

Sin is the devil's first-born.

## MAY BOOK SALE

NOW THROUGH MAY. 25% DISCOUNT ON MOST BOOKS.. 30% TO 50% ON SOME. SEE LISTS INSIDE... PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDERS... PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE... SEND ALL ORDERS TO CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BOOKSTORE, P.O. BOX 71, ASHLAND, KY. 41105-0071. CHURCHES: STOCK YOUR LIBRARY, ORDER YOUR PASTOR SOME BOOKS.

### THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD

by Dan Phillips  
Bristol, Tenn.

Daniel 4:35 says, "And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and he (God) doeth according to his (God's) will in the army of heaven, and among the in-



Dan Phillips

habitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?" Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

These texts teach the doctrine of Divine Providence. You might ask, What is Providence? Providence means foresight, also arrangement prepared beforehand for the accomplishment of predetermined ends. It takes in foreknowledge, foreordination, and the efficacious administration of the thing decreed. Divine Providence is the Government of God over the universe and creation.

Iran has an unsettled government and anything can happen. It seems that no one particular leader has control of the people, but not so with God. He rules and runs a strict Government and supplies the need of creation.

If we understand God's providence, we will learn to look for, and be able to see, the hand of God and the very heart of God in all His experiences. If we understand this doctrine, we will not talk like the Philistines when they said in I Samuel 6:9, "It was a chance that happened to us." We will talk like Job when he said in Job 1:21, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

(Continued on Page 3 Column 2)

ANY SUBSCRIPTIONS, NEW OR RENEWAL. 1/2 PRICE (\$3). FIFTY OR MORE. (\$1) EACH THROUGH MAY

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

### CHRISTMAS IS PAGAN IN ORIGIN

by Adriano Ragracias, Sr.  
Philippines

"It came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was



Adriano Ragracias

governor of Syria). And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David;) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night" (Luke 2:1-8).

In the "History of Civilization" the above eight verses indicate the "Principate" of the Roman Emperor Augustus Caesar "27 B.C. - A.D. 14." "Augustus was alert to intangibles, outside the narrower confines of government, which alter the morale of a people. He

(Continued on Page 3 Column 4)

## The Baptist Examiner

Baptist Is Our Middle Name

Paid Circulation in All States and in Many Foreign Countries

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

VOL. 56, NO. 8

ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, APRIL 21, 1984

WHOLE NUMBER 2431

### AMERICA: GOING, GOING, GONE OR IN GOD WE TRUST NO MORE

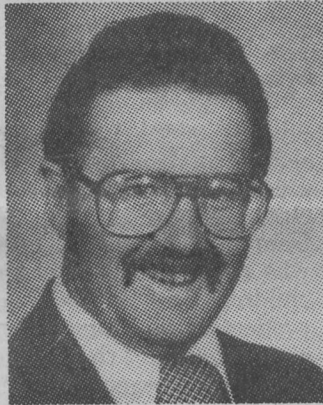
by Sam Wilson  
Gladwin, Mich.

Proverbs 14:34: "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to my people" (Read Isaiah 34:1-3).

The text mentioned should cause every leader of every nation to sit up and examine the spiritual condition of their people. The acts of the people will often be in accordance with the laws and the carrying out of those laws under the nation in which they live. May God cause the leaders of America and us, (the citizens of this great country) to stop and examine ourselves to see if the adage on the back of our coin money is still true; "In God We Trust." I fear, that as a nation we have long since ceased to trust in God for our guidance.

The Bible has much to say about nations. The Old Testament deals greatly with nations. Much of the Old Testament has to do with God's dealings with Israel and other nations as they

came in contact with Israel. We know that many nations of



Sam Wilson

Biblical times are no longer in existence because of their iniquity and their treatment of Israel. God had and still has a special love for Israel. Nations then and nations now, will answer to God for their treatment of Israel (Gen. 26:4). Beloved, God still deals with nations today. I have no doubt that God is presently dealing with America. I personally believe that God's dealings with nations are earthly

and temporal. I do not believe there is any eternal punishment or rewards for nations. Heaven and hell are for individuals not entire nations. God may not deal with nations as dramatically as He did with Egypt and other nations; but you can rest assured that God will deal with rebellious nations. How we as the nation of America ought to take this to heart. Because of what we have been in the past, God will not overlook our present sins. Our nation is in great distress, and we have no one to blame but ourselves. May God grant us repentance and turn us back to to the Biblical principles this great country was founded upon. May God impress upon the leaders of our country the heavy burden they must bear. They are largely responsible for the actions of this nation. May we not have the epitaph of Jeroboam, (caused Israel to sin) concerning the nation of America. What a horrible burden to have to bear!

I. Let us give some thoughts (Continued on Page 5 Column 2)

## The Baptist Examiner Pulpit

A Sermon by Pastor Joseph M. Wilson

### THE SERVANT WITH THE BORED EAR

"And if the servant shall plainly say, I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free: Then his master shall bring him unto the judges; he shall also bring him to the door, or unto the door post; and his master shall bore his ear through with an awl; and he shall serve him for ever" (Exodus 21:5, 6).

This Scripture occurs within the context of the giving of the law to Israel. The law to Israel is divided into three parts. There is the moral law consisting of the Ten Commandments. There is the civil law which related to matters of personal conduct and property. There is the ceremonial law relating to the religious life of

Israel.

The above verses occur in the civil law section of God's law to Israel. This passage related to how the Hebrew is to deal with Hebrew servants or slaves. If a Hebrew became a slave to another Hebrew, he was to serve six years and to go free in the seventh year. The brother Hebrew could not be forced into permanent slavery. If the Hebrew had a wife when he entered slavery, she was to go out with him. But if his master gave him a wife during his slavery and if she bore children during that time, the wife and children were to remain with the master and not go out with the freed slave.

But if the slave desired of

himself to remain in slavery with his wife and children and out of love to his master, he could choose to do so. In this case the matter was brought before the judges, and the slave was to have his ear publicly bored and from that time he was the permanent slave of his master. The bored ear was a permanent mark denoting his condition. This meant that the ear belonged to the master. The slave was not to listen to his own desires, plans and ambitions. He was not to hear the voice of others in telling him what to do. His ear was to be ever tuned to the voice of his master, hearing and obeying the command of the master.

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the (Continued on Page 2 Column 1)

HURRY PLAN NOW ONLY FIVE WEEKS UNTIL CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH'S NEXT BIBLE CONFERENCE Y'ALL COME



Those on an empty profession soon fall away as a blazing comet and soon evaporate.

## The Baptist Examiner

THE BAPTIST PAPER FOR  
THE BAPTIST PEOPLE

JOSEPH M. WILSON, Editor

Editorial Department, located in ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, where all subscriptions and communications should be sent. Address: P.O. Box 71, Zip Code 41105-0071.

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

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

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

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

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year ..... \$ 6.00  
Two years ..... \$11.00  
When you subscribe for others or secure subscriptions ..... each \$ 4.00

**BUNDLES:** 10 to 50 copies to one address — \$30.00 for each 10 yearly; 60 to 100 copies to one address — \$25.00 for each 10 yearly.

**FOREIGN:** Same as in the United States.

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

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

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

## SERVANT

(Continued from Page 1)

true and perfect fulfillment of this type. He is the only one who was ever the perfect servant of His master. He is the true servant with the bored ear. In many places in the Bible, Jesus is set before us as the perfect servant.

"Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened (dig, bore, open): burnt-offering and sin offering hast thou not required. Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God" (Psa. 40:6-8).

Hebrews 10:5-9 is indisputable proof that the above Scripture refers to Christ, and indeed, to whom else could it refer? We see here that God the Father opened the ear of His own dear Son. Jesus was, so to speak, the servant with the bored ear. His ear belonged to His Father. He did not listen to the voice of Satan or others. He ever listened to the voice of His Father and ever did those things that pleased Him. He delighted to do the will of His Father. Oh, here is the perfect servant — the only perfect man-servant the Father ever had. None other man has ever given his ear completely to God and always listened to God's voice and always obeyed that voice. God demands perfect and continual service. None of us have ever given this — even for a moment of time — but Jesus did.

"He wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. The Lord God hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back" (Isaiah 50:4, 5).

Here is another prophecy relative to the person and work of Jesus Christ. His ear was opened morning by morning to hear the voice of His heavenly Father. He listened to that voice — He was not rebellious — He perfectly and continually did

what His Father told Him to do. His ear was bored. It belonged to His Father. Surely, Jesus is the true servant with the bored ear. In Isaiah 42:1 and 52:13, along with many Old Testament Scriptures, Jesus is referred to as the servant of God. Now understand that Jesus Christ is, in Himself, God. He is co-equal and co-eternal with the Father. But in the economy of redemption, Jesus Christ voluntarily took a place of subordination to His Father. He voluntarily took the place of a servant.

"He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded Himself. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded" (John 13:4, 5).

Oh, what a picture this is of the servant character of our wonderful Lord! It seems that on the way to this supper there had been strife about who was the greatest among the disciples.



Joe Wilson

One wonders how, with Christ in their midst, they could have argued who is greatest. Surely, Christ is the greatest of all, and we are all His servants and brethren with one another. Now it was the custom upon entering a house to remove the shoes and to wash, or have the feet washed. The washing of the feet was the customary duty of the servant of the house. It seems that not one of the disciples would stoop to take this place of servant and to wash the others feet. But, oh! what a beautiful scene is before us. Our Lord lays aside His garments, girds Himself with a towel and washes their feet. What a picture this is! Our Lord did lay aside His garments of beauty and glory. He did not lay aside His Deity, but He did lay aside the outward garments thereof. He came down into this world. He girded His Deity with the towel of humanity. And, praise His name, in this role of servant, He did that wondrous work by which we are washed from our sins and made fit to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light. He gave to His Father the service owed by the elect. He died the awful death of the cross. He shed His precious blood — and by that blood we are washed with a washing that will last for eternity. Surely, He is the true servant with the bored ear.

We have four gospels in our Bible. They are four different pictures of our Lord Jesus Christ. Matthew shows Him as King. Luke shows Him as man. John shows Him as Deity incarnate. Then there is one gospel dedicated to the showing forth of Jesus Christ as the perfect servant of the Lord. This is the gospel of Mark. There is no genealogy for who cares about the genealogy of a servant. There is more action than teaching, for it is the character of a true servant to be busy about the master's business. "Straightway" is used nineteen

times — more than in the other three gospels combined — for this is the word of a servant, denoting his haste in doing the will of his master. Yes, Mark presents the picture of the only perfect man-servant God ever had. Truly, He is the true servant with the bored ear.

