light of the Lord's words. Philippians 4:8-9, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you."

May our Glorious Lord Jesus Christ bless you in all things!

PLAY

(Continued from Page 1)

Jesus, we ought to be about our Father's business.

A Christian needs to consider his leisure activities carefully. Perhaps the first question we ought to ask ourselves is, "Do we give too much time to play?" Play and amusement have their places in anyone's life, but let's make sure we put them in the right place. If work that needs to be done gets left undone because of recreation, we are devoting too much time to play. If we neglect any work of the Lord in order to amuse ourselves, we are devoting too much time to play.

The second question we need to ask ourselves is, "Does our leisure activities hurt our Christian witness or our relationship with God?" There are some so-called recreational activities which are so immoral that any professing Christian will not have anything to do with them. The dance, for instance, would fall into this category. Dancing isn't recreation — it is sin.

The third question we need to ask is "How much does this cost and is it the best use of my money?" We have all seen youngsters pouring quarters into video games. Now there is nothing wrong with occasionally playing Pac Man or Donkey Kong. The constant use of money for those games that could be better spent elsewhere is wrong. Children may waste quarters, but some adults waste far larger sums of money on recreation. How much does your play time cost you? Could that money be better used in the Lord's work. A person who does not tithe, while spending money on any form of recreation, is robbing God and is spending God's money for his own pleasure.

It would be good for many Christians to adopt a more active play time. "Bodily exercise profiteth little," but it does profit a little. Too many Christians, especially preachers, get too little exercise. Our bodies belong to the Lord. We are made in God's image and present a very poor witness to the world when we are fat, lazy and inactive.

When a Christian enters a contest, whether it be a baseball game or a game of checkers, he ought to play as a Christian. A Christian does not cheat and

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The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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

Could New York City be the Babylon of Rev. 17 or 18? Is the USA specifically anywhere in the Bible prophecy? Please comment.

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Revelation 17:9: "And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth."

The city of Rome (Italy) has throughout its history been referred to as "The city of seven hills." Ancient Romish literature contains many allusions to Rome as the city of seven hills, and Roman emperors had coins struck showing the city sitting on seven hills. Rome is now the geographical headquarters of spiritual Babylon, that is, the papal system, and civil Babylon, which is now in the making, and which will soon be a finished product, having its governmental seat in the city of Rome.

In studying prophecy I have not yet found a Scripture which I consider to be a direct or specific reference to the U.S.A. Some students of prophecy believe that the "young lions" of Ezekiel 38:13 is a reference to the British colonial empire, including the U.S.A. Allowing this to be true, it would yet be at best an indirect mention and not a distinct reference to the U.S.A.

New York City, nor the United Nations Organization is the Babylon of the apocalypse. Neither is it necessary that a new and literal city named Babylon be built on the site of the ancient Babylon in order to the ultimate fulfillment of prophecy referring to political Babylon. What is rebuilt is not a new city, but a civil government that is patterned after the ancient Babylonian system, which spawned and sponsored the paganism that now prevails in, and is perpetuated, by Roman Catholicism.

Revelation 17:9, 10: "...The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings..." Some scholars believe the word "there" in this text should have been translated "these." The "seven mountains" are literal, and identify Rome as the physical location of the apocalyptic Babylon. However, that which is literal may have a twofold meaning or signification. Washington, D.C., while a literal city, is often spoken of as the sum and conduct of the U.S. government. Thus, it is with the "seven mountains," the Scriptures ascribe to them a regal character, and the context bears out that the mountains signify seven different governments, five past, one present, and one

yet future from John's time.

The problem stems not so much from the question as to which of the two cities, Rome or a rebuilt Babylon, shall be the seat of the antichrist government in the tribulation period, but from lack of ability to ascertain the governments or kingdoms which the "seven mountains" represent. On this question prophetic scholarship is about equally divided, one school holding to the view that the "seven mountains" represent "seven kings" or kingdoms. The five fallen kingdoms are believed to be, ancient Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, and Greece. The present kingdom (John's day) is held to be pagan Rome, and the one yet to come (600 A.D.) is papal Rome.

The other prophetic school holds to the view that the "seven mountains" represent seven different forms of government which would exist in the full course of the Roman Empire. Five of the seven forms of Roman government had already passed away by the time John was born, and he was living under the imperial form. Two more were to arise after his time, namely, pagan Rome and papal Rome. But both views contend that the "seven mountains" are first, literally mountains, and secondly, representative of seven kingdoms.

One indisputable truth is, whatever city becomes the seat of the anti-christ government it will be more infamous than Nimrod's Babel or Nero's Rome, for it shall be characterized by the evil of all ages past.

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From the descriptions given in chapters 17 and 18 we see that the Babylon of chapter 17 is a false religious system, while that of chapter 18 is that of a wicked commercial system, therefore neither can be the city of New York.

We need only to look at verse 1 through 6 of chapter 17 in order to identify this false religious system. In verse 1 we see her called "the great whore that sitteth upon many waters." Verse 15 tells us that the "many waters" are "peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues." In verse 2 it is said that the kings of the earth and the inhabitants of the earth have committed fornication (spiritual) with her. In verse 4 we see her arrayed in purple and scarlet, gold, precious stones, and pearls, and in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication. In verse 5 she is said to be Mystery, Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and

abominations of the earth. In verse 6 we are told that she is drunk with the blood of the saints, and the blood of martyrs.

Answer the following questions and you have the identity of this false religious system.

1. What religious system has control over many of the governments of the world and through them in spreading her false doctrines?

2. What religious system has her leaders dressed in purple and scarlet, and decked with gold and precious stones? In fact, what religious system has much of the wealth of the world?

3. What religious system has given birth to many of the false churches (harlots)?

4. From what religious system has most of the false doctrines (abominations) come?

5. What religious system has put to death millions and millions of the saints of God - 50 million Baptists during the Dark Ages?

Answer these questions and you have this False religious system identified.