In Leviticus there are five great offerings. One is a peace offering denoting the fellowship we have with the Father about the work of Christ. The meal offering sets forth the perfect humanity of our adorable Lord. The sin and trespass offerings show how His death is a perfect atonement for the sins of His people. There is one more offering. It is the burnt offering. It was wholly burnt upon the altar. It belonged to God. It was a picture of how the Lord Jesus offered Himself wholly to God. How He was burnt up — all burnt up — in the service of His Father. All of us should have been wholly given to our God. But we have not been, and are not now. He served in our place even as He died in our place. He gave perfect service to the Father. Truly, He is the true servant with the bored ear.

The servant in Exodus was to say, "I love my master... I will not go out free." So our Lord's service was based on love. And I tell you this, all true and acceptable service must always be based upon and proceed from love. Jesus Christ served His Father because He loved Him and He wanted to serve Him. The Exodus servant would also say, "I love my wife, I love my children." Surely, Jesus came into this world to be the perfect servant of God because of His great love for His wife and His children. Here is an elect group from among fallen mankind who are the children of God — children in purpose and in predestination and election, even before they become children by regeneration. Jesus loved them with an everlasting love. It was this great love for them that brought Him from glory to this earth to perform that perfect service which purchases and secures their eternal salvation. Among those children are those who are to be His Bride. He loves His Bride. He loves His elect children. He lovingly and willingly submits to servanthood in order that He might have them with Him for ever. Oh, glory to His name! He could have gone out free for nothing. He had performed a perfect service. He did not even need to become a servant. Without this servant-hood, He would have been free forever, even as He always had been. He did not have to become a servant. But then, He would have been eternally separated from His wife and children. He would not have had them with Him. And oh! His love was so great — "His great love wherewith He loved us — even when we were dead in our sins" — so great that He took the place of a servant and became obedient even unto death. What love! What love!

He was a voluntary servant. No one captured Him and forced Him into servitude. He could remain free. His service brought Him to the place of suffering. It hurt to have the ear bored. Oh, the suffering brought upon our Lord by His loving, voluntary servanthood. He suffered as none other ever has or will. He suffered the sum total of the eternal Hell of all the elect of God. Who can measure that suffering! What a finite being must suffer in infinite time (eternity), this infinite being suffered in-

finite time. But it was the same suffering. There was no abating of the sentence because a substitute was suffering. He did not suffer a token hell. He suffered the exact equivalent of the eternal hell of all the elect. The fire was as hot, the pain as intense as it would have been for those for whom He suffered.

His suffering left its scars upon Him. The Exodus servant would bear through life the scar, the mark of the bored ear. It would always tell of what he had done, and what he was. And what about our Lord? Did His suffering make its mark and leave its scars?

"Five bleeding wounds he bears,

Received on Calvary.  
They pour effectual prayers,  
They strongly speak for me."

Yes, the scars of His servant work are upon Him and will be there eternally. By His service, He will eventually remove all the marks of sin from His elect people. In eternity they will carry no scar and bear no mark. But He will always have the mark of our sin upon Him. He will bear eternally the scars, the marks of His service for us. Oh! I shall see Him — I shall see those scars. With what wonder and love and adoration shall I bow before Him and thank and praise Him that He loved me and that He suffered for me. Oh, I shall gaze with adoring wonder upon those precious scars to all eternity.

Let us never forget that our eternal salvation was purchased at the expense of His servanthood. His active and passive obedience is that which saves us from our sins. He gave the service we could not give — the service demanded by God — a perfect service without blemish or fault. He paid the debt we could not pay — the terrible debt — even the Hell of Calvary. By His active obedience we have a righteousness that is faultless before the throne

of God. By His passive obedience, we have our sins removed as far as the East is from the West and remembered against us no more forever.

Now what shall we do? He is the true servant with the bored ear. He is the only one who ever perfectly fulfilled this beautiful type. We do know that this honor is His and His alone. But is there no service for us to perform? Cannot the type, at least in part, be applied to us? We do know that our service is nothing compared to His. We do know that our service could only be acceptable to God based upon His perfect service. We do know that the best of our service is marred by the imperfection of our being. We do know that our service could never in any wise, or in the most minute way, have a part in our eternal salvation. But still, is there not a service for us and is there not an application of this type to us? Yes, we are to be, in a small way, yet as best we can, enabled by the Holy Spirit — we are to be servants with bored ears.

All the saved are to be His servants. We are obligated to serve Him. Creation obligates us to serve our Creator. His sustaining of us and providing for us obligates us to serve Him. But above and beyond all that, His dying for us and thus saving us — this surely obligates us to be His servants forever.

"And ye are not your own. For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (Cor. 6:19, 20).

Not our own. Bought with a price. Oh! What a price it was even the precious blood of Christ as of a lamb without spot and without blemish. Therefore, what? To glorify God in our body and our spirit. Can we deny this obligation? Can we argue with or dispute His claims upon our service? (Continued on Page 3 Column 1)

## FROM THE EDITOR

I am continuing and adding to the thoughts of my last editorial. I am seeking help in adding greatly to the number of recipients of The Baptist Examiner. I verily believe that this will do more than any other one thing in helping to promote the mission work of Calvary Baptist Church. Of course, I know that God's blessings are the most important of all. I believe that this paper is a great mission work and of itself, well worthy of Baptist support. I further believe that an increase in the number of readers will result in increased support for New Guinea Missions, and have many more wonderful results. What has this paper meant to you? To your church? Would you like for it to mean that to others?

I am making an appeal for Baptist Examiner promoters. I would like to have men or women in every State, in every City, in every country who will join with me as a Baptist Examiner promoter. Would you volunteer to be one? I need as many as I can get.

What am I after? What would I want such to do? Well, I would like for you to write me and tell me that you will be an active promoter of our paper. I would like to make a list of such. You would be special friends of this paper. You could write me your criticisms and advice concerning the paper. I would write you relative to matters promoting this paper. We could be close workers together in promoting this paper, and more importantly, the truths for which it stands.

I would keep you supplied with copies of T.B.E. to use in promoting the paper. You could place this paper in many locations near you: airports, bus stations, cafes, etc., etc. You could visit neighborhoods offering and seeking to get subscriptions for this paper. We would give reduced subscription rates for this purpose. You could give copies of the paper to members of the church you attend and suggest that they subscribe. You could give copies of how you could promote this paper, use them, and pass them on to me for me to suggest to others.

Churches could put copies of these papers in prominent locations, could stamp or write upon them invitations to their services, could provide transportation to services, offers to send the paper. I would place here a copy of a stamp we use in giving out papers here. Churches could help themselves and help us in doing this.

"Would you like this paper free for 6 months? Would you like transportation to our church? Would you like a visit from me as pastor? Call 325-2012."

Could I hear from many readers in the near future that you join me in this work as a promoter of The Baptist Examiner? May God bless you all!



## SERVANT

(Continued from Page 2)

would want to? Who — saved at such a cost — saved from such awful sin-saved from such an awful penalty as eternal Hell — saved to such a glorious eternity — who among us would want to do anything else than to glorify God with all we have? Surely, it is the earnest and sincere desire of every redeemed soul to glorify God.

We are to be the love-slaves of Jesus Christ. Drawn by His love for us, which has given us a love for Him. Thus drawn to lovingly and voluntarily give ourselves to His service forever. We serve Him because we love Him. We also serve because we love others and our service to Him is a service in His service, in part that we might be a blessing to others. Our service is to be complete and continual. Oh! That it might be more what it ought to be. Dear Saviour, cleanse us more and more from the imperfections of our service and make it daily more what it ought to be. We love Thee, oh, our Saviour! We love Thee because Thou didst first love us. We desire to serve Thee. But we, are so hindered by sin and self. Grant to us an increasing growth in the proper character of service. And dear Saviour, we earnestly long for that glad day — when, our redemption is complete, and we are free from sin forever, and then through all eternity we will serve Thee as Thou oughtest to be served.

Our being, in a measure, servants with bored ears will bring suffering upon us. Shall we not say, let it come. Let come upon us what will if we can but be His servants. Who among us would shrink from suffering, if it but be a part of our love service to Him? Let us be prepared to suffer at the hands of men, if we desire to follow our Lord. Surely, the servant is not above the master. We cannot follow Him in that suffering which purchased our eternal salvation. But let us follow Him in suffering whatever shall come our way in our service for His name's sake.

Our love service to Him will leave its marks upon us in this life. Paul bore branded on his body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Our Lord bore, and yet bears the marks of His service and suffering for us. If we truly follow — if we truly serve — if we truly suffer — the marks will come. But let them come. They will be brand marks telling the name of the One to whom we belong. They will be marks we will gladly bear because we bear them for Him.

Oh! Brothers and sisters, let us serve Him. Let us hasten to the door or to the door post. Let us gladly lay our ear against the post. Let us ask our Lord to bore through our ear. To mark it as belonging to Him and Him alone. May we not listen to self. May we not listen to others. May we listen to His voice. May we be swift to hear and swift to obey. I have a RCA Victor record before me. There is a picture of a dog listening to a phonograph. There are the words below the picture, "His master's voice." Oh, may it be true of us. May we listen to the Master's voice. Oh, may we belong to the Master. May we be, in part, enabled by the Spirit — may we be servants with bored ears. And remember, we serve — not for salvation — but because of a love produced by a salvation He purchased and gave unto us.

"I would not work my soul to

save.

For that the Lord hath done, But I would work like any slave.

For love to God's dear Son." May God richly bless you all!

## PROVIDENCE

(Continued from Page 1)

There used to be an old preacher in our area that used as his by-word, "Praise the Lord." If he got hurt some way, instead of cursing, he would say "praise the Lord." One day word reached him that his son had just been killed. He looked very sad, but said "praise the Lord." Some one that heard it said, "he must surely love the Lord."

Bob Ross, Joe Wilson and I lost a son within a matter of months. It was hard to give them up, but the Lord gave us grace to face it. Brother T.B. Freeman came to my house after Jim had died and gave the Gospel to this poor old lost sinner. The Holy Spirit quickened me and showed me that I was lost and revealed to me the Saviour. I was born again that night and I have never been the same since. I see God's providence at work here. He took this sinner's son and replaced him with a Saviour. This was God's way of bringing me into His Kingdom and then led me to a Sovereign Grace Baptist Church. I did not join the Holiness Church where my Father was a member; neither did I join the Christian church where my mother was a member, but rather, the Lord led me to a Baptist church and by God's providence, both, my Father and Mother became Baptists soon after.

Beloved, my God is not idle. The Saviour said, "My Father worketh hitherto and I work." So we see both the Father and the Son. Jesus said in John 16:13, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but what so ever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come." V-14 says, "He shall glorify me." We see then that the whole of the Godhead is at work in Providence, praise the Lord. God is not like the football squad that must take time out to rest and plan the next play. He is not like the tired farmer who must sleep and eat to recuperate strength for another day's work. He is not like the prize fighter who must go to his corner between rounds to be worked over and patched up. Beloved, our God knows nothing of weariness and emergencies.

No doubt there are some that really believe that if they were God that they could do a better job and would like to make many changes, especially the Arminian and Cult churches, but, thanks be to God, they will never get that chance and God will forever rule.

Some have wondered why God does not kill the devil, and put wicked dictators and war lords in Hell, then replace them with peace-loving rulers. It is true that God's providence has installed Kings (leaders) and removed Kings (leaders), but He does so at His good pleasure. God will not permit us to tell Him what to do, He has a purpose for everything He does. He doeth all things well. Ephesians 1:11 says, "He worketh all things after the counsel of his own will."

Divine providence is

mysterious. This is because God Himself is incomprehensible to finite minds. As we look at this Old world, we see conflict everywhere and there seems to be no plan or order. The world appears to be one great battlefield of conflicting wills and opposing forces. There seems to be no order or plan in the movement of bees in and out of the hive, but examine the honey and you see plan and arrangement and order. Men plan and work, and yet are overruled by the infinite wisdom of God to His own praise and glory. God says in Isaiah 55:8, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord." V-9 says, "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than yours." Paul says in Romans 11:33 that God's judgments are unsearchable and that His ways are past finding out. Beloved, we must walk by faith in His Word and believe that He is too wise to err and too good to afflict His children without a reason.

I read once that in some place that there was a flood, and boats were out picking up people who were stranded. They came by this one house where this fellow was on the porch and he was asked to come aboard, but he said no, I've got faith that God will provide, so the boat went on, but after awhile, the boat came back. The water was so high then that the fellow was on the house top. He was asked again to come aboard, but he refused again, saying, I've got faith that God will provide and keep me safe. The boat went on; however, after a while the water had gotten so high that the fellow had to get on top of his chimney. Then a helicopter came by and asked the man to climb aboard, but he refused and drowned. It is said when he got to heaven, he told Saint Peter, I was on earth and had great faith that God would provide me protection, but He let me down. Then Saint Peter looked at him and said, Brother, God sent you three provisions, but you refused to recognize them. Beloved, this may seem comical, but sometimes God offers us provisions and we turn them down, or receive them without recognizing them.

One time there was a preacher and his congregation meeting in a house because they didn't have a building as yet; however, they began to pray that the Lord would provide them with a church building. Well, the Campbellites close by built them a new building and put the old one up for sale. This preacher and his people went to look at it and thought it was a pretty good deal, but decided to pray about it some more. However, after a while and while they were still praying and seeking the Lord's will, some one else bought it. You see, God had answered their prayer, His providence was at work, but they didn't recognize it. This preacher is a good man and believes more in prayer than anyone I know, he just wanted to be sure. Yes, God's providence is mysterious.

God's providence covers all things. It covers little things as well as great things. In fact, every phase of life is covered by God's providence. Man is finite and has such limitations that he can only concentrate his attention on one thing at a time, and in one place. God is infinite in space and power and wisdom and can concentrate on everything in every place.

It was the hand of God that

caused the Red Sea to divide and held the water back while the children of Israel walked on the bottom without getting their feet wet. It was the hand of God that turned the water loose again and drowned Pharaoh's army that was pursuing them. It was the hand of God that provided protection for Shadrach, Mesbach, and Abednego when the furnace of Babylon was heated seven times hotter than ordinary and were thrown in. However, not a hair of their heads was scorched. Beloved, the very elements are under God's control. He sends rain, sunshine and even famine, tornadoes, floods. We cannot understand why, but God has a reason for everything He does. Beloved, whatever we think about God's providence, we can always find comfort, for all things are working out for good to those who love God, those who are called according to His purpose. May God the Sovereign bless this message to your soul!

## CHRISTMAS

(Continued from Page 1)

revived the Roman state religion and joined to this revival a campaign to raise the level of public morals and the sanctity of the home. Marriage was encouraged, (Luke 2:1-3), parents were subsidized for having children, and divorce was restricted by specific measures. The aspect of Augustus' attempt to revive the Roman spirit was less successful than the others, partly because his daughter, Julia, set a notorious example of licentious living.

"Nevertheless, the revival of state religion - not, as we have seen, identical with morals — perhaps retarded the full development of other intruding Oriental cults until Christianity became a potent force. It was as if Augustus unknowingly reserved a place for the faith whose founder was born during his Principate." (Page 193-194, A History of Civilization by C. Harold King, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, Second Edition).

In the first five verses of our texts we find that Augustus Caesar had made a decree to further effect more of his revival on "public morals, the sanctity of the home and to encourage legitimate marriages. He envisioned the improvement of the Roman State Religion knowing of the fact that every head of State assumes deified position over people. However, Augustus Caesar never understood what should happen to his empire later, when the creator of the universe comes to rebuke the Roman Idolatry. But the Messiah could never be limited by any human schemes. His first advent in form of humility has ONE SUPREME PURPOSE: "FOR THE SON OF MAN IS COME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THAT WHICH WAS LOST" (Luke 19:10). No human being nor any of the angels of heaven, even Satan and all his wicked co-fallen demons ever knew how the God-Redeemer would manifest Himself among mankind here on earth for the manner or methods of the Incarnation of "THE LORD ALMIGHTY" (II Corinthians 6:18).

In October 31, 1521, the first Roman Catholic Mass was celebrated in Limasawa Island, Southern Leyte, Philippines by the sponsorship of Ferdinand Magellan, though immediately

preceded by cannon firings to terrorize first the natives in order to impress them for submission to foreign European idolatry. Consequently, between 1521 and 1898 the Spanish Christianity reigned over the Filipinos with closed Bible, but the "American Christianity came to the Filipinos in 1898 with "OPEN BIBLE FOR THE FILIPINO PEOPLE." The Spanish period of 377 years of Christianizing the Filipinos the more their blindness to the Christian Bible. This was intensified and rooted upon the people thereby resulting in them a Christian Religion without Scriptural Salvation in the absence of free exercise of religious freedom and liberty. But more of Christmas Profanity.

In the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke from verses 1 to 8, it is found that at the birth of Christ every woman and child was to go to be taxed in the city whereto they belong. But at this time of the year it could not have been in the "Winter" season. For we read in verse 8: "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night." The phrase "abiding in the field" the Greek Text says: "AGRAULOUNTES" which meant literally "LODGING IN THE FIELDS." Therefore, the Messiah could not have been born in "Winter" season, such as December 25. Even most learned writers of religions admit that the day and date of Christ's birth can not be determined for they are in doubt whether Christ was born on December 25, B.C. 5. History tells us that long before Christ's birth A FESTIVAL WAS YEARLY CELEBRATED AMONG THE BABYLONIAN HEATHENS ON THE 25TH OF DECEMBER IN HONOR OF "TAMUZ" THE SON OF BABYLONIAN QUEEN "SEMIRAMIS." This Queen is the so-called "QUEEN OF HEAVEN" in Jeremiah 44: 15, 17, 18 and 19. On the 25th of December the sun reaches its furthest point South, that is, the earth is furthest from the sun, and this day, the 25th of December, the sun seems to rest in its course before it turns back and the days begin to grow longer. Therefore, the worshippers of the "sun-god" in their pagan worship, set December 25th as the birthday of "TAMUZ" THE SON OF "SEMIRAMIS" THEIR QUEEN OF HEAVEN. They incorporated burning candles, Yule Log, Christmas trees, etc., enjoying lusts of the flesh, lusts of the eyes, pride of life with all their wickedness and drunkenness. IT IS A DEMON HOLIDAY!

When Emperor Constantine was converted to Christianity without being baptized in the year A.D. 325, "he incorporated Mithras' feast on December 25 into the practice of his new faith." And to intensify the vulgarity of Christmas in A.D. 350 Pope Julius I officially declared December 25 to be Christmas Day for the whole of Christendom. And so many of the early Christians for fear of the Emperor identified Christ as the "Sun of Righteousness with the "Methratic Invincible Sun" to justify their celebration of Christmas on December 25. History tells us that during the

(Continued on Page 4 Column 5)



# The Baptist Examiner Forum

SUBMIT QUESTIONS ON ANY BIBLE SUBJECT

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

Please explain God's promises of Angel's care for His children, such as *Psa. 91:11*, in view of all the suffering, needs not supplied, persecutions even unto death of many of God's children.

TO: **SAM WILSON**  
1490 North  
Spring St.  
Gladwin, Michigan  
48624

PASTOR  
Grace  
Baptist Church  
Gladwin, Michigan



*Psalm 91:11-12: "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands; lest thou dash thy foot against a stone."*

To begin with, I want you to notice that verse is referring to those who are close to God and have made Him their habitation. This is not to say that God has not given angels charge over all His saved people; but it is to say that those who are close to God will have a better understanding of why things that oftentimes seem evil, come into their lives. If I did not believe in the sovereignty of God and the fact that God always knows what is best for His people, then I would have a difficult time answering this question. Since I believe in the sovereignty of God, and since I know that He knows what is best for His people, then I can come up with a Biblical answer to this question. I will admit that there are many things about the sufferings and persecutions of God's people that I do not understand, but I do know that God has promised to work all things out for the good of His people. I do know that what ever happens in our life is a part of God's plan to eventually conform us to the image of His son.

Personally, I feel that most of the protection that the angels give to God's people is spiritual. Perhaps in glory we will find out just how much angels under the charge of God, have fought evil spirits and temptations on our behalf. Angels certainly protect us physically from all harms except those that God allows to come upon us. Many times, though we may not realize it; sufferings and persecution are very necessary in keeping us humble or close to God. Oftentimes God may use this to restore one that is blackslidden. Suffering for Christ should not be regarded as evil, but rather as a privilege and as an evidence that we are living as we should. The Bible says that "All those that live Godly, shall suffer persecution." I assure you that our needs are supplied. We have a tendency to say our needs are not supplied, when in reality it is our wants that are not supplied. God has promised to, and He will supply all our needs. First and foremost, though, are our spiritual needs.

There is not a contradiction in God's promise of angels and the suffering of God's people. Praise God that He does indeed have angels that are commissioned by Him to watch over us. May we be made more aware of their

presence. Angels do have charge over us to keep us and protect us; but God is in charge of the angels and God does that which is best for His people. It is sad that sometimes that may be suffering and death. We must remember, however, that the rewards in glory will far exceed the pain we suffer here on earth.