In chapter 18, we have the account of the wicked commercial Babylon, the city in which the false religious system had her headquarters. Regardless of whether this is Rome or restored ancient Babylon, it can not be New York City.

In answer to the last question, I can not find the USA specifically mentioned anywhere in Bible prophecy.

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Revelation 17:5: "And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

I must admit that this question caught me by complete surprise. I have never heard of the idea of New York City being Babylon. The mere fact that it is a new idea, speaks evil of its possibility. I have heard that America might be economic Babylon. I also reject this theory. I do not believe that America, or any city therein, has anything to do with Babylon mentioned in Revelation 17 and 18.

Briefly, I will state what I believe Babylon to be in these verses. First, in Revelation 17, I believe the Bible is speaking of ecclesiastical Babylon. It is referring to the great idolatry of Babylon that the Roman Catholic Church has brought in to their religion. There is no doubt in my mind that the whore mentioned in this chapter is The Roman Catholic Church. The name Babylon on her forehead refers to her exceeding idolatry. Second; I believe that

Babylon mentioned in chapter eighteen refers to the literal rebuilt city of Babylon. I believe this city will be the commercial capital of The Anti-Christ. God is going to destroy both of these. The woman in the middle of the tribulation and the city at its close.

The next question concerns the USA being mentioned specifically anywhere in Bible prophecy. My answer to this is no. There is no mention of America, "specifically," in The Bible. The USA will no doubt be with those nations defeated at Armageddon, if we survive as a nation that long. Briefly, let me give my opinion (and that's all it is) on America's role in prophecy. I believe that God has used America to prepare other nations for their role in prophecy. I offer you one example. Were it not for the nation of America, there would be no Russia today. Russia was devastated after World War II. USA was mainly responsible for their rebuilding. We know that God has a plan for Russia. (Ezekiel 37, 38). God used America to rebuild them, that God might later destroy them. This is one example of many.

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Frankly, I do not believe that Babylon is anywhere but where it has always been. Babylon was the capital of Babylonia which is located near the Euphrates River. I believe that it will be located where it has always been. Why do we think that places and things have to be somewhere else?

If the Babylon of Rev. 17 is referring to the city then it must be the same city. If it is referring to the Babylonish doctrine, which is plainly a doctrine of salvation by works only, then it is not a place but a position. This position of course is all over the world and is indeed an antichrist position. The antichrist will arise, but will come either out of Rome or Israel.

You ask if the USA is specifically in Bible prophecy. The answer is absolutely not. The USA is included in prophecy just as all nations are included, but it is not specifically spelled out. Isaiah 14:25 says, "This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this is the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations." Obviously all nations including the USA are spoken of in this passage. Again we are told that; "...I will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the heathen, such as they have not heard" (Micah 5:15). The word "heathen" can be interchanged with the word "nations" and the USA is included as it is in Ezekiel 39:21 "...and all the heathen shall see my judgment..."

PLAY

(Continued from Page 3)

does not bend the rules. He plays as hard as he can, but he plays fair. He is not a sore loser or a vain-glorious winner.

What about the church and recreation? Jesus commissioned the church to do three things: namely, to preach the Gospel, baptize believers, and then

teach them all things commanded by God (Matthew 28:18-20). No where does the Bible say it is a church's responsibility to provide recreation for her members. We certainly find no example in the Bible of churches having softball teams or organizing skating or bowling nights. I don't believe there is anything wrong with playing softball or skating or bowling. It simply is not the business of the church to organize and sponsor those activities.

To sum up, a Christian is a Christian twenty-four hours a day. He or she ought to act like a Christian twenty-four hours a day. At church, at home, at work, or at play — we ought to seek out those activities which help us to glorify God and witness of the saving love of Jesus Christ.

DO

(Continued from Page 1)

While we think of this event today, I will not use it in the usual way. I would like for us to think of the statement made by David upon his brother's accusation. Namely, what have I done? Is there not a cause? Surely we would think David had a cause to speak as he did. This was the army of the living God; and they were being defied by an enemy of God. David spoke words which should have been spoken by many of the Israelites on the battle field. I will ask the question; Was David wrong in what he said? Did he overstate the position or the need? Was there a cause for what he said? I think surely we will all agree that David acted as he should in this matter, and that it would have been wrong for him to have left the field of battle and not spoken a word of rebuke to the men of Israel. David, even when young was, as we can see here, a man of great faith. And he was quite concerned as his brother had accused him, but out of love for God and concern for the glory of the living God.

With this thought in mind I will ask concerning us today, is there a cause for us to be different? When I say different, I really mean different. It seems that all the religious groups in the world are said to be different. Yet, I speak of one that is truly different. I speak of the true churches of the Lord Jesus Christ. Now, brother, let me tell you these are different indeed. But are we different for the right reason. David had a very good reason to be different from the men of Israel; they were wrong. They were more concerned for their own safety and ease than the honor and glory of the living God. Allow me to say, we are only different for the right reason, if that reason is the honor of God. Far too many groups claim to be different, only out of pride, attempting to build a large following. So let us be very careful that when we are different, it is to the right end.

The true churches of Christ have very many accusers; and we are accused of many things. Some of these things we need to be very thankful to God for. Yet, it is also true that we are accused many times falsely; and to this end I would like for us to think now.

"We are accused of being too Doctrinal. If we preach about a High and Lifted up God; who is so far above the thoughts of man that we cannot really know Him. When we present God as being Sovereign over all things, then we are too

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DO

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doctrinal. It is okay if we present Him as sovereign over some things; such as death. How many people are there who rebel against the sovereignty of God; yet when they stand beside the casket of a loved one, rest in the fact that it was the Lord's will. Why is it that God can only be partly sovereign? Or, if we must preach about the sovereignty of God, we should do it on Wednesday night, when not too many people will know we believe it. Even more popular, is the idea that this is a closet doctrine; one to be discussed at home by the fireplace on some snowy night when it would be high impossible for anyone to visit and overhear. Yet, beloved, the truth of the Word of God is that "He is in one mind who can change Him" and "Whatsoever the Lord pleased that did He; and none can stay His hand or say unto Him what doest thou."