**OSCAR MINK**

1217 Dillon Dr.,  
Texarkana, Tex.  
75501

PASTOR  
Sovereign Grace  
Missionary  
Baptist Church  
Texarkana, Tex.  
75501



*Psalm 91:11, 12: "For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone."*

The above Scripture is in the primary sense, if not altogether, a prophetic reference to the angelic care of the Lord Jesus Christ during His tenure on earth (Matt. 4:6). This is not to say, good angels do not minister to God's elect, for the Scriptures declare over and over that they surely do. Many examples could be cited in Scripture where the elect angels protected and provided benevolent care for the people of God, and they yet exercise a guardianship ministry to the believer and to those who shall be heirs of salvation (Matt. 18:10; Heb. 1:14).

It is the common lot of fallen man to suffer. Some suffer more than others, but all suffer. The difference being, the suffering of the righteous terminates with death of the body, while the suffering of those who die in their sins is infinitely multiplied at death.

Good angels are not to be considered as the sole administrators of God's regular or common providence, but as administrators of His special providence. Such as working extraordinarily in nature, or in supernatural ways toward God's people or their enemies.

Angelic intervention is apparently occasional, or exceptional, rather than constant. They do not have an option in the matter of God's providence, but act according to Divine directives. Hence, we are never to see angels as intermediaries between God and the believer. Neither are we to ascribe to them the effects which are wrought by the all-pervading providence of God. Angels are instruments in the hand of God to bless the righteous, and to punish the wicked. They refuse to be worshipped by creatures, and their ministry resounds to the glory of their creator. (Ps. 103:20).

The privation and persecution which the Lord's people suffer in this life does not bespeak insufficiency in the angelic ministry toward them, nor does it mean God's providential kindness toward His people has miscarried. It means God is all-

wise, and knows what is best for His people. That which we deem to be adverse or contrary to us is in the infallible reckoning of God exactly what we need, and the saint will in due season and by hindsight see those things as providential blessings. Romans 8:28 is still in THE Book, and its scope is "all things" from regeneration to glorification work together for the good of all who love God.

The Psalmist said: "Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept Thy word... It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn Thy statutes" (Ps. 119:67, 71). This affliction was for the correction of the Psalmist, and it served to humble him.

Satan's sifting of Peter accomplished the exact opposite of that which the sifter intended. It did not turn Peter away from the Lord, but caused Peter to love Him all the more (Lk. 22:31, 32). In this, the Lord dealt with Peter through preventive discipline, whereby his impetuous nature was checked.

Of Paul's thorn in the flesh, we read: "And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Now, note the effect the Lord's answer had on Paul: "Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me" (II Cor. 12:7-9).

Inefficiency is alien to the ministry of good angels. Their nature is such that they cannot know deficiency. The believers suffering is not owing to a lack of power in God's angels, but is mainly due to laxity or disobedience on the part of the believer.

**GOD HAS MYRIADS OF ANGELS**, and they all are favorably concerned with the welfare of God's elect people. Jesus said on the night of His betrayal: "Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He shall presently give Me more than twelve legions of angels?" (Mt. 26:53). **ONE ROMAN LEGION** equals 6,000 Men. **TWELVE ROMAN LEGIONS** equals 72,000 Men. By using the same formula, Christ said: "There are more than 72,000 angels waiting My beck and call" (Paraphrased). One angel of the Lord slayed in one night 185,000 Syrians (II Kings 19:35). And God's angels suffer no diminution of power. Thus it is seen by simple mathematics that Christ actually said, At My word there is enough angelic power to slay 13,320,000,000 people.

God's angels are sufficient in number and power that Christ could have, the night of His

betrayal, sent a death angel to every man, woman, boy, and girl in all the world. But instead, He laid down His life for His sheep, and suffered their judgment under the fiery wrath of His holy and righteous Father, that the believer might know there is nothing that can separate him from the love of God (Rom. 8:38-39).

**CLYDE T. EVERMAN**  
108 Burdsall Ave.  
Ft. Mitchell, Ky.  
41017

Deacon  
Calvary  
Baptist Church  
Ashland, Ky.



A study of the Word of God will show us some of the reasons God permits adverse things to come upon some of His children. First, let me state emphatically that it IS NOT because God is unable to control all things, as a Jewish rabbi wrote in his book which became a best seller. This is heresy of the worst kind, for it is stated in His Word, "And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, nor say unto him, What doest thou?" (Dan. 4:35). This passage tells us that God is sovereign over all and is in complete control over all things, therefore, nothing comes to pass that He does not permit, "Behold, he taketh away, who can hinder him? who will say unto him, What doest thou?" (Job 9:12).

From a study of the life of Joseph we see that God permitted Joseph's brothers to do the evil to him that they did, that good might come to the whole family, for he said to his brothers, "—But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive" (Gen. 50:20).

The many evils which befell Job were to show his faith in God even in the most dark and trying times. Is there any doubt in anyone's mind as to Job's faith? "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: —" (Job. 13:15).

When Jesus was asked who sinned that a certain man was born blind, He answered, "Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him" (John 9:3). Paul tells us that his "Thorn in the flesh" was to prevent him from becoming "exalted above measure" (II Cor. 12:9).

Then we see that suffering sometimes comes as a chastisement, of which we are told in Hebrews 12:5-8 that all God's children receive. "—whereof all are partakers, —" He tells us this chastisement is for our good, "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby" (Heb. 12:11).

Christ tells us in the sermon on the mount that we are to rejoice and be exceeding glad when we are persecuted for righteousness sake, "—for great is your reward in heaven:—" (Matt. 5:12). The Apostle Paul in talking about his trials said, "We are troubled on every side, yet not

distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;—For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day" (II Cor. 4:8-16). In verse 17 he calls all this, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." The Apostle Peter in writing to encourage those who were suffering many trials, wrote that "—trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ" (I Peter 1:7). Again, he said, "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy" (I Peter 4:12, 13).

**JAMES HOBBS**  
Rt. 2, Box 182  
McDermott, Ohio  
45652

PASTOR  
Kings Addition  
Baptist Church  
South Shore, Ky.



Before I answer this question, let me begin with an important observation. Many people have the mistaken idea that once he is saved then everything becomes perfect. Everybody loves him and he immediately becomes successful in every way. That just isn't the truth. If everything were to become perfect here, then why would we hope for heaven? Jesus said, "And ye shall be hated of all men for my names sake...". He told us in different ways that the world hated Him and the world would hate us.

The angels watch over and care for us, but they do not put a plastic bubble over us and shield us from all troubles and trials. When Elijah was discouraged and sat dejectedly under the Juniper tree the angels came and comforted him (I Kings 19:5). When the lions were about to devour Daniel the angels closed their mouths (Dan. 6:22). After Jesus was tempted the angels came and comforted Him (Matt. 4:11). When Elisha was surrounded by enemies, legions of angels surrounded him in protection (II Kings 6:15-18). The angels do not keep us from being discouraged, or in the lions den, or tempted, or surrounded by our enemies, but they are always there to give us comfort or strength or even protection when necessary. "Are they (the angels) not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation" (Heb. 1:14). They not only watch over us now but they began as soon as we were conceived in our mother's womb. (You will note it says in the verse we just read that the angels minister to those who "shall be heirs of salvation").

## CHRISTMAS

(Continued from Page 3)

governorship of Quirinius, in 7 B.C., it may appear possible to infer that Jesus must have been

(Continued on Page 5 Column 1)



# CHRISTMAS

(Continued from Page 4)

born also in that year. Yet it could not be reasonable that Jesus was born in A.D. 1, for the Gospel of Matthew tells us that when Herod the Great was informed by the wise men that the Messiah has come to reign as king of the Jews, he ordered the massacre of all male children under two years, in an attempt to kill the infant Jesus. This was before his death in 4 B.C. On this account, the possibility of the birth of Jesus may have been in the year 6 B.C., on the midnight of May (Hebrew: IVYAR) in the "Wheat harvest" season, while the "shepherds were lodging in the fields" (Luke 2:8). Meteorologists have gone to Hebron near Bethlehem to observe the prevailing weather conditions in Palestine. In three months they stayed in Bethlehem to study the temperature during the presence of "frost" in Hebron. Between Bethlehem and Hebron is 14 miles by distance. The Meteorologists say that: "On December, 2, 8 degrees; January 1, 6 degrees." Of the first two months, that is, December and January, there is the greatest rainfall in the year, about 6 inches in December and nearly 8 inches in January. And today, all information available is that the climate of Palestine has not changed in the last 2000 years. Today, Bethlehem is still blanketed with "frosts" at Christmas time! The Talmud of the Jews says "that in March or April of every year the neighborhood of Bethlehem or Hebron the shepherds put out their flocks to grass and bring them back at the beginning of November." And that the shepherds make their lodgings in the open fields only about eight months. In fact today, both sheep and shepherds are under cover during rainy months to protect themselves from "frosts" in Christmastime in Palestine. Now, if shepherds were lodging in the fields with their flocks to be watched every night when Jesus was born and laid in the Manger in Bethlehem, that otherwise, both sheep and shepherds would be under water, including the Manger, if the month of the year was December in the "Winter" of 6 B.C.

In 165 B.C. a feast of dedication was celebrated in December 25 by Judas Maccabeus for the restoration of their Jewish temple from having been profaned by their enemies (I Maccabees 4:52-59). The same dedication and "Winter" season was also celebrated in Jesus' time on earth on the same month of December 25. And Jesus was reluctant about said "commemorative" occasion. "And it was at Jerusalem the feast of dedication, and it was winter. And Jesus walked in the temple of Solomon's porch." (John 10:22-23). The word "winter" in the Greek text is: "CHEIMOON" which is meant: "rainy season" or "stormy weather." The word "Walked" in the Greek Text is: "PERIEPATEI" which is in the "dative case" from the word "PERIPATEO" TWO WALK ABOUT, but expressing "in the indicative imperfect aorist tense" that is, this "PERIEPATEI" which is meant in the reflexive voice "TO GO ABOUT" (Genesis 3:8) or "TO TAKE A WALK." The Hebrew word "NEHELAK"

means: "TO MAKE ONESELF GO," hence "TO BE GONE, DISAPPEAR" (Psalm 109:23). Therefore, to say the least but not last, THAT OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST WAS NOT INTERESTED IN ANY UNSCRIPTURAL RELIGIOUS CELEBRATION.