Then we are accused of being too doctrinal, if we preach the Doctrines of Grace. Especially, if we name them, then men will know what we believe and may not continue with us. Yet, to the honor and glory of God and the true churches of Jesus Christ preach these truths. This is the pillar and ground of the truth, we have no other choice than to preach the truth of how God saves a sinner. We preach that man is Totally Depraved. That all men are by nature sinful, and are totally unable to save or to help save themselves from this state. Further, that man is in love with his sin and has no will or desire to rise above this condition, or as Jesus Christ said, "Men loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil" (John 3:19). Then we also preach the Unconditional Election of God. That God did, in eternity past, choose a people, which no man can number, to be the recipients of His grace. That said election was based solely upon God's will, with no condition of works which we have done, are doing, or shall ever do. As Ephesians 1:4-5 states, "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ unto himself, according to the good pleasure of his will." Then, those thus elected and depraved sinners must have a pardon from their sins. Hence, the Limited Atonement of our Lord Jesus Christ. That Christ did fully and satisfactorily atone for the sins of His elect, which He loved with an everlasting love and gave Himself for. That God did, in response to the sacrifice made by His only begotten Son, place the sins of those for whom Christ died away from them as far as the East is from the West, and does not impute sin to them. That these will surely and effectually be brought to repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ by the Irresistible Grace of the Holy Spirit. That all that the Father giveth Christ will be willing in the day of His power. And finally, that all these, and these only, will hold on their way and wax bolder until they are conformed unto the image of the Lord Jesus Christ, that He may be the first born among many brethren. When we do this we are accused of being too doctrinal!

What have we done? Is

there not a cause? When on every hand our God, Whom we love and serve, is being portrayed as "Altogether such a one as ourselves." When the will of God is being defied and thwarted by man, according to their teachings. When salvation is placed in the hands of man instead of being of the Lord, and man is said to have the ability to come unto Christ if he wills to. When those who are saved are not those elected, but rather those who are smarter than others. If there be any election at all, it is based upon the foreknowledge of God, which means He looked throughout the future and seeing who would accept His pleading allowed God to save them, hence He elected them. Even worse, so far as the atonement of Christ goes, He suffered for those already in hell the same as He did for any who were already in Paradise. That God the Father punished His Son upon the cross for the sins of men who were already being tormented by the flames for their sins. How unfair the Father was to the Son, in this punishment! Then, of course, the reason that any go to hell is that they will not surrender to the will of God, because God does not will for anyone to go to hell. He has done and is doing all He can to save everyone, but man will not let Him. Or even worse, some of the ones who did let God save them, do not keep themselves saved and die and go to hell anyway.

Now, beloved of the Lord, I ask you, have I overstated the ideas of many so-called theologians today. If not, then I ask, do we not have a cause? Are we too doctrinal in our preaching? Does the Word of God not present the doctrines which I have presented? If so, then must we not also present them? Yes, I think we will agree we do have a cause, and we, with David, can say, "What have I done?" Is there not a cause?

Aside from being called too doctrinal, we are also called "hardheaded and too strict" because of what we preach concerning THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST. We preach that Christ instituted His church while here upon the earth. That He has kept His church alive and well throughout the annals of time; and that, there has never been a day dawn upon this earth, since Christ promised "the gates of hell will not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18), in which there was not a true church of Christ upon the earth. Equally true is it, that any group which had its origin later than the earthly ministry of Christ, is not a true church, and is operating in rebellion to Christ's church. We also preach that the church which Jesus instituted was a Baptist Church in doctrine and practice, and was organized with the apostles who were baptized by the first Baptist preacher John. That in the early stages the Devil began a counterfeit religion with the Roman Catholic Church. The main reason was the doctrine of the universal visible church. Because if anyone had talked about a universal invisible church in the early days following Christ's ministry; they would have been laughed to scorn. But what of today? This is the important church. Then, concerning BAPTISM, we teach that only saved people are candidates for baptism, and that only by immersion. This being preceded by the authority of a true church, with the can-

didate having in mind the proper motive — obedience to Jesus Christ. Also, by the grace of God we attempt to practice these doctrines and this is the reason we are so hated, called so many names, and misrepresented so badly. Yet, I ask, "What have we done? Is there not a cause?"

When on every hand, by radio, television, and many religious organizations; people are being told to attend the church of their choice. Now, beloved, we have as American Citizens the right to attend the church of our choice, and I will fight to keep it that way. But as citizens of heaven, we are pilgrims and sojourners here, we do not have a choice; we are to follow Jesus in this as in all matters. And I issue a challenge to any or all the preachers who read this to prove different than this, "Jesus Christ was baptized by a Baptist in the river Jordan, because there was MUCH WATER there. That He went DOWN INTO THE WATER AND CAME UP OUT OF THE WATER." Now prove me wrong, then go and preach it in your assemblies! The idea that you may attend the church of your choice has caused many to do just that. They do not want to go to any church, so they don't. It also leads the way for the Devil's lie, that I can serve God at home just as well as I can at church. How many times have you heard that? You don't like to hear it; good, quit telling people that they may do as they please in their service to God. It does matter. If not, why did Jesus institute a church and promise perpetuity unto it? We also have a cause when we think of the many who sprinkle infants. Our Baptist forefathers, not the Protestant Reformers, were martyred by the false churches of the Dark Ages because of their stand against infant baptism and a lien immersion. Yes, we have a cause to be Strict and Hardheaded, concerning the truth of the church of which Jesus is the Founder and Head.

Finally, we are called NARROW-MINDED and OLD-FASHIONED, because we preach that God's people should be a Holy and Separate people; who obey the teachings of the Word of God. Especially, when it comes to the Woman's place in and outside the church. First, in the church; we believe and teach that a woman should wear a covering on her head, and that she should not speak in the assembly of the saints. As to her place outside the church; that she should marry, bear children and be keepers at home. That she should be in subjection to her own husband, and not attempt to rule in the life of man. For the man was formed first and then the woman to be a helpmate for him; not to be in competition with him. We also believe that the women should "dress as becometh Godliness." That women should be very careful not to follow the fashions of the day, if wrong. There seems to be a movement in the fashion world today to go back to the mini-dress. Surely, the Godly ladies of today will not be involved with this, yet we must be on our guard lest Satan creep in unawares. Then many of the religious groups of the day are okaying the wearing of pant suits to church. Now I am not against women wearing pant suits, in the proper places, for I surely do not consider them to be men's clothing. Those who think they are men's clothing ought to wear them down town some busy day and notice the

looks they receive. Then I feel there are things which are right and proper in some places which are not so in others. Allow me to illustrate what I mean: I feel it is okay for a woman to wear a nightgown at home, yet I would feel it out of place in church. And dear Christian sisters, please be careful what you wear when you swim. Many of the bathing suits of today are little larger than what many wear to shower in. This is not becoming to a saint.

Enough to the ladies, Brethren, I truly feel that if we will keep our God-given responsibilities up, that in itself will settle much of the confusion today. If we will rule our own home, love our wives as Christ loved the church, and set the proper example for our children much will be accomplished. Brothers, let us, by the enablement of God, provide for our families, and I realize today many wives must work. But let us do it as the need is; and not to lay up treasures here on earth. This will lead the way to a happy home, with children honoring their parents.

Then we preach that there are things which both brothers and sisters are not to do while living righteously in this world: there are some movies which we must not go to, there are some books we must not read, and there are some places where we must not go. These are some of the things we teach about separation, for which we are called narrow-minded and old-fashioned. But again I ask, "WHAT HAVE WE DONE? IS THERE NOT A CAUSE?"

Surely, we can see there is a cause for us to teach the woman's place in the church. When today, women fill every position in the churches so-called. We have women pastors, deacons, song leaders, and many more. Surely, we should stand for the truth of God in this. It is also outside the church today; do we have a cause to preach the truth! We are considered male chauvinistic if we do not support the ERA movement. So you can imagine how they feel about some of us who say, that the ERA is one more attempt of Satan to destroy the law of God. Yet, how many are there who follow in this way? Beloved, we live in a time when many women work, not out of necessity; but only because they would rather work than raise their own children, therefore we have so many nurseries. Also, we have many women who would rather work than cook for their families, hence a seemingly endless supply of restaurants, and more being built daily. Then, many women would rather work than clean their own home, thereunto the maid services are doing a thriving business. What does all this mean? It did not happen overnight. The preachers of the Word of God quit preaching these things, in the main, some time ago, because the people would not endure sound doctrine. Therefore, it sounds strange for me to write about these things today, still they are the truth of God's Word.

Do we have a cause to preach about the immorality of the world in which we live? Surely we do, when such like as; homosexuality and abortions are not only approved of; but they are afforded protection by the law. Even more than that, they are rewarded. Today we have professed homosexuals in high office of government; this is okay. Yet, let one who has stood

against such immoral issues as these, question the making of a national holiday to honor one; and he is treated as if he attempted to impeach our president. Oh, surely, we have a cause "to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints." If we don't do it, who will?

What shall we say about all these things? What shall our attitude be toward them? How long should we contend for the truths afore stated? First, let me say I feel we should contend for the truth of the Word of God so long as God will give us grace and strength, even unto death. For such have so many of our predecessors. Let us never fear the laughs, nor even the stones of the enemies of God, more than Him. For surely, we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ. Let us never be ashamed of our God. What shall we say about the names we're called, or the persecutions we may endure? "The servant shall not be greater than the master;" marvel not! remember they hated Christ first. If we are despised and spoken evil of by the world, then we must be doing some things right. For the world is at enmity with God. Marvel not if this world hates you. Finally, what shall we say to these things, "If God be for us who can be against us?"

What shall our attitude be toward these things? First, I feel we should praise God for the privilege of knowing these truths. Also, we should praise Him for the grace it takes to stand for them. Surely, we all know some who profess to believe these things and yet, in action deny them. Secondly, I feel we should pray for those who are against us. Pray that God may be pleased to teach them the truths we hold so dear; and remember, that in many cases such were some of us. Then, we must pray for strength to continue, surely we are not able to continue in our own power. Yes, "we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us." Also, we should pray for others who may never have heard the truths of which we write. We live in a day of famine for the truth of the Word of God. Remember that we are praying to a sovereign God, with whom nothing shall be impossible. Thirdly, I feel we should continue on; not letting up for ourselves. Surely we cannot stop now, with the honor and glory of God at stake!

So, in closing, let me say; the next time you are called some name which has been mentioned or whether it be another, remember what David, when standing for the honor of God in the face of false accusers, said, "What have I done? Is there not a cause?" Surely, he had a cause, yet not any greater than the one we have today. May God add His blessing to this and to the readers thereof!

EXAMINE

(Continued from Page 1)

religious world, and maybe 99% of the Arminian world, will have these words spoken to them. These words are going to be spoken at the White Throne Judgment. I am not going to be there, so it's not going to be a problem for me. But it is good

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EXAMINE

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that we examine ourselves and understand fully what we believe and the very foundation of our eternal salvation. It is a very important matter that a man take full investigation of his life. Take just a little time to take this deep study of yourself. As a man once said, a man knows himself better than anybody else does. And you need to know more about yourself and need to examine yourself. Notice in Matthew Christ has been talking about the narrow road, the wide road, and then He goes on to verse 21, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, (there were many on the broad road) Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?" Now notice that, we have "done many wonderful works," in other words, we should be saved. We should have inherited this eternal salvation. If by no other means, we should have earned it. It ought to be ours. We have labored fervently. We have worked hard. We have done everything in our power, everything that we know what to do, we have not left anything undone; now we think that it is a matter of principle that we ought to have eternal life. That we should enter into the kingdom of God. That we should dwell in the eternal city!