The English Parliament was justified in outlawing Christmas celebration on December 25, because it was not only bacchanalian in its vulgarity, but worse, it is being held in honor of a Pagan-god "TAMUZ." Jesus may have been born on either the middle of the year in 6 B.C., sometime in MAY (Hebrew: IYYAR) of Hebrew Calendar.

## AMERICA

(Continued from Page 1)

on Christians and America. First; I believe and will argue that regardless of all our recent troubles and iniquity; America is still the greatest nation on earth. I state without apology, that I love this Country. I can feel pride and love boiling up inside me at the playing of The National Anthem. I adhere to the philosophy: "America; Love it or Leave it." I have little use for those who are constantly belittling this country. Though there is much wrong with this nation, there is still much right with it. They have yet to take away my religious freedom to the point where I can not assemble in God's House. Secondly; I believe that patriotism is Biblical. If you will study the Nation of Israel; you will find that God sought to bring a unity to the people. What is patriotism other than unity. What is patriotism other than the people joining together to protect and fight for a nation's right to exist and govern themselves. I have very little respect for a person who calls himself a Christian and yet has no love for his country. I have little respect for those who call themselves Christians, yet they are not willing to fight for religious freedom. Thirdly; I wish to say that we are all aware of the recent downfall of patriotism. While at a football game recently (High School), I witnessed a young man stopped under the Flag during the National Anthem; He looked up and proudly lifted his middle finger toward the Flag. As far as I am concerned such acts should be punished by either public beatings or banishment to Russia. As I beheld this sight and thought about it later, I became angry at several people. First, I became angry at myself. I had the authority to have this young man removed from the premises. I should have soundly rebuked this young man; yet I became busy elsewhere and held my peace. Secondly, I became more angry at this young man. How dare he treat The Flag that represents this nation with such disrespect. How dare he make such a sign as that, when thousands have given their life to protect his right to live where he lives. God have mercy on this young man. Thirdly, I became angry at the parents. I doubt if this young man's parents had taught him any better. I wonder if his parents would have even cared. Beloved, much of the trouble with the youth of America is the failure of parents to raise their children after the nurture and admonition of the Lord. That is not the young peoples only problem. Young people have a tendency to be rebellious. Fourthly; I became

Others teach the ear, Christ the heart.

angry with the school. There is not the teaching of patriotism in our school systems that there used to be. Many children, perhaps grow up not knowing the great stories behind that Flag. Lastly, I became angry at our government. They have allowed our flag to be disgraced. I remember when flag patches on pants were not allowed. Our own government must bear part of the blame for the decline of patriotism we have today.

To further illustrate how patriotism is on the decline in America, ask yourself this question: When was the last time you heard something good about the U.S.A.? The newspapers are always exposing the bad side of America. We are guilty of much complaining and very little bragging about the country. May we seek opportunity to say something good about this nation.

II. In the next place, let us write concerning the sins of America. There seems to be sins, that characterize us as a nation. I fear that we have become as Israel; and rather than be ashamed of these sins and blush, we are proud of them. May God forgive us this and bring embarrassment to us for our sin. First, there is the sin of unconcern for political matters. I realize that there are many that go overboard on the matter of politics from their pulpit. I, personally, feel that politics has very little if any place in the pulpit. I do feel that it is the responsibility of every child of God to be concerned and somewhat knowledgeable about the affairs of their country. I feel it is the responsibility

of all people and especially, Christian people, to vote. How many times have we heard, "it doesn't matter"? How many times have we complained about the president, and yet did not vote. When was the last time we had a true God-fearing elected officer? Political activists have taken over. They are more concerned about ushering in their evil, than we are fighting for right. Our unconcerned attitude about who the leaders of this country are, is a sin that we need to correct. Surely, we can learn from Israel the help or hurt a leader can be to his country. May God give us a concern for the leaders of this nation!

Secondly, there is the sin of allowed corruption in high places. I can not believe the sins and actual crimes that high ranking officials are allowed to commit, and still remain in office. The sins committed by many of our high ranking government officials would have had them ousted in years past. Now it seems as if we not only allow these sins; but expect, and excuse them. The news and newspapers are full of another scandal in Washington, seemingly everyday. I find it hard to justify impeaching a president for wire-tapping, yet, two congressmen can admit to affairs with 17 year old pages, one of them a homosexual affair, and all that is required of them is an apology. I am not defending Nixon for his crime; I am saying that I would rather have a wire-tapper in office than a homosexual and a sex maniac. Doesn't it seem like things have gotten worse, much quicker, since we elected a Catholic for President.

I think of the corrupt judicial system of America. I have to wonder about the sanity of some of the law makers and law enforcers as we see the things they permit. Beloved, may we as God's people speak out against this corruption. May we call for a halt to the immoral actions of our leaders. May we call for a halt to the immoral laws that are being passed. It is a shame that corruption in high places seems to characterize this nation that was founded on incorruption.

Thirdly; I mention the sex-related sins of America. Beloved, this nation in the last few years has taken that which God intended to be the consummation of a man and woman's love for one another and turned it into a joke. They have taken that which God instituted for husband and wife and turned it into a free-for-all. God is exceedingly angry with America for their mockery of His laws concerning sex. Let us break these sins into categories. First, there is pre-marital sex. This is not only accepted in America today, but often times advised. I read a survey recently where the average age that a boy loses his virginity is 15, and the average age for girls is 16. God have mercy on us! This is a fearful thought when you have daughters, and sons growing up today.

I know personally of a young lady who is a junior in High School and already has had two abortions and one child. I want to add here to the young men who might read this. Regardless of what you might think; it is just as much a sin for you to engage in pre-marital sex, as it is for the young ladies. Because you do not run the risk of becoming pregnant does not mean you are not guilty in God's eyes. Our nation must accept some responsibility for this. Unless I am misinformed; minors today can get birth control pills, etc., and can have abortions without their parents being notified. What kind of a nation is this when it is none of the parent's business (according to the laws of the land), what their sons and daughters are involved in? May God forgive! May God turn this around. The world can call pre-marital sex what ever they please, but God always has and always will call it fornication and punish accordingly. Secondly; let us think about the sin of adultery. The Bible has much to say about this sin. It is a sin that is laughed at by most Americans. We live in a time when such things as wife swapping and open marriage are on the rise. They can call it by any name they please; God calls it sin. The statistics of unfaithful husbands and wives are astounding. May God cause us to realize that a few moments of pleasure can ruin a marriage and family. May God make this nation to awake to sex-related sins and give them up. I heard someone say not long ago that new diseases such as AIDS and herpes are God's judgment on the sex sins of America. That may well be so; but that is not God's final judgment to those who are guilty of these sins. For those who are lost; hell awaits!

Thirdly; the terrible sin of homo-sexuality. America has become almost a modern day Sodom and Gomorrah. I read recently where an Episcopal priest was defending this sin. I read where the World Council of

(Continued on Page 6 Column 1)

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER  
APRIL 21, 1984  
PAGE FIVE

30% DISCOUNT	
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH PUBLICATIONS	
The Redeemers Return by Pink	\$ 4.95
After Conversion - What? by Mason	\$ 3.00
Let's Study Revelation by Cook	\$ 6.95
Let's Study the Lord's Church by Cook	\$ 3.00
Crawford - Alexander Debate	\$ 7.95
Unto Him That Loved Us by Rust	\$ 1.00
Myth of the Universal Invisible Church by Mason	\$ 1.25
What is to be - will be by Mason	\$ 1.00
Baptist Church Perpetuity by Jarrell	\$ 8.95
Revelations of Jesus Christ by Willis	\$ 5.00
A Frank Exposure of Freemasonry	\$ .50
Our Favorite Poems	\$ 1.00
Campbellism - Its History & Heresies	\$ 2.00
Five Points of Calvinism by Beck	\$ 1.50
Eye Salve for Religious Owls & Bats by Gibson	\$ .60
Sail On by Gilpin	\$ 6.95
Sermons on Catholicism by Gilpin	\$ 2.50
Life of James Ireland, Arthur Johnson	\$ 6.95
Memoirs & Remains of McCheyne, Bonar	\$ 3.95
Reign of Grace, Booth	\$ 5.95
Doctrine of Regeneration, Charnock	\$ 3.95
Rise & Progress of Religion in the Soul, Doddridge	\$ 2.95
Jonah, Fairbairn	\$ 3.95
Christ Knocking at the Door of Sinners Hearts, Flavel	\$ 3.95
Nave's Study Bible	\$24.95
Living Messages of the Books of the Bible, Morgan	\$ 12.95
David, Krummacher	\$ 6.95
Kitto's Daily Bible Illustrations - 2 volume set	\$49.95
History of the Evangelical Churches of the Valley of Piedmont, Morland	\$32.00
The Best of John Jowett	\$ 3.95
Forgiveness of Sin, Owen	\$ 3.45
Grace & Duty of Being Spiritually Minded, Owen	\$ 3.45
Syrian Leper, Rogers	\$ .95
Practical Religion, Ryle	\$ 5.95
Commentary on Romans, Shedd	\$ 8.95
The Virgin Birth, Macken	\$ 9.95
Notes on the Miracles of our Lord, Trench	\$ 5.95
The Virgin Birth, Gromacki	\$ 5.95
Biblical Backgrounds of Mid East Conflict, Harkness & Kraft	\$ 7.95
The Greatest Thing in the World, Drummond	\$ 1.95
Practice of Godliness, Kuyper	\$ 1.45
The Life of Faith, Romaine	\$ 2.25
3 Vol. set-Gesenius, Strong, Thayer	
Gk-Heb Study Aids	\$48.95
Archaeology & the O.T., Unger	\$13.95
Archaeology & the N.T., Unger	\$13.95
Wycliffe Bible Commentary	\$23.95
Young's Analytical Concordance	\$15.95
Colossians-Christ All-Sufficient, Harrison	\$ 4.50
Bible in the Balance, Lindsell	\$ 9.95
Battle for the Bible, Lindsell	\$ 4.95



## AMERICA

(Continued from Page 5)

Churches defend this sin. The news is full of people defending this sin. Beloved, God will not defend it. He will pour His wrath out upon it. We have politicians, athletes, movie stars, school teachers and even professed preachers who admit to being homo-sexuals. Our nation, rather than locking them up and punishing them, protects them. I read recently, that 80% of the girls going to college will be faced with this problem. How sad!

What is America coming to when you can't send your daughter off to school without fear that she will be faced with this sin. God is not pleased with America's attitude towards homosexuality. We are reaping the fruits of His displeasure. Lastly, I mention the sin of lust. We are apt to forget this sin because it does not seem as harmful as the previous mentioned ones. The previous sins are oftentimes the result of the sin of lust. Everything in this world practically, is advertised by partial nudity. The media is using nudity to produce lust and lust to sell their products. In advertisement, you will find a half-naked body used to advertise something that is totally irrelevant to the skin exposure. The clothes that are designed and worn by Americans are oftentimes designed to produce lust. If you listen to the talk at work, etc., you will find that Americans are consumed with lust. God is not pleased. God will judge America for her sex-related sins. May we speak out against these horrible sins.

Fourthly; I mention the lawlessness of America. We have gone against the Bible, when we as a nation do not practice capital punishment. Since we have stopped this, statistics will show the increase in capital offenses. I read in the Detroit paper recently where a man took a baseball bat and beat another man to death. He was put on probation and paid a fine. I have a solution to the over crowded prisons. Take all those that deserve it and execute them as The Bible teaches, and this will help the problem. There are crimes committed in America that are laughed at, whereas in other countries they are severely punished. I mention two; drunk driving and use of drugs. We have at times carried the idea of freedom too far.

Fifthly; I mention the horrible sin that the American government will answer for the sin of legalized murder. Read Exodus 21:22-23. Abortion is nothing less than murder. The Doctor is a murderer; and those that allow this to happen are murderers. Beloved, America will, and is answering for the innocent blood they have shed through abortions. I have no sympathy for mothers who come out of abortions scarred for life. I have no sympathy for those who lose their life during an abortion. They are receiving just what they deserve.

Perhaps the worst of this sin is that a minor can now have an abortion and the parents do not have to be informed. Abortion has become the second most popular operation in America. This sin is the result of the previous sins I mentioned. If we

kill unborn babies, will killing old people be next? Will we then kill those who are physically or mentally deficient? What a dark cloud this sin of murder hangs over our nation! The sad thing is, other than the rapture, I see no silver lining to this cloud. We must have God's help.

Sixthly; I mention the idolatry of America. I don't mean the worship of totem poles, etc. However, most of America does put up that idol Christmas Tree. America has become a nation that worships the dollar. I see it in my Church and in saved and unsaved alike. To worship you do not have to bow down. You become an idolater when you put something ahead of serving God. The sad part of this sin is that it seems to affect the saved almost as much as the lost. If we are not worshipping the dollar; then work, sports, and entertainment are our idols. We must, as a nation, put God first. This must begin with the saved. Remember, idolatry was the downfall of Israel. Let us learn from them and give this idolatry up.

Seventhly; There is the growth of false religions in America. I am a firm believer in civil, religious freedom. I also am a firm believer that no person has a right to believe contrary to The Word of God. We now have in this nation a man who professes to be Christ. We have cults of every kind practicing in America. We have the churches of Satan. These churches are growing while true churches are getting smaller. America has given itself over to sensationalism. Perhaps we true churches are to blame for this. If we had evangelized and stood for the truth as we should, maybe things would be different. The false religions and the unionism of America are sins that prophesy our doom.

Eightly; there is the sin of the woman's role. In a recent survey, 80% of the people said they would consider a woman for public office. Regardless of what the world says, the woman's place is still in the home. Women being put in the home and men hired to take their place would go a long way towards solving our welfare problems. I also mention the disgrace of women preachers. I have no respect for a woman preacher, nor the men that sit and listen to her. I will add that the sex-related sins of America have come about largely because of women not taking their God-appointed place in this world.

Ninthly; I mention the destruction of the home unit. We live in a nation where almost 50% of all marriages end in a divorce. In our church, the older generation has not had a single divorce. The younger generation already has two. The husband is not the leader of the home as he should be. The wife is not in subjection as she should be. The children follow the example of momma and daddy and are not what they should be. Facts will show that the greater amount of crimes are committed by juveniles. Beloved, argue if you like; but this sin is a result of the previous mentioned sins. One will cause another until this cancer eats our nation alive. When the home unit is destroyed, then so will our nation be.

Tenthly; I mention the fact that America could be called the "high" nation. The use of drugs and alcohol is rampant. I was reading a newspaper clipping from 1935 the other day about

the alcohol industry. They stated, at that time, their desire to teach women and young people to drink. I hate to say it, but they have been a great success. The Bible warns of the results of this and we are now paying the price. From the decisions that come from Washington, I have very little doubt that many of them are "high."

Lastly; I mention the recent rebukes and criticisms of Israel. Beloved, this is scary. I, as an American, want to stay on Israel's side. I believe America has been blessed or spared somewhat because of our kindness to Israel. If we lose this; then we are in great trouble.

II. Now let us give some reasons for God's judgment on America. First, God has greatly blessed America, and we have thanked Him with a slap in the face. Other than Israel at times, God has probably blessed America more than any other nation. I do not refer just to the physical blessings, but especially to the spiritual ones. We are a nation that has been blessed by religious freedom. We are a nation that has been blessed with a great amount of the preached Word. We are a nation that was founded on Bible principles. Beloved, we have taken these blessings and made a mockery of them.

We have thanked God for these blessings by breaking His laws; mocking His name and giving up the principles we were founded on, for the principles of the Devil.

Secondly; God is judging us, because we are without excuse. God has warned, with precept and example the consequences of ungodliness. We have turned a deaf ear and heart to God's warnings. We have by our actions, dared God to intervene. America has by her actions told God we have no fear of His power. May God work in the hearts of the American people that we will heed the warnings of Jehovah.

Thirdly; God hates sin and will not allow it to go unpunished. God cannot overlook sin. God is exceedingly angry with this nation. We have sinned great and many sins. The main reason behind God's judgment, is His hatred of sin. I would to God that saint and sinner alike would recognize this fact. God hates sin and will not allow it to go unpunished. We can only hope that God's present judgment is that of chastisement. We can pray that America will repent and be led back to the principles on which she was founded.

III. Let me now give some evidences that America is now under God's judgment. For time's sake, I will be brief henceforth. First; there is the hopeless outlook for our nation. Pessimism is on every hand. Things look as if they are only going to get worse. This hopeless outlook may be an evidence of God's judgment. Secondly; there is the economy. The outlook here is, also not good. America, once a very economically sound nation, is now teetering on disaster. Thirdly; there is the unemployment rate in America. I have great sympathy for the youth of America, when they get out of High School and begin looking for a job. This has led us to the problem of welfare. The outlook here is also dim. Fourthly; there is the increase in crime. Every year the safety of our families seems to be in greater danger. This, as well as the next few statements, are reasons for God's judgment and

the increase in them are a sign of God's judgment. Part of God's judgment may be an overdose of the sins we have committed against Him. Fifthly; there is the increase in sin, especially those that are related to sex, drugs and alcohol. Sixthly; there is the great increase in suicide in America. Seventhly; there is the increase in family break-ups.

Eightly; there is the increase of corruption in politics. Ninthly; there is the constant threat of war at home and abroad. Tenthly; there is the fewness of true sound churches. Beloved, this is a scary thought to me. Also, along this line there are threats to our religious freedom. We have abused this privilege. Why should God not take it away. In the eleventh place, there are the disasters of nature that seem to be increasing in our country. Lastly; there is the very serious threat to our military supremacy. I hope not; but God may just allow us to hang ourselves with our sins. May we, as a nation, awake to these judgments and repent of our sins. May we, by God's grace, forsake these sins and return to the motto "In God We Trust."

IV. In the last place, I ask the question, What are we as God's people supposed to do? First; we are to be concerned. I have children who, if the Lord does not return first, will have to grow up in this country. I am deeply concerned about what they will grow up in. Beloved; what do our children and grandchildren have to look forward to? We live in a time when schools are closing for lack of money. There are very few jobs available now; what will it be like when our young grow up. To not be concerned is an evidence of selfishness. Secondly; we are to cast our votes. Let

us seek out the candidate that is closest to The Word of God and vote for him. Let us inform our representatives of our desires for this nation. Thirdly; we are to obey the laws of the land, as long as they do not contradict the laws of God. This includes the speed laws and the tax laws. Not to obey the laws of the land is a sin and a sign of disrespect to our country. Fourthly; we are to spend much time in prayer for our country and the leaders thereof. How often do you pray for this nation? May we lift up our hearts to God for help. We can not do it alone; if we are going to survive, then we must have help from God. Fifthly; we are to speak out against the sins of this country, its flag and the laws of this nation. We are to raise our children in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord." Sixthly; we are to preach the gospel to Americans. This is our best hope, the conversion of the American people.

Lastly, we are, if need be, to fight for our country. Much blood has been shed for the freedoms we have. We have an obligation to be willing to shed our blood for the principles on which this nation was found.

In conclusion; may God bless this nation and make it what it once was and even better! May God enable us to make it, in this nation of turmoil and unrest. May God protect us and keep us pure from the sins of this nation. May God continue to grant us religious freedom. May we never put this nation ahead of God. May all of us, get down on our knees and thank God, that after He made us a Christian, and after He made us a Baptist, that in His grace He made us an American. America, "going, going" — let us hope and pray, it is not "gone."

## SPECIAL — SPECIAL 50% OFF

(Very limited quantities)

The Gospel According to Mark, Alexander	\$ 8.95
The Gospel According to Matthew, Alexander	\$ 8.95
Baptism, Mauro	\$ 2.95
Seventy Weeks, Mauro	\$ 5.95
Expositions of Holy Scripture, McClaren, 17 volumes	\$249.50
Bible Commentary, Cook, 10 volumes	\$195.00
Works of Benjamin Warfield	\$149.50
Treasury of the Bible, Spurgeon	\$195.00
The Spirit of Christ, DiGangi	\$ 4.95
For We Have This Treasure, Scherer	\$ 3.95
Resurrection, Wilchens	\$ 6.95
The Creative Christian Home, Sparks	\$ 1.95
Gleanings from the N.T., Hunter	\$ 4.95
Faith Enacted as History, Herberg	\$12.00
More Evidence That Demands a Verdict, McDowell	\$ 6.95
Biblical Studies, Barclay	\$12.50
Success in Series Preaching, Goulloze	\$ 3.95
Sermons on Biblical Characters, Chappell	\$ 3.45
2nd Coming Bible Study Guide, Volumes 1 & 2	each \$ .95
Stand Fast in Faith, Fisher	\$ 4.95
What The Bible Teaches About Jesus, Grogan	\$ 3.95
What the Bible Teaches About the Holy Spirit, Peck	\$ 3.95
Out of the Whirlwind (Job), Blackwood	\$ 4.95
Index to Carroll's "An Interpretation of the Eng. Bible"	\$ 6.00
The New Right-We're Ready to Lead, Viguerie	\$ 2.25
The Higher Criticism of the Pentateuch, Green	\$ 4.95
Talking It Over, Sweeting	\$ 5.95
Your Marriage Has Real Possibilities, Barber	\$ 6.95
You Can Have A Happy Marriage, Barber	\$ 6.95
A Basic Library for Bible Students, Wiersbe	\$ 2.95
Layman's Parallel Bible	\$32.00
General Introduction to O.T., Green	\$ 6.95
Bible Truths Unmasked, Dake	\$ 6.95
Letters & Diaries of John H. Newman, Vol. 12	\$ 7.50
Homosexuality & the Church, Lovelace	\$ 6.95
Biblical Essays, Lightfoot	\$ 8.95
It Happened in China, Bousfield	\$ 1.00



## STUDIES IN EZEKIEL

Willard Willis, Monroe, Ohio

### Chapter Five

"And thou, son of man, take thee a sharp knife, take thee a barber's razor, and cause it to pass upon thine head and upon thy beard: then take thee balances to weigh, and divide the hair. Thou shalt burn with fire a third part in the midst of the city, when the days of the siege are fulfilled: and thou shalt take a third part, and smite about it with a knife: and a third part thou shalt scatter in the wind; and I will draw out a sword after them. Thou shalt also take thereof a few in number, and bind them in thy shirts. Then take of them again, and cast them into the midst of the fire, and burn them in the fire; for thereof shall a fire come forth into the house of Israel" (Vs. 1-4).