And what does Jesus say to them? He is going to say this to all of the religious world. Now a lot of people say that I am being hard. Don't tell me that you can single one out of the religious world that is saved. I am talking about religion. Religion will doom and damn a man. You cannot be saved by religion. Religion is a philosophy of man. It is a man-made device which has been handed down. It is out of the very emptiness of human nature of man and, of course, it has been hissed by the serpent into the ears of these men and they have funded it and made it a doctrine and they have deceived millions and millions of people. And they are going to be standing at the White Throne Judgment and they are going to hear the very awesome words of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Verse 23, "And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Jesus said He will be the King at the White Throne Judgment and He will say "depart from me." "I never knew you in the pardon and forgiveness of sin. I never knew you in the design and object of God's love. I never knew you in the eternal everlasting covenant."

Very awesome words, I say indeed, and it is needful for a man to take an inventory and understand where he is going to spend eternity.

I am not trying to cast any doubts or any shadow upon anyone. This is what God laid upon my heart to preach. I am not assuming anything. Apostle Paul was not assuming anything when he wrote to the Church at Corinth. Evidently, there were some reprobates in the Church of Corinth. He is not assuming

they are all saved; he's not assuming that they are all lost; all he is doing is preaching what God told him to preach. Cut the tree and let it fall and let it lay where it falls. That is what a man of God has to do. He has to do what God tells him to do. So we see some very important words and we see some very awesome words.

Now the examination is something that we can do in this day and time, but the listening to the words that Jesus spoke will come too late. It is too late because those people are at the White Throne Judgment.

In Psalm 5, God hateth all workers of iniquity. So now let's go back to II Corinthians 13. Let's look here and then I am going to talk about seven or eight different classes of people that are going to hear these terrible awesome words of the Lord Jesus Christ. Now Paul says "Examine yourselves." What does the word "examine" or "examination" mean? The noun in the Greek is "anakrasis," a legal term used among the Greeks. It means a preliminary investigation for gathering evidence for the information to give to the judge. It means a full scale investigation so that no stone is going to be left unturned. That every aspect is going to be looked into of the evidence of which we have. We are not going to leave any stone unturned. We are going to look into the matter fully and completely. Paul said "I want you to look into the matter. I want you to fully take a complete investigation." Of what? What is Paul talking about? To take a preliminary investigation or a full scale investigation? What is he talking about? Well, let's read on. "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves (prove your own self, take inventory, take investigation, don't you know your own self?)" A saved man knows his own heart and don't tell me you don't. I know a sinner doesn't. I know a sinner, unless he is quickened by the power of the Holy spirit, not only sits in darkness, but loves darkness. In Romans 7 Paul was talking about two men, Saul and Paul. And he said "I know both of these men well. I know Paul real well and I know Saul real well and one has to die. The other one has to live."

Now, a lot of men won't preach reprobation. You have to preach reprobation if you preach election. If God elected and chose and put us in Christ before the foundation of the world, then those that were not elected to eternal salvation are going to go to eternal damnation. It is very simple and very plain. Election is a positive doctrine and reprobation is a negative doctrine. I class it myself as a decree from election. If you have election, you only have one election, that's all you have. God only held one election. He didn't have to hold another election to identify those who were not elected in this salvation. It is the same way when we hold an election. When the man has been elected, we don't have to hold another election to see those that were defeated! So, it is a decree from election. It is a negative aspect of election. God just lets the non-elect go on to an eternal fire. That old song says, "I am so glad that Jesus loved me." It is wonderful to know that God loves us! Now in the verb "to examine," the verb is very much

stronger, even than what the noun is. The verb is even stronger to show the importance of what I am trying to say here. Now let us notice what the verb means. The verb in the Greek, "anakrino" means to examine, to search, to inquire or reach a result. It means to prove, test, or approve. And the word approve is rendered examine. Let's look at a couple verses of Scripture now.

In James 1, let's see how this word is used in verses 22-25, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." What does that mean? Well, the word rendered here means to behold, not only to glance, but a man must bend his body forward.

This same word is used in Luke 24:12, where the women came and told Peter and John that Jesus was not in the tomb... and they didn't believe it. Peter and John ran to the sepulchre and, of course, Peter outran John and it said that Peter stooped down and looked into the sepulchre where Jesus had lain. He didn't take anybody's word for it. He inquired diligently and went inside the tomb and saw the empty space where our dear Saviour had lain.

Oh, Peter wasn't taking any chances about it! I am going to inquire about this! I am going to look into this matter! So that is what this word means. It doesn't mean to just glance, to just assume something. Oh, how many millions of people are on their way to a Christless eternity today because they assume they are saved! Because they just glanced at eternal salvation. They just glanced at the Word of God. They heard a word here and there and went ahead on the assumption that everything is all right. You would be surprised how many millions of people are in such a terrible state! That is why I am being so strong upon this word "examine."

We are to behold, not only to glance, but to bend our bodies forward, that we may carefully examine. To know in earnest, to diligently inquire. Of course, in James it says, "But whosoever looketh into the perfect law of liberty (or the law of Christ) and continueth therein." To continue therein, signifies a preserving of the study of the truth of God's Word. To be presented in it. To be diligent in it, to be earnest and to desire; to inquire diligently. I think of Brother Neal. How brother Neal inquires and searches diligently the things that I preach. I know he does. I like that and I am sure the rest of you do as well when he asks me of these things. It's like, in I Peter 1:12, Peter is talking about eternal salvation, this glorious gift of God. It says the angels desire to look into it. The angels are here this morning. They bend, they listen, they desire to look into this matter of wonderful eternal salvation, but no blood was shed for them, you see. They can't understand their great Creator. The very ones that when they come into

His presence, even the angels of the seraphims have to hide their faces from them who are so glorious and marvelous. They can't comprehend the very fact that He'd leave the portals of glory and come to the sin-cursed earth and take upon Himself the form of a servant and be a beggar and wear rags and be persecuted and hounded. They cannot understand that. Oh, my dear people, we need to understand it! to understand it fully! The great sovereign God of this universe came to this sin-cursed earth, so it is a very important matter indeed that we are to check out our salvation. We are to check it out diligently and fervently. We are to "make our election and calling sure," (II Peter 1:10).

Do you understand and realize that God wrote a whole book that we may know that we have eternal salvation. I John, the 5 chapters, the whole 5 chapters give us an assurance that we have eternal salvation. It is a very important matter. We are not to take anything lightly. I have dealt with people many times, even in my own family, and I have been misunderstood and disliked because I say salvation is not something to take lightly. We are to search it out diligently. Oh, the many people that are going to hear those awesome words of Christ! Why are they going to hear those awesome words? We have a responsibility to preach the Word of God and I know that God is only going to save those whom He chose in Christ before the foundation of the world.

But listen, when God spoke to Ezekiel, He said "I want you to go to these people and tell them my word and yet they will not forbear." He said, "They will not listen. They are not going to hear what you have to say, but you can go. This is your responsibility. I am going to send you as my spokesman, my messenger, whether they listen, whether they heed, you are to go and tell them my message." So we have a grave responsibility upon us to go to these people and tell them about the sovereign grace of Almighty God. Now I fully believe this. If I come in contact with these people, if they have crossed my path, if I have had an opportunity to talk to these people concerning the sovereign grace of Almighty God and I stood there with my mouth shut and I stood dumb and never said anything. God is going to hold their blood, require their blood at my hands. I'm telling you. He is going to do it. Even though they are not going to be saved, God said, "You are my spokesman." He said, "You give them my word whether they hear or whether they forbear." We are to give those people His Word. If we have the opportunity, I'm saying. We have a grave responsibility to take the Word of God and tell them about the sovereign grace of God. How that Jesus came into the world to save sinners. That's what we are to tell them. Christ came to save sinners. He didn't come to save the good ones and the self-righteous, but He came to save sinners.

What kind of people are going to hear those awesome words? There is going to be a certain class of people who are going to hear those things, going to hear those terrible awesome words from the lips of the Son of Man. There will be many that rest on their sound doctrine views of Christ. They are going to be

there by the millions. They have a sound view, their sound doctrinal views of Christ. What do you mean by that? They will believe firmly in the deity of Christ. And they will believe firmly in His humanity. They will believe firmly in His perfect life. They will believe in His death. They will believe in His bodily resurrection. They will believe in His ascension back to the right hand of God. And yet these people will be lost. Listen brother, it is not that we have a good view of Christ, it is what we have done with Christ. "Now that you receive Christ, walk you in Him rooted and established in the faith." It doesn't make any difference what kind of opinion you have concerning the Lord Jesus Christ. What have you done with Him? Have you acknowledged Him? Have you received Him as your Lord and Saviour? Is He your prophet, priest and King? Is He the very substance of your life? Do you feast upon Him? Does your heart beat in anticipation toward Him? Is He the most important thing in your life? That's what it means! I had a good opinion of Christ before I was saved. I believed He came from heaven. I believed that He died. I believed that He was buried. I believed that He took upon Him the form of a servant. I believed all of that. I believed that He arose the third day and ascended back to the Father. But that did not save me. I had an opinion of these things. I had a good opinion, you see. Sound doctrine views. Now that's what the scriptures say. But you see, there is more to it than that. We must be reminded what James told his hearers in 2:19, "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well; the devils also believe, and tremble." The devils also believed and trembled. Notice that! I know a lot of people believe in Jesus because they drag Him out of the closet a couple of times a year. Historical facts that is what I had concerning Christ. That does not save anybody. You have to give up the soul unto Christ and renounce all else. You have to yield fully unto Him. You have to realize that He is the all and all. That He is the Saviour, He is the redeemer. He is the prophet, the priest, the King. You must rest your weary, troubled soul upon the efficiency of His atonement and the shedding of His blood. You must cry out, and repent of your sins. You must see yourself as a hell-deserving sinner in the sight of God.

You know, Satan doesn't care. You can go around and talk about what a great man Jesus was and you can have doctrinal views and belief, but Satan does not care about that. Satan does not want you to believe in the blood. He doesn't want you to believe that He is Christ, the Son of the Living God. He doesn't want you to believe that He is able to save them to the uttermost that come to Him. So then, there are sound views of Christ. Listen, a lot of these free willers, Arminians, they have a scriptural view of Christ. The church I used to attend, well it is not a church, but an organization of Christ. But that won't save them. It is what you do with Him, if you receive and acknowledge Him. You submit to His sovereignty. Oh, we must submit and fall upon our

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The toughest thing about raising kids is convincing them that you have seniority.

EXAMINE

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face before the sovereign throne of God. I tell you, when a hell-deserving sinner is saved, he knows what a filthy, dirty thing he is. God will show it to him.

HEAVEN

(Continued from Page 1)

from place to place by plane. Too, we can abound and be glad about the creatures and the creations of God that spend at least a portion of their lives flying freely in that earthly heaven.

Beyond this, from time immemorial, men of earth have been greatly blessed and often encouraged by the wonders of the moon, the sun, and the planets of our solar system. Even beyond this area of the heaven, beyond the earthly heaven, there are the stars and the galaxies, along with "black holes," "quasars," and "clouds," the study of which some would like us to believe will provide them some insight into the origin, the beginning, or the extent of our universe.

Sadly — or perhaps tragically — these apparently have never read, or they have never believed if they have read, "Thus saith the Lord: If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done." Having missed or rejected this truth, it is quite probable that these have no place in their hearts for, "And so all Israel shall be saved; as it is written, there shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob. This is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins."

Today, of course, men have an even more intimate knowledge of and relationship with these distance heavens. There have been and there are telescopes of many sort which enable men to view the wonders of God's creation. In more recent times, men have put men in space and on the moon, and instrumented packages of several kind have given us an even more intimate knowledge of the wonders of the heavens.