The "sharp knife" and the "barber's razor" speak of judgment while the hair speaks of the children of Israel. Perhaps the first point of interest is the fact that God had previously forbidden priests to do what He had now commanded Ezekiel to do.

"Ye shall not round the corners of your heads, neither shalt thou mar the corners of thy beard" (Lev. 19:27).

"They shall not make baldness upon their head, neither shall they shave off the corner of their beard, nor make any cutting in their flesh" (Lev. 21:25).

We have, in 11 Sam. 10:1-5, an example of the shame which was involved when the head and beard of the priest were shaven.

The people knew that Ezekiel was a priest. This fact makes it obvious that they were amazed and startled by his action. His action, in fact, was a disgrace to himself. God, however, caused such to be done so as to teach the people a very solemn lesson. The lesson centered around the fact that one-third of the shaved hair was to be burned, one-third was to be smitten, and one-third was to be scattered to the wind. The one-third which was burned represented the one-third who would die as a result of the siege against Jerusalem by the forces of the king of Babylon. The one-third of the hair smitten with the knife represent — the one-third who would die by way of the sword when the city was taken. The one-third scattered to the wind meant that the balance of Israel would be scattered among the nations. Keep in mind that the calamity appointed to Israel looks back to Ezekiel 2:3.

We are to see from the knife and the barber's razor that God's judgment is very keen. The same can be said of God's judgment by the great flood and God's judgment at Sodom and Gomorrah. A study of Revelation 19:15-18 will also show the exactness of God's judgment.

The fact that God spared one-third of the Jews was a definite act of mercy on God's part. It was not that one-third of the Jews were better than the others, but it was only that God desired to be merciful to the depraved House of Israel. This fact is obvious during the entire history of Israel. The following passages confirm such to be true.

"And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of the countries whither I have driven them" (Jer. 23:3).

"And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the Lord, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring one part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and I will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, it is my people: and they shall say, the Lord is my God" (Zech. 13:8, 9).

"Thus saith the Lord God;



Willard Willis

this is Jerusalem: I have set it in the midst of the nations and countries that are round about her. And she hath changed my judgments into wickedness more than the nations, and my statutes more than the countries that are round about her: for they have refused my judgments, and my statutes, they have not walked in them" (vs. 5, 6).

It is very interesting to observe from verse five that God "set" Israel in the midst of the nations. God set Jerusalem in the midst of the nations to the extent that the ancient countries of Egypt and Ethiopia were on her south side. Babylon, China and India were east and north of Palestine. All of these countries were far more ancient than the Jews. The Jews, in fact, traded with the Phoenicians — the first world traders by means of navigation. This fact means that the Jews could have spread God's word through out the world by means of the Phoenicians, that is, if they had not become worse than the nations around them.

America has been set in the midst of the nations as far as trade, business and industry are concerned. We, too, are to use our advantage to advance the cause of Jesus Christ around the world.

"Therefore, thus saith the Lord God; Because ye multiplied more than the nations that are round about you, and have not walked in my statutes, neither have kept my judgments, neither have done according to the judgments of the nations that are round about you. Therefore saith the Lord God; behold, I, even I, am against thee, and will execute judgments in the midst of thee in the sight of the nations" (vs. 7, 8).

"I am against thee" are the key words in these passages. This statement finds its contrast in Romans 8:31 which states:

"If God be for us, who can be against us?" We, on the other hand, may conclude that if God be against us, who can be for us?

We would all do well to keep in mind that it doesn't matter

what people say or think about us. It doesn't matter whether people are for or against us. All that should concern us is whether or not God is for us. This was the message which Ezekiel received from the Lord. It was as stated in the following passages:

"And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briars and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: Be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house. And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they are most rebellious" (Ezek. 2:6, 7).

"And I will do in thee that which I have not done, and whereunto I will not do any more the like, because of all thine abominations. Therefore the fathers shall eat the sons in the midst of thee, and the sons shall eat their fathers; and I will execute judgment in thee, and the whole remnant of thee will I scatter into all the winds" (vs. 9, 10).

The father's love for their sons and the son's love for their fathers was to vanish completely to the extent that they would kill, cook and eat each other. Love, in fact, vanished to the extent that it was no greater than one's love for a wild deer or a wild turkey. The fact that love and compassion was to vanish shows that our love and compassion for our own is from God. The lost should be reminded that there will be no love in hell. Mother and daughter, father and son, husband and wife will all hate each other.

I'm convinced that this terrible calamity which befell the Jews, as noted above, will never occur again. I draw this conclusion because God said:

"...I will not do any more the like..."

"Wherefore, as I live saith the Lord God; surely, because thou hast defiled my sanctuary with all thy detestable things and with all thine abominations, therefore, I will also diminish thee; neither shall mine eyes spare, neither will I have any pity" (v. 11).

Israel had not only become more wretched than the nations around them, but they had also defiled God's sanctuary. The extent of how much they had defiled God's sanctuary will be seen in chapters eight and nine. The result was that God was going to diminish them. He, in fact, diminished their population to one-third. He diminished the glory of Israel and He also diminished their power and joy.

The sin of our day, which is comparable to that of the Jews of old, is that of false churches and false doctrine as well as the terrible moral decline through out the world. God's judgment, as seen through out the book of Revelation, will soon be poured out on all that which is false.

"A third part of the city shall die with the pestilence, and with famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee: and a third part shall fall by the sword round about thee; and I will scatter a third part into all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them. Thus shall mine anger

be accomplished, and I will cause my fury to rest upon them, and I will be comforted; and they shall know that I the Lord have spoken it in my zeal, when I have accomplished my fury in them" (vs. 12, 13).

It would appear that there was no one involved in the down fall of the Jews except the king of Babylon and his armed forces. We, however, from the record which is before us, know that God was acting in judgment against the Jews. God, in other words, is not a distant spectator to the affairs of this earth. He is involved in every battle among nations. Those He is against will fall, and those He is for will stand. The security, for example, of America does not depend upon our weapons of war, but upon our God in heaven. He, of course, has ordained and uses weapons, but the victor is always dependent upon whom God is for. It is as stated in the following passage:

"Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain" (Psa. 127:1, 2).

"Moreover I will make thee waste, and a reproach among the nations that are round about thee, in the sight of all that pass by" (v. 14).

The word "reproach," according to Webster, means "A cause or occasion of blame or disgrace." We have seen from Hitler's Germany how the Jews were blamed and disgraced. The same has been true down through the history of Israel. We know, however, that such has not been by accident, but by appointment. Those, of course, who harmed the Jews, or will harm the Jews will be held accountable as if there had been no appointment.

"So it shall be a reproach and a taunt, an instruction and an astonishment unto the nations that are round about thee, when I shall execute judgments in thee in anger and in fury and in furious rebukes, I the Lord have spoken it" (v. 15).

Never was this passage fulfilled more than it was fulfilled in Germany. It has been in our own life time that we have been "astonished" (sudden wonder) because of the terrible crimes that were committed in Germany against the Jews. We, of course, are still being astonished as we observe some of those horrible scenes on television.

"When I shall send upon them the evil arrows of famine, which shall be for their destruction, and which I will send to destroy you: and I will increase the famine upon you, and will break your staff of bread: so will I send you famine and evil beasts, and they shall bereave thee; and pestilence and blood shall pass through thee; and I will bring the sword upon thee. I the Lord have spoken it" (vs. 15, 17).

Six times in this passage the Lord announces that which He will do to Israel and at the close of the passage, He seals His statement with an iron seal by saying, "...I the Lord have spoken it." Such reminds us of a judge sentencing a guilty culprit and then sounding the gavel against his desk and stating, "I the judge have made my decision and it will not be

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



FRED T. HALLIMAN

Send your offerings for the support of Brother Fred T. Halliman to:  
New Guinea Missions  
c/o Calvary Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 71  
Shiloh, Kentucky, 41105-0071

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

Write Brother Halliman frequently. His address is:  
ELDER FRED T. HALLIMAN,  
Sovereign Grace Baptist Mission,  
P.O. Box 36, Tari, via Mendi,  
Papua, New Guinea.

otherwise."

The scripture before us should advise one and all that it is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of God when He is angry.

The Jews, of course, did not like God's sentence upon them and we may not like some of the things which occur in our lives, but to change them would be like trying to change the course of the sun. I'm saying that God does as He pleases and no man or nation can change Him. We will do well to hear and heed His Word so that we may have His smile rather than His frown

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Elder Sam Wilson of Gladwin, Michigan will be speaking in the following places. May 2nd through 6th, he will be with the Grace Baptist Church of Winston, Salem, N.C. May 7-9, he will be with the Victory Baptist Mission of Courtland, Va. This mission is authorized by the Grace Baptist Church. Gene Kiger is the pastor of the church. Pray for these meetings. Visit with them if you can. Sam's preaching will be a blessing to you. For further information, you may call Gene Kiger at (919) 768-7282, or relative to the Courtland meeting, call Frank Parrish at (804) 653-2616.

\*\*\*  
Elder Keith Schuetz is engaged in a mission work in Tucson, Ariz. He sent me some information on this, but I apologize for losing it. Brother Schuetz is working under the authority of Sovereign Grace Baptist Church of Texarkana, Tex., pastored by Elder Oscar Mink. Brother Schuetz will be having regular services. You may contact Brother Schuetz at 3362 E. Greenlee Road, Tucson, Az. 85716.