In each new generation, many men who suppose that there is no God devise several new explanations of the heaven beyond our earth. Yet, wonderfully, the Word of God stands impregnable and untouched. It may be supposed by many that these are the possessors of great knowledge and great wisdom. Nevertheless, none of their intellectual devices, and none of their supposed scientific insights can countermand the glorious truth of the Holy Word of our God.

Immeasurably and eternally, even in time, God enunciates, "All flesh is not the same flesh; but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differeth from another star in glory." Every "heavenly body" which men have "explored" has dramatized this truth indubitably. The moon differs from Venus! Venus differs from

Mars! Mars differs from Jupiter! Jupiter differs from Saturn, and on and on and on!

Sadly and tragically, however, most men who give their lives wondering about the wonders of the heavens miss the Wonder of it all because they cannot comprehend the part and the place of God in all of this. With all of their wisdom and their supposed scientific expertise, they never see God. It is no marvel, then, that they have no place in their hearts or their lives for the God of whom Stephen spoke in, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God!"

Such men may be wise in the ways of the world and even in the things of the world. Quite obviously, however, they walk in a very deep, deep intellectual darkness. They may claim to be men with much knowledge and wisdom, and some of them may even suppose that they are "scientists" with empirical comprehension. In truth and in fact, however, they are "FOOLS" of a most piteous sort. In their hearts, they have said, "there is no God!" Tragically, they turn from the Word of God and the Creative Act of our God to which it speaks. They turn instead to what they call their "evolutionary theses" which are fantasy-theses for which they find no factual detail and no actual documentation.

Hating faith in God's Holy Word!

They turn to faith in fantasies!

Understandably, these cannot know, "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God." Therefore, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report.. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." is truth which these cannot receive or comprehend. It is no marvel that they have no interest in such.

Consequently, they have no place in their lives for the truth and the absoluteness of, "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." Their's is the cry of Satan and all of the "Cain's" and the "Pilate's" who have followed in their train, "Yea, hath God said?" and "What is truth?"

For those of us who know the Lord in Saving Faith, and who believe His Holy Word, those of us who are "born again" in truth, if you will, such glorious teaching assures us that Heaven is the dwelling place of the saints. "Saints," as you may realize, here references all of those who have believed in truth in "The Gospel of Christ which is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." "Born again" references all who now believe, and "born again" references all who will believe.

This heavenly hope which is ours is spoken of as "A city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is

God." It is spoken of further in, "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God." The Lord is most exact and specific in this regard, "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him."

God further explains this detail in other passages of Scripture. In one, we note, "Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, while we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord. We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." This detail was understood by the Apostle, and we can believe that he gained this knowledge directly and personally. In another place, he explains that he was taught by the Lord Himself when "he was caught up into paradise." This is the place he calls "The Third Heaven."

Sadly, we live in a world in which most men reject such truth as "fantasy" or as "figments of the human imagination." This, doubtless, is an area of some of the greatest confusion in the so-called religious world as well. Among truly born-again ones, Christians in truth, however, it would seem that there should not be such confusion. The Word of God is most exact. In fact, in this matter, it is rather clear that the Lord is absolute.

We have noted above, "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." With such a clear statement, such an absolute statement, if you will, how can there be any question in anyone's mind as to what transpires at the time of a saved person's death? Certainly, anyone who would question such or deny such, in effect, has indicated that he does not believe the Word of God.

One who does so must stand in opposition to or fly in the face of the further explanation of this truth by the Apostle. Again, the words would seem to be exact and absolute, "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labor; yet what I shall choose, I wot not. For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better." The message is both clear, and it is absolute.

The Lord, in a most precious and gracious hour, dramatizes this truth for us. Martha, as you may know and recall, expressed her belief concerning her dead brother thus, "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus went on to explain — thankfully for us — "I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

This, then, is more than just the hope of every believer. It is the assurance that the very moment any believer — born-again child of the living God — departs his earthly body, he is in the very presence of the Lord Jesus Christ, God the Father, and the saints of all ages. All questions are ended! All questioning is concluded. The Word is ABSOLUTE, and it is given. It is not the supposition of some questioning or uncertain mortal indulging in the ambiguous or the problematic. Rather, it is the Omniscient Proclamation of Almighty, Omnipotent,

Sovereign God! One rejects it to his sorrow! One believes for endless joy!

"The Third Heaven" of our God — His Dwelling Place — has been from before time! Even now, it is! And it will be when time is no more! We, then, are provided some specific insight even now regarding Heaven. Wondrously, of course, it is our place of REST, but there is much, much more.

"And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away... And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of life freely."

By the Word of the Lord, those who have "died in the Lord" have "entered into their REST!" This is evident and absolute in, "Therefore, we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord... We are confident, I say, and willing, rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." This glorious truth is confirmed absolutely in, "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better." Even now, in this very hour, "Faith," for us, "is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen." Therefore, we can know that the moment we depart the reality of our earthly flesh, we shall be in the presence of our blessed Saviour. Too, we shall be the individuals that we are at this moment. As Job says, "I and not another"! Wonderfully, God explains that He "Gives us a body, as it hath pleased him."

In the Mount of Transfiguration detail, the message of God, again, is absolute. Jesus, there, was enrobed in His Supernal Glory, yet He was still Jesus. Though Moses had died and was buried by God, he, too, appeared in the presence of the Apostles as Moses. The same thing was true with respect to Elijah who had been caught up in "The Chariot of Fire." Certainly, we would be the greatest of fools not to comprehend the glorious message which God, herein, is sharing with us.

In that PERSON who we are, we shall abound and be provided that "eternal tour," if you will, of "A pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river is the tree of life, which bares twelve manner of fruits, and yields her fruits every month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. And there is no more curse; but the throne of God and of the Lamb are in it; and his servants serve him; and They see His FACE; and His Name is in their foreheads. And there is no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord

Missionary To New Guinea Eld. Fred T. Halliman



FRED T. HALLIMAN

Send your offerings for the support of Brother Fred T. Halliman to:
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ELDER FRED T. HALLIMAN,
Sovereign Grace Baptist Mission,
P.O. Box 36, Tari, via Mendi,
Papua, New Guinea.