\*\*\*  
The Little Harbor Baptist Church of Garden, Michigan will host a pastor's retreat August 20-26. The church is pastored by Dave Hires.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER  
APRIL 21, 1984  
PAGE SEVEN



*All the members of the body are at the devil's service: the head to plot sin, the hands to work it, the feet to run the devil's errands.*

## 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

## THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

by Medford Caudill  
Goshen, Inc.

### The Tenth Commandment

"Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's" (Exodus 20:17).

Covetousness is the desire to have that which rightly belongs to someone else. The twin sins of



Medford Caudill

envy and greed are part and parcel of covetousness. An envious man is a covetous man and a covetous man is a greedy man.

Covetousness is the root of many other sins. This was demonstrated very well by Achan. "When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it" (Joshua 7:21). Achan's covetous heart caused him to steal, to lie, and to rebel against the direct command of God.

In fact, the very first sin can be laid to, among other things, covetousness. "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat" (Genesis 3:6). Eve coveted the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil and plunged all mankind into darkness and sin. She desired that which did not belong to her. She had plenty. All the world was hers except for that one tree. It does not matter how much some people have, they will still covet that one thing which is not theirs.

David coveted Bathsheba and wound up committing adultery and murder. Covetousness seems like such a small matter, yet it leads to very great sins. If you covet something, sooner or later, you will act on that desire and seek to make that object of your affections one of your possessions.

How can we avoid covetousness? Paul said, "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content" (Philippians 4:11). We need to realize that whatever

we have is a gift from God. God knows our needs and will supply them. When we start to believe that we know better than God what is necessary in this life, then we begin to become covetous. Let us be content with what we have and praise and thank God for it. He is the great Provider. We ought to be thankful for what we have and always remember that we did not get it by our efforts, but through the goodness and mercy of God.

## A REQUESTED BOOK REVIEW

Sometime back I received a gift-review copy of *THE GREAT RAPTURE HOAX*, by Dave McPherson. I scanned the book, having been a little familiar with his views, and placed it in the HERESY section of my library, and forgot about it. Sometime later I received a letter with some favorable quotes concerning this book and the following note at the bottom. "Exactly 1,028,170,300 Christians including the above friends of mine are waiting for The Baptist Examiner's favorable review of *THE GREAT RAPTURE HOAX*". This was followed by the initials "D.M."

Brother, if D.M. can get The Baptist Examiner into the hands of that many people, I thought I must write my review. I sincerely doubt that that many people are at all concerned about my opinion of McPherson's book. I suppose that the position of The Baptist Examiner on the subject of The Rapture is well known. I really wonder if Dave McPherson thought his book would change that position. I am unable to give Dave the "favorable" review he desires, but will give a brief review of his book.

Why another book by McPherson on the same subject? He had already written three. It seems he wants to milk his M.M. theory dry. I have long since learned that when a book will sell, authors and publishers get all they can out of it, even to printing the same old material under a new title. Of course, they change, delete, and add a little, but it is still the same old stuff. Sort of like the housewife trying to get another meal out of stale left-overs.

I read in this book that McPherson has worked for twenty-six years as a newsman. Well, it would be best for him to stay in that field. He is well over his head when he enters the field of theology. His style is not very becoming to a serious and

devout study of a Scriptural subject, though it might be very well for a newsman. I find his style revolting in dealing with such a subject, though I might find it acceptable in a comic book or a news story. I would suggest that he study some of the books on Scriptural subjects as to seriousness, and a proper attitude in such writing.

McPherson's scurrilous attack on Scofield is reprehensible to say the least. One can take a little truth and weave it into a sorry picture which may not be totally true at all. Frankly, I was shocked by this part of the book. If all he says about Scofield was entirely true, what purpose can its publication serve? Whether or not Pre-tribulationism is true does not depend upon the moral character of C.I. Scofield. This is a very poor way of seeking to determine truth. I am quite sure that we can find me of ill repute who held any doctrinal position, be it true or not. And we can, doubtless, find men of godly character who held different errors. The truth or untruth of a doctrine depends upon whether or not it is taught in the Bible, not upon the character of a few who held it. Shame on you, Dave, for such tactics.

Dave shows very little ability in Biblical exegesis. I think he might realize his lack of ability in this, as he does not attempt much thereof. He mocks, he ridicules, he makes shocking statements, he cracks jokes, he well-nigh slanders (true or false), but he does very little setting forth of the teaching of the Word of God.

McPherson must join with that crowd of anti Pre-tribulationists who spend most of their time tearing down, and very little building up. He would take from us the blessed hope of the possible soon appearing of our Lord to deliver us from the sin and sorrow of this world. But he offers us nothing in return. It looks like, if he is going to destroy our belief, he would offer us a well-rounded prophetic program in return. What is Dave's prophetic position? I don't know, except that it is opposed to Pre-tribulationism.

McPherson, in this book fails, except in a very limited and futile way, to face the Biblical proof of the Pre-trib position. He makes little, if any, attempt to answer the many arguments for a Pre-trib rapture. I would be happy to supply him with such should he ever desire to make a serious effort to answer them. He is so enamored with his M.M. theory that he is unable to deal with much else. The Baptist Examiner has printed many, many sermons setting forth the Pre-Trib position and every post-trib argument, so far as I know, has been answered in this paper. The subject, pro and con, has been thoroughly dealt with in the pages of The Baptist Examiner. Since I am only reviewing Dave's book, I will not, at this

time, go over the whole field of the Pre-Post controversy again.

Really, it seems that Dave has M.M. on the brain. We know the origin of the Pre-trib rapture, and it was over 1800 years before M.M. It originated with the Word of God. The Bible teaches that the Tribulation will be such a time as never has been before, nor ever will be again. In this statement, and in the detailed description of the Tribulation in Revelation, chapters 6-19, we surely know that one could not be in the Tribulation and not know it. One certainly could not be in the Tribulation today. When we add this Bible teaching about the Tribulation to the Bible teaching about the Imminence of the Rapture, we, of necessity come up with a Pre-trib Rapture. It is as simple as that. McPherson's suggestion of a post-trib imminence is simply ridiculous. No one who is post trib can intelligently believe in the imminence of the rapture. The two just do not go together.

I do not recommend Dave McPherson's book, and our book store will not sell it. I consider it an attempt to squeeze some more money out of his M.M. theory which surely has already sold enough books for him. I consider it poor writing. I consider it false from start to finish. As I said, this is just a

review of his book, and not a discussion of Pre-tribulationism. Should Dave desire such a discussion, I would be happy to oblige him therewith.

## ★ AT LAST ★ 1982 TBE BOUND VOLUMES NOW READY!

•40 Issues Neatly  
Bound in Book

•Ideal For Libraries  
Schools and Pastors

Price \$17.00

Plus Postage. See Table, Page 8

Limited Supply  
ORDER TODAY!

CALVARY BAPTIST  
CHURCH BOOKSTORE

P.O. Box 71

Ashland, Kentucky 41105-0071

Ky. Residents Add Sales Tax

## CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE CONFERENCE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

I do hope you are making plans to be with us for this event. If I can help you in any way, please let me know. Call me at (606) 325-2012 (Church) or (606) 928-9213 (Home). I can help make Motel reservations. We do want you with us at this time. Your presence will add to our blessings, and we believe the Conference will be a blessing to you. The dates are May 25th-27th. Conference program will be in a forthcoming issue.

The following preachers are scheduled to be with us for this conference. Owen Croy, Peter Halliman, James Hobbs, Don Pennington, David West, Sammy West, Dan Phillips,

Ron Boswell, Raymond Waugh, Jon Rule, John Alber, Eldon Joslin, James Grace, Don Mikitta, Fred Beard, Gene Kiger, Dean Elzy, Sam Wilson, Ray Brown, Medford Caudill, Al Lyons, Merrell Kaley, and myself.

You will hear sermons on such subjects as The Heathenism of Catholicism, The Catholicism of Protestantism, Baptists Are The Only True Churches, Hard-Headed Preacher, The Pastor's Wife, Legalism, Antinomianism, Evangelism: Our Greatest Failure, and many more.

Do be with us if at all possible. Pray for this conference!

## 40% DISCOUNT (limited quantities)

Saints Everlasting Rest, Baxter	\$ 3.95
Our Saviour God, Boice	\$ 6.95
Art of Man Fishing, Boston	\$ 1.95
Crook in the Lot, Boston	\$ 1.95
Analytical Exp. of the Epistle of Paul to Romans, Brown	\$14.95
Apathy, Aposty & Apostles, Evans	\$ 4.50
Hebrews, Gouge	\$24.95
Symposium on Creation, Volumes 2, 3, & 4, by Patten	each \$ 2.95
Emphasized Bible, Rotherham	\$22.95
Trapp's Commentary on the N.T.	\$24.95
Crawford-Alexander Debate	\$ 7.95
Discussions, Dabney 2 volumes	\$34.95
Light from the Ancient East, Deissman	\$10.95
Poor Doubting Christian Drawn to Christ, Hooker	\$ 2.95
Sermons on N.T. Heroes, Macartney	\$ 5.95
Dictionary of O.T. Words for English Readers, Pick	\$12.95
Voyage & Shipwreck of St. Paul, Smith	\$ 5.95
George Muller, Steer	\$ 3.95
N.T. in 26 Translations	\$15.95
Young's Literal Translation	\$ 9.95
Voices of the Spirit, Matheson	\$ 3.45
30 Years a Watchtower Slave, Schnell	\$ 2.95
How to Witness to Jehovah Witnesses, Schnell	\$ 3.50
Assembly Writers Library, Newberry	\$ 9.00
Epistles of Jude & II Peter, Mayor	\$ 8.95
Devotions & Prayers of F.B. Mayer, Kosten	\$ 1.95

SEND ALL ORDERS TO:

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH BOOK STORE  
POST OFFICE BOX 71 - 3339 - 13TH STREET - ASHLAND,  
KENTUCKY 41105-0071

ON ALL ORDERS — PLEASE ADD POSTAGE AND HANDLING. Avoid delay... include Postage and Handling with your order. If your order is:

Up to \$5.00 ..... Add \$1.50  
\$5.01 to \$10.00 ... Add \$2.00  
\$10.01 to \$20.00 .. Add \$2.50  
\$20.01 to \$30.00 .. Add \$3.25  
Over \$30.00 Add \$1.00 for each add'l. \$10.00  
Ky. Residents Add 5% Sales Tax