God giveth them light; and they shall reign forever and ever."

Our loved ones in the Lord who have preceded us into that Land of Eternal Day, even now abound in the presence of the Lord and the Joys to which He has spoken. Soon, we who know the eternity of His Words, "I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star."

Until that hour, we can rejoicingly glory to be involved in "The Gospel of Christ which is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek." Until that hour, we abound in the privilege which is ours to proclaim again and then again, "The Spirit and the bride say, Come." We who have heard, truly, "say come." And ever our cry must be, "And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

We do this, knowing that "He who testifies concerning these things says. Surely I come quickly. Amen." It is He who makes our view and assurance of the Heaven where God dwells to be our "Happy Hope"! It is my prayer and the cry of my heart that you might have this "Happy Hope"! And we — believing — knowing that our "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen," in the midst of earth's hopelessnesses and distresses, cry, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"

HOME

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men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this

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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

HOME

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present world" (Titus 2: 11, 12). We must not even give the appearance of doing wrong. "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good, abstain from all appearance of evil" (I Thess. 5:21, 22).

Everything that we do must be done in such a way as to show that we are honest, "and that you study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; that you may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing" (I Thess. 4: 11, 12). Whatever we do, or eat, or drink is to be done in such a way as to give God the glory. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (I Cor. 10:31).

Now in a more practical way, let us consider some ways that the believer should behave at home. First, and foremost the husband is the head of the home. "For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body" (Eph. 5:23). "and ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). This is a far graver responsibility than a lot of men realize. It involves teaching them the many truths from the Word of God. It also includes teaching them how to respect not only the Bible, but parents, preachers, the church, as well as civil law. Notice what God said about Abraham. "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him" (Gen. 18:19). Job not only was concerned for his children while they were at home but even when they were not at home. We are told that he "...offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, it may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts, thus did Job continually" (Job 1:9).

Wives are to be in subjection to their husbands. "Wives, submit yourselves into your own husbands, as unto the Lord" (Eph. 5:22). "For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him Lord..." (I Peter 3: 5, 6). The wife is responsible for keeping the home in order. She is to teach her children as Lois and Eunice taught Timothy. (see II Tim. 1:5). She is to dress modestly. "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broidered hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing

godliness) with good works" (I Tim. 2: 9, 10). W.K. Wuest said it was well as anybody I've ever read. "True Christianity is something joyful, and expresses itself in color and neatness and good taste. It does not mean that a Christian woman should not pay careful attention to the details of her apparel. That should be one of her chief concerns. It does mean that in selecting the manner in which she shall wear her hair, in choosing the jewelry and clothing she may wish to put on, she should be guided by the principle that her chief and basic adornment must be the Lord Jesus Christ, and that whatever she may choose of wearing apparel, of jewelry, and of hair adornment should be in keeping with the sweetness, simplicity and purity of the Lord Jesus."

Children have the responsibility of being obedient to their parents. "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth" (Eph. 6:1-3).

The believer's home should not have things that bring dishonor to our Lord. For example, there should be no books or magazines that appeal to the fleshly lusts. There should be no alcoholic beverages in your refrigerator or on the shelves. (In my home we do not even furnish ashtrays for smokers. If they must smoke they go outside.)

The Bible should have a prominent place in the home. Each believer should read the Bible for study and for pleasure. Prayer should be practiced by all believers. No meal should be eaten without first giving thanks for it. Hymns and spiritual songs should proceed from our heart as we work. "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; submitting

yourselves one to another in the fear of God" (Eph. 5: 19-21). Remember, we are being watched by people of the world and by the angels. In order to be a testimony for our Lord our life should show that we love Him.

APPRECIATED LETTERS

Thank God for the Baptist Examiner and what it means to me. May God bless each of you.

Maggie Sevy,
Vincent, Ohio

Dear Christian friends of Calvary Baptist Church. We are just a small church, but want to share our small part in the help to Brother Halliman and New Guinea Missions. We have received The Baptist Examiner for many years and still enjoy it very much and find each issue a blessing. And believe that Brother Halliman has done a great work for the Lord.

Pastor M. G. Rachal,
Sovereign Grace
Bible Baptist Church
DeRidder, La.

**

I read and enjoy the Examiner. It is a real blessing.

Lee Alby,
Churchill, Tenn.

Dear Brother Wilson, I was shocked when I read of Brother Halliman's tragedy (the fire) in my Baptist Examiner today. I'm sending this money to help in this, and hoping that lots of people will give generously. I always look forward for my Baptist Examiner. It is the best Baptist paper out. May our Lord bless you in all that you are doing for His glory.

Katie Sparks,
Vanceburg, ky.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The editor, Joseph M. Wilson will be preaching in a series of meetings January 16th through 22nd, with the Faith Missionary Baptist Church of Fort Pierce, Florida. He hopes to meet many of the readers of The Baptist Examiner in Florida

during this time. For information concerning the location of the church or any other matters, contact Richard Gast, 4909 Silver Oak Dr., Ft. Pierce Florida, 33450. Or call him at 305-466-2942.

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HE NEVER SAID THAT

He never said that we would walk
A sweet and flow'ry road;
But, rather, that we're not alone
As thru this life we go.

He never said that HE would grant
Our wish for luxuries;
But, rather, that we'd be content
To have that which we need.

He never said that in this life
We would be loved by men;
But, rather, that we'd be despised
As He was, even then.

He never said that tears won't come
To eyes He made to see;
But, rather, that the Comforter
Abides with you and me.

He never said that in this flesh
Dwelted any good at all;
But, rather, that He paid the price
To save us from the fall.

He never said that when we pray
Our will would be obeyed;
But, rather, that He'd always send
What's best for us each day.

He never said that we'd be free
From woes, or pain, or ills;
But, rather, that He uses these
To mold us as He wills.

Bernice S. Bryant
Cottondale, AL

